

Your name:

The UK Linguistics Olympiad 2021

Round 1



Solution and marking.

Scoring: (max 15)

- 1 point for each correct letter. (max 15)

Waama	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
English	J	F	H	O	M	N	K	L	I	A	C	E	B	D	G

Commentary

1. There is no possessive marker. The structures *Tchando house* and *friend house* work similarly to phrases like *garage door* in English.
2. Word order is SVO except with object pronouns.
3. In compound sentences, the coordinating conjunction follows the subject NP.
4. The word *ñ* can mean either *and* or *but* depending on the context.
5. Definiteness is not marked by means of definite or indefinite articles. Definiteness is determined by context.
6. Instead of prepositions, the language has postpositions (tree under, forest in).
7. Lexical observations: *take* means 'go to'; *miiki* means 'pass by'; *kpi* means 'die' in the larger sense of 'come to an end'; *γκωτι* means 'have fun' as well as 'play'.
8. The nouns in this problem become plural as follows: *bika*(sg) – *bisu*(pl).
9. The third person personal and possessive pronoun *o* is not gender marked (*o* = he/she, his/her).