

International Linguistics Olympiad

Contest Problems

Rules for writing out the solutions

Do not copy the problems. Write down your solution to each problem on a separate sheet or sheets. On each sheet indicate the number of the problem, the number of your seat and your surname. If you do not do this, your work may be mislaid or misattributed.

Unless stated differently, you should describe any patterns or rules that you identified in the data. Otherwise your solution will not be awarded full marks.

Sample Problem (20 points). Here are some sentences in Coastal Marind and their English translations:

1. **ob-dahetok** — *Yousg really returned.*
2. **nake-dahetok** — *We returned.*
3. **nambat-ihwin** — *Aw, I cried.*
4. **nambe-otab**— *We really chased youpl away.*
5. **um-kulayawn**— *He laughed at yousg in vain.*
6. **e-keseh**— *Youpl spat on him.*
7. **ubate-huyanab**— *Aw, yousg silenced us.*
8. **nakum-hoyab**— *I silenced youpl in vain.*
9. **nambame-yadayawn** — *Oh, we left yousg behind!*
10. **ebe-yadanawn**— *Youpl really left us behind.*
11. **ibatum-yadewn**— *Aw, youpl left him behind in vain.*
12. **a-isanaab**— *He cut me in half.*
13. **obam-eseb**— *Oh, yousg cut him in half !*

The following verbs have a grammatical difference from the verbs above:

14. **bate-tamanab**— *Aw, we floated to the surface.*
15. **ba-tamab**— *Youpl really floated to the surface.*
16. **a-yuyayah** — *Yousg shuddered.*
17. **bam-yuyanah** — *Oh, I shuddered!*

(a) Translate into English:

18. **e-yuyanah**
19. **ba-ihwin**

(b) Translate into Coastal Marind:

23. *He floated to the surface.*
24. *Aw, yousg returned.*

20. **nabum-kisayah**

21. **bat-yadawn**

22. **ubamum-kolewn**

25. *Oh, I silenced him!*

26. *He really chased us away.*

27. *Youpl really spat on us in vain.*

⁴! The Coastal Marind language belongs to the Anim family. It is spoken by approx. 8,000 people in the South Papua province of Indonesia.

y and y are consonants. In the Coastal Marind verb forms, a hyphen (-) is used to separate two halves of a verb that are pronounced as if they were separate words.

Good luck!