

Final Project

You are to find someone who speaks a language *you do not speak* and ask them a few questions (in a language that you both speak, presumably English, but it could be any language). Specifically, you are supposed to ask them how to say the following four sentences:

- (1) The girl saw the boy.
- (2) The boy saw the girl.
- (3) The dog bit the cat.
- (4) The cat bit the dog.

Your project has the following components:

1. Record your interview with your phone or some equivalent audio recorder.
The recording should include:
 - (a) The speaker producing the sentences, at least two times for each sentence.
 - (b) Your discussion with the speaker about:
 - i. How the sounds in the sentences differ from sounds in English.
 - ii. I also expect you to try to pronounce each of the unique words in the four sentences.
 - iii. I also expect you to ask the person to assess your pronunciation. This will help you understand what's going on a bit better and will lead to better transcriptions.
2. Broadly transcribe each sentence using IPA to the best of your ability. If you don't know the right IPA symbol for some sounds, use the closest letter you can, and in the paper (see 3 below) describe how the unfamiliar sound differs from the IPA letter you used. Don't write in the orthography of the language, since you're going to have to turn this into me and I can't read Tibetan, Vietnamese, or Amharic.
3. You should write a 1-2 page paper (not less than 1pg.), and it should include the following:
 - (a) Your transcription (see 2 above) for each of the four sentences. Make sure you indicate what each sentence means to make things easier for me when I'm reading your paper. If there are sounds you don't know the right IPA symbol for, write a paragraph describing how the unfamiliar sound(s) differ from the IPA symbol(s) you used.
 - (b) A coherent essay answering the following question: How does the language indicate subjects and objects? The language may use morphology to mark case, or it may use word order, or it may use both. Your job is to explain, based on the four sentences you collected, how the language indicates subject/objecthood. If the language uses morphology to mark these differences, what are the morphemes used? This will require some morphological analysis.

You should turn in your project by **11:30 am on Saturday, September 7th** on TritonEd. You will need to submit your paper and your audio file.

Your project will be graded according to the following rubric (15 possible points).

Component		Possible points
Audio file of interview	Make sure you can hear the conversation and what your consultant says.	6
Introduction	Lay out the issue being addressed	1
Transcription	This will not be graded based on accuracy, just do the best you can and you'll be fine.	3
Analysis and explanation	Answer the question prompted above and use the four sentences as evidence for your answer and analysis of the language.	4
Conclusion	Brief summary and wrap-up	1