

Problem 1 (20 points). Below is given an inscribed lead tablet discovered in 1994 in Alicante, Spain. It shows a text in the Iberian language, written in the Levantine system:



You already know that the first word on the tablet is **šebirín**.

Below are given, in random order, the Latin transcriptions of 12 of the other words that appear on the tablet. One of the words contains a mistake!

arbais, aurelen, bantaškalir, bantubailkunmí, belštaukui, beřenultiteś, iumabeleś, kitei, kuteńnaníśil, sonai, taubaštetaś, toroś

(a) Write the correct transcription of the word containing the mistake in Latin script.

(continued on next page)

(b) Here are 4 more words which appear on the tablet. The transcription is incomplete. The gaps are marked by ..., which may mark one or more letters.

- d. ...uki...ré e. keke...r...ban f. ...n...le...s g. n...i

Write the full transcription of these words.

(c) The number 31 appears somewhere on the tablet. Below are given some more numerals in the same notation system:

- a. \diagup ||| b. \diagup \diagup c. \diagup \diagup ||

Write them using Arabic numerals.

(d) Write the Latin transcription of the remaining words, in the order in which they appear on the tablet.

△ Iberian is an extinct unclassified language which used to be spoken in the regions of present-day Spain and France around the 1st c. AD.

ř, ś, and ř are consonants similar to r, s, and m, respectively.

—Vlad A. Neacșu

Problem 2 (20 points). Here are some sentences in Hausa and their English translations:

1. **saabuwa'y 'yaa tanàa tàmbyàn bàabansù**
The young daughter is asking their uncle.
2. **saabon bàabaa yanàa dàakatàb baabà**
The young uncle is waiting for the aunt.
3. **Kandè tanàa hàràarà'y 'yassù**
Kande is gazing at their daughter.
4. **'yakkù taa hàràari doogon dāa**
Your_{pl} daughter gazed at the tall son.
5. **tsoofuwab baabà taa dàakàti 'yaa**
The old aunt waited for the daughter.

(a) Translate into English:

6. **Kandè tanàa tàmbyàb baabàssù**
7. **tsoofon Muusa yaa hàràari dāa**

(b) Translate into Hausa:

8. *The tall daughter asked the aunt.*
9. *Your_{pl} son is gazing at Musa.*
10. *The aunt is waiting for Kande.*

△ Hausa belongs to the Chadic branch of the Afro-Asiatic language family. It is spoken by approx. 51 million people natively in West Africa.

Kande and Musa are persons names. The mark ◻ indicates low level tone, while its absence indicates high level tone. 'y and d are consonants.

—Tsuyoshi Kobayashi

Problem 3 (20 points). Here are some phrases in Romanian and their English translations:

copilul micuț al cetățeanului viteaz	<i>the small child_M of the brave citizen_M</i>
aptul cetățean al nepoatei moarte	<i>the skilled citizen_M of the dead niece</i>
camarazii curioși ai sătulelor cetățene	<i>the curious comrades_M of the satiated citizens_F</i>
viclenii nepoți ai înalților copii	<i>the cunning nephews of the tall children_M</i>
camarada smeadă a mireselelor flămânde	<i>the pale comrade_F of the hungry brides</i>
nepoata vicleană a curiosului urs	<i>the cunning niece of the curious bear_M</i>
frumosul mânz al urșilor apți	<i>the beautiful foal_M of the skilled bears_M</i>
goalele nomade ale micuței camarade	<i>the underdressed nomads_F of the small comrade_F</i>
profesorul viteaz al hoților smezi	<i>the brave teacher_M of the pale thieves_M</i>
sătuii studenți ai hoaței înalte	<i>the satiated students_M of the tall thief_F</i>
mireasa înaltă a flămânzilor profesori	<i>the tall bride of the hungry teachers_M</i>
moartele verișoare ale frumoaselor profesoare	<i>the dead cousins_F of the beautiful teachers_F</i>

(a) Translate into English:

1. **hoțul flămând al copilelor viteze**
2. **micuța cetățeană a mânjilor frumoși**
3. **studentele viclene ale înaltului nepot**

(b) Translate into Romanian:

4. *the brave cousins_M of the dead foals_M*
5. *the satiated thief_F of the underdressed nomads_M*
6. *the curious cousin_F of the skilled child_F*

If more translations are possible, write only one.

(c) Translate into Romanian in all possible ways:

7. *the small citizens_M of the underdressed nomad_M*

(d) In the last centuries, one consonant (that used to exist in Romanian) disappeared by merging with another consonant. Which sound was that and how is it pronounced nowadays?

△ Romanian belongs to the Romance branch of the Indo-European family. It is spoken by approx. 24 million people primarily in Romania and the Republic of Moldova.

A *foal* is a baby horse.

j = *s* in *vision*; **ș** = *sh* in *shop*; **ț** = *ts* in *cats*; **z** = *z* in *zap*; **ă** = *a* in *about*; **â** and **î** are vowels.

Two consecutive vowels form a diphthong. A single **i** at the end of the word is called a "non-syllabic **i**" and it does not behave like a vowel. In order to become a vowel, it needs to be doubled (compare **buni** – one syllable – and **copii** – two syllables).

The subscripts _M and _F refer to masculine and feminine, respectively.

— Vlad A. Neacșu

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Good luck!