

Name

Ling 20 Extra Credit
Non-native speakers of English only

PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

DUE: TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 2004

You will not be graded on this assignment; you will simply be given credit for doing it. However you are required to give it your full effort and answer all parts of the question. If you leave out part of the question, you will not be given credit.

The below questions are designed to get you thinking about your native language in a linguistic way and to apply some of the analytical tools you have learned. If you have any questions about how to complete any of the exercises, please ask.

PICK ONE OF THE BELOW EXERCISES. I REPEAT- YOU ONLY NEED TO COMPLETE ONE OF THE EXERCISES.

1. Using the IPA charts in your book, list all the symbols for the English sounds that are not found in your native language. (Be sure to tell me what your native language is.) Now think about some sounds that exist in your native language but that are not found in English. Try to describe some of these sounds. You do not need to list the symbol, but try and use the places and manners of articulation that we discussed in class. If you can't figure these out, just try and explain how you think you make the sound in your mouth.

Example:

<u>symbol(which you don't need to write)</u>	<u>If you can describe the place and manner of articulation</u>	<u>If not...</u>
[x]	My language has a voiceless velar fricative.	My language has a voiceless sound which seems to be a fricative. It feels like I make it in the same place as [k].
[ɽ]	My language has a voiced retroflex liquid	My language has a voiced, liquid sound. It's made by curling the tongue back in the mouth.

Do the best you can and try and tell me about some of the sound of your language.

2. How does the morphology of your language compare to that of English? Does your language indicate plurality in the same way as English? Does it have grammatical gender (as in the Spanish *el* and *la*)? Is there a special marking on nouns that tells you if it is the subject or the

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object? How is tense marked- is it marked on the verb? Are there both prefixes and suffixes, or does your language have infixes and circumfixes? Pick one way in which the morphology of your language is different from English and tell me about it. Be sure to give me some examples which demonstrate what you are telling me about (and give me a good translation, showing me what the different morphemes are).

Example (a short response):

Marshallese does not mark plurality on the noun. Instead, it marks it on the determiner. There are different determiners for when something is singular or plural. Likewise, there is also a different plural for when something is a human or a thing. For example, if I wanted to say 'the dog' and 'the dogs' it would look like this:

kidu	eo	armij	eo
dog	the singular	person	the singular

kidu	ko	armij	ro
dog	the plural things	person	the plural humans

You can see below that *eo* is used for singular things and people, but *ko* is used for plural things and *ro* is used for plural humans.

3. Draw me a syntax tree for a sentence in your language. Pick one that has at least one of the following: determiner, noun, adjective, prepositional phrase and verb. Is the grammar of your language similar to that of English? If it is different, tell me what grammar rules you need to change and show me what the changes would be.

Example:

(I can't draw a tree for you, but you should have gotten plenty of practice on your homework.)

As can be seen in my morphology answer and as my above tree demonstrates, the determiner in Marshallese follows the noun, and the adjective comes between the noun and the determiner. So Marshallese has different rules for the DP and NP. Here are the Marshallese rules:

DP -> NP D

NP -> N A