

reciprocity. Research into what is considered good food, what is used for feast occasions, and methods of food production and processing can provide valuable texts on topics that are central to everyday life.

From kinship and an understanding of social relationships as exemplified in the use of food, we move on to two chapters dealing with the broader biological context, first **Barry Conn** (Chapter 11) describes methods for collecting plants, with suggestions for identifying or at least providing informed descriptions of plants. This chapter guides the uninitiated field worker in collecting plant specimens and points out the importance of doing so in order to verify the identification. Copious references are provided covering various plant types and many geographically specific resources. This chapter concludes with a very practical set of notes for the requirements of fieldwork including considering permits required, first aid, the use of GPS to locate specimens, and thinking carefully about your own ability to conduct what may be quite difficult hikes while seeking botanical information.

Focusing more closely on human uses of biological material, **Will McClatchey** (Chapter 12) makes a plea for the involvement of linguists in discovering how biological knowledge is acquired, learned, and controlled. What, if any, are the links between biological and linguistic diversity? How is new biological knowledge learned by migrants into new environments, and how long does it take? What are the systems for classifying plants and animals in the language, and how much are they culturally determined?

From the natural world and its cultural construction we move to an exploration of human artefacts. **Pierre Lemonnier** (Chapter 13) suggests linguists could record technical processes like making bread, weaving and so on and shows that objects and technical processes need to be understood in their cultural context. Similar to Pollock in Chapter 10, Lemonnier reminds us that culture underlies all technical processes, no matter how much they may appear to relate to the purely physical world. His case studies of the Baruya fence and Ankave drum illustrate wonderfully the cultural basis for these two otherwise apparently functional objects.

Understanding how quantification works in another culture can take some background knowledge of the range of possible counting and computational systems, including measurement of time, weight, and distance. **Marc Chemillier** (Chapter 14) describes methods for observing both quantification systems and more complex mathematical algorithms, such as sand drawings and divination games. This work emphasizes the value of experimental tests and observation, as asking speakers how they compute divination tables (illustrated in the chapter) gives a different result to observing their calculation of relationships in the table.

p. 8 Still in a computational mode, the next chapter provides a crash course in cultural astronomy. **Jarita Holbrook** (Chapter 15) shows how to learn about celestial bodies before arriving in the field. She discusses how the stars and planets have been incorporated into cultural practices, including divination, calculation of seasons, and calendars, and into legends that help to explain their recurring patterns observed by most human societies.

From the cosmological we move to the terrestrial. In the first of two chapters related to indigenous views of geography, **Andrew Turk, David Mark, Carolyn O'Meara, and David Stea** (Chapter 16) describe methods for discovering how landscape is culturally conceptualized. The field of ethnophysiography explores a semantic domain that has not been central to linguistic explorations in the past (although the authors note that it did feature as a domain of study in Voegelin and Voegelin 1957) which asks how landscape is talked about, what features are considered to be distinct, and how they are related to each other.

Focusing on toponymy, **David Nash and Jane Simpson** (Chapter 17) provide examples of placenames and their possible role in analysing the semantic systems of the speech community. Their discussion covers denotation, sense, etymology, and etiology of placenames, as well as connotations, and morphological and grammatical properties. They point out there may be a number of sources for placenames which may, for