

## Round 2 2013

### 5. Playing the cognate game [15 marks]

Indonesian (*Bahasa Indonesia*) is an Austronesian language widely spoken as a first or second language throughout the countries of Indonesia and East Timor. It is closely related to Malay, which is spoken in Malaysia, Brunei, and Singapore. Swahili (*Kiswahili*) is a Bantu language spoken natively by many groups living on the coast of East Africa and as a second language throughout Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, the Comoros, Mozambique, Burundi, Somalia, Rwanda, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. These two languages are *lingua francas*, used for trade, business, and education among peoples with different mother tongues.

Though they originated on different continents and come from different language families, Indonesian and Swahili share a substantial amount of vocabulary, thanks primarily to loans from Arabic, but also from English, Portuguese, and German or Dutch. While many of these loans are related to commonly-loaned domains such as technology, religion, or animals (compare the Swahili word for “lion,” *simba*, with the Indonesian *singga*), some are for more everyday items such as “table” (Swahili *meza*, Indonesian *meja*, from the Portuguese *mesa*). Below are three tasks related to identifying Indonesian and Swahili cognates, but be careful: not everything is as it seems!

The following table contains a list of Indonesian sentences, and also a list of Swahili translations of these sentences, though not in the same order.

|    | Swahili                                      |   | Indonesian                                       |
|----|--|---|--|
| 1  | Aliniuza kitabu changu.                      | a | Bawakan saya buku-tulismu.                       |
| 2  | Dada wangu anajifunza kemia.                 | b | Bawalah buku-buku kalian ke sekolah.             |
| 3  | Hijabu ya dada wangu ni rangi ya bluu.       | c | Besok Anda ke Mesri.                             |
| 4  | Jana nilisoma biblia.                        | d | Di Bahasa Swahili Anda bisa berbicara apa kabar. |
| 5  | Katika Kiswahili unaweza kusema habari gani. | e | Dia menjual saya bukuku.                         |
| 6  | Kesho utakwenda Misri.                       | f | Hari ini hari kamis.                             |
| 7  | Kitongoji hiki ni salama.                    | g | Jilbab kakaku adalah biru.                       |
| 8  | Leo ni alhamisi.                             | h | Kakaku belajar kemia.                            |
| 9  | Leteni vitabu vyenu kwa shule.               | i | Kemeja adikku adalah hijau.                      |
| 10 | Nilete daftari lako.                         | j | Kemejanya di pahanya.                            |
| 11 | Nina vitabu kuhusu Wayahudi.                 | k | Ketika kari jumat saya berdoa.                   |
| 12 | Ninajifunza biologia.                        | l | Lingkungan ini selamat.                          |
| 13 | Ninapenda bendera Kiholanzi.                 | m | Menurut daftarnya Anda miskin.                   |
| 14 | Ninasema Kiswahili.                          | n | Saya belajar biologi.                            |
| 15 | Orodha hii inasema kwa wewe ni meskini.      | o | Saya bisa berbahasa Swahili.                     |
| 16 | Shati la kaka wangu ni rangi ya kijana.      | p | Saya membaca al-kitab kemarin.                   |
| 17 | Shati lake ni juu ya paja lake.              | q | Saya punya buku tentang Yahudi-Yahudi.           |
| 18 | Siku za ijumaa ninaomba.                     | r | Saya suka bendera Belanda.                       |
| 19 | Sikuwa na wakati ijumaa.                     | s | Saya tidak punya waktu hari jumat.               |
| 20 | Wilaya hizi ni salama.                       | t | Wilayah-wilayahnya selamat.                      |

### Questions

**5.1.** Match each English sentence in the table on the answer sheet with the number or letter of its Indonesian and Swahili translations.

**5.2.** There are a number of pairs of ‘misleading cognates’ (or ‘false friends’) – words in Indonesian and Swahili that have the same roots but have different meanings in English. Pick two such pairs, and say what they mean in English.

**5.3.** Translate the following sentences into Indonesian and Swahili:

1. I speak Hebrew.
2. I like my sister's shirt.
3. He sold me a flag.
4. Egypt is safe.
5. He sells me a headscarf.
6. Today I am reading a book.
7. In Swahili you can study the Bible.
8. The Dutch are poor.
9. On Thursdays I read books.
10. My brother studies your book.

## 5. Playing the cognate game (Answer sheet)

| 5.1. English                       | Swahili (1-20) | Indonesian (a-t) |
|------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Bring me your notebook.            |                |                  |
| Bring your books to school.        |                |                  |
| He sold me a book.                 |                |                  |
| His shirt is on his thigh.         |                |                  |
| I didn't have time on Friday.      |                |                  |
| I have books about Jews.           |                |                  |
| I like the Dutch flag.             |                |                  |
| I speak Swahili.                   |                |                  |
| I study biology.                   |                |                  |
| In Swahili you can say what's new. |                |                  |
| My brother's shirt is green        |                |                  |
| My sister studies chemistry.       |                |                  |
| My sister's headscarf is blue.     |                |                  |
| On Fridays I pray.                 |                |                  |
| These districts are safe.          |                |                  |
| This list says that you are poor.  |                |                  |
| This neighborhood is safe.         |                |                  |
| Today is Thursday.                 |                |                  |
| Tomorrow you're going to Egypt.    |                |                  |
| Yesterday I read the Bible.        |                |                  |

| 5.2. Swahili word | English meaning of Swahili word | Indonesian misleading cognate | English meaning of Indonesian misleading cognate |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
|                   |                                 |                               |  |
|                   |                                 |                               |  |

| 5.3. | Swahili | Indonesian |
|------|---------|------------|
| 1.   |         |            |
| 2.   |         |            |
| 3.   |         |            |
| 4.   |         |            |
| 5.   |         |            |
| 6.   |         |            |
| 7.   |         |            |
| 8.   |         |            |
| 9.   |         |            |
| 10.  |         |            |

## 5. Playing the cognate game (solutions and marking)

5.1: 1 point for each correct answer (total = 40)

5.2: 1 point for each correct pair and an additional point for each correct English translation (total = 4)

5.3: 2 points for each perfect answer, 1 point for getting the basic idea with minor errors (total = 40)

Grand total = 84.

| 5.1. English                       | Swahili (1-20) | Indonesian (a-t) |
|------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Bring me your notebook.            | 10             | A                |
| Bring your books to school.        | 9              | B                |
| He sold me a book.                 | 1              | E                |
| His shirt is on his thigh.         | 17             | J                |
| I didn't have time on Friday.      | 19             | S                |
| I have books about Jews.           | 11             | Q                |
| I like the Dutch flag.             | 13             | R                |
| I speak Swahili.                   | 14             | O                |
| I study biology.                   | 12             | N                |
| In Swahili you can say what's new. | 5              | D                |
| My brother's shirt is green        | 16             | I                |
| My sister studies chemistry.       | 2              | H                |
| My sister's headscarf is blue.     | 3              | G                |
| On Fridays I pray.                 | 18             | K                |
| These districts are safe.          | 20             | T                |
| This list says that you are poor.  | 15             | M                |
| This neighborhood is safe.         | 7              | L                |
| Today is Thursday.                 | 8              | F                |
| Tomorrow you're going to Egypt.    | 6              | C                |
| Yesterday I read the Bible.        | 4              | P                |

| 5.2. Swahili word | English meaning of Swahili word | Indonesian misleading cognate | English meaning of Indonesian misleading cognate |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| daftari<br>kaka   | notebook<br>brother             | daftar<br>kakak               | list<br>(older) sister (or brother)              |
| katika<br>kitab   | in<br>book                      | ketika<br>(al-)kitab          | on<br>the bible                                  |

| <b>5.3.</b> | <b>Swahili</b>                            | <b>Indonesian</b>                                   |
|-------------|---|---|
| 1.          | Ninasema Kiyahudi                         | Saya bisa berbahasa Yahudi                          |
| 2.          | Ninapenda shati la dada wangu             | Saya suka kemeja adikku OR Saya suka kemeja kakakku |
| 3.          | Aliniuza bendera                          | Dia menjual saya bendera                            |
| 4.          | Misri ni salama                           | Mesri (adalah) selamat                              |
| 5.          | Ananiuza hijabu                           | Dia menjual saya jilbab                             |
| 6.          | Leo ninasoma kitabu                       | Hari ini saya membaca buku                          |
| 7.          | Katika Kiswahili unaweza kujifunza biblia | Di Bahasa Swahili Anda bisa belajar al-kitab        |
| 8.          | Waholanzi ni meskini                      | Belanda-Belanda (adalah) miskin                     |
| 9.          | Siku za alhamisi ninasoma vitabu          | Ketika hari kamis saya membaca buku-buku            |
| 10.         | Kaka wangu anajifunza kitabu chako        | Adikku belajar bukumu OR Kakakku belajar bukumu     |