

Eleventh International Olympiad in Linguistics

Manchester (Great Britain), July 22–26, 2013

Individual Contest Solutions

Problem #1. Rules:

1. If the number of syllables in the word (= stem + ending) is even, all syllables are short. If the number of syllables in the word is odd, the last even-numbered syllable of the stem is lengthened.

2 = 2 + 0:	bu₁na²-∅	3 = 2 + 1:	ba₁ma:² -gu₃
4 = 2 + 2:	bu₁na²-gi₃mbal⁴	3 = 3 + 0:	gu₁da:²ga₃-∅
4 = 3 + 1:	gu₁da²ga₃-bi⁴	5 = 3 + 2:	ju₁du:²lu₃ -mu⁴jay₅
4 = 4 + 0:	mu₁yu²ba₃ra⁴-∅	5 = 4 + 1:	ga₁ja²gi₃mba:⁴ -gu₅

2. If the ending **-ni** or **-mu** immediately follows a long vowel, it loses its own vowel.

- (a) **mugaɽumu**, **waɽa:lgu**.
- (b) **bama:n** — of a person, **bupa:bi** — another woman, **maɽurmuɽay** — with a frog, **muɽa:mni** — of a mother.
- (c) of a stranger — **muyubara:n**, for a fishing net — **mugaɽugu**, father — **bimbi**, from a frog — **maɽu:rmu**, without a man — **wagu:ɽagimbal**, of a pigeon — **juduluni**, tortoise — **baɽi:gal**, without a boomerang — **waɽalgimbal**.

Problem #2. The compound noun has the following structure:

$$\boxed{\begin{array}{c} \text{modifier} \\ (-l \text{ is lost}) \end{array}} + \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} -d- & (\text{before a vowel}) \\ -n- & (\text{before a consonant}) \end{array} \right\} + \boxed{\text{modified}}.$$

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|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| <i>ilennime</i> | herd of deer (“house of deer”) | <i>møŋer</i> | thunder |
| <i>joqonnime</i> | wooden house (“Yakut house”) | <i>ciremennime</i> | nest |
| <i>saancohoje</i> | wooden knife | <i>joqoncohoje</i> | Yakut knife |
| <i>johudawur</i> | nose case | <i>saadoŋoj</i> | wooden box |
| (a) <i>ilenlegul</i> | deer feed | <i>uoduo</i> | grandchild |
| <i>cireme</i> | bird | <i>oŋoj</i> | bag |
| <i>johul</i> | nose | <i>aariinjohul</i> | rifle’s muzzle |
| <i>aariinmøŋer</i> | gunshot (“rifle thunder”) | <i>uodawur</i> | cradle |
| <i>joqodile</i> | horse (“Yakut deer”) | <i>joqol</i> | Yakut person |
- (b) *aarii* — rifle, *aariidoŋoj* — rifle case, *ciremedawur* — nest (= *ciremennime*), *ile* — deer, *johudewce* — tip of nose, *legul* — food, *saal* — wood, *saannime* — wooden house (= *joqonnime*), *uo* — child.
- (c) iron bird — *cuoncireme*, snoring — *johunmøŋer*, tip of knife’s blade — *cohojedewce*, sack for provisions — *legudoŋoj*.