

Fieldnote considerations

These are some questions to think about when going through fieldnotes.

- When you cross something out, can you still read the rest of the word?
- When you write over a letter/word, can you tell which is the right representation and which is the wrong one?
- When you have two alternative transcriptions, can you tell which is right, or if they are both legitimate variants?
- Will you be able to read what you wrote if you come back to it in a year (e.g. whether you wrote a vs o)?
- Will others be able to read what you wrote?
- Can you tell which words line up with which glosses?
- Do you have a list of all the non-standard symbols you've used?
- Can you tell what is a deduction on your part and what was a metacomment made by your consultant?
- Can you tell what you need to check and what you know is right?
- Do all the diacritics you've used show up if the notes are copied or scanned?
- If pages fell out of your notebook, would you be able to put them back in the right place in the right order?
- Can you easily work out when these notes were written, who the consultant is, and what the notes are about?