

Problem 3. Khmer (10 marks)

Cambodia is a country in South-East Asia, bordered by Thailand, Laos and Vietnam. The vast majority of the population are Khmer, which is also the name of the official language, spoken by about 18 million people. The Khmer script is one of the oldest recorded in South-East Asia and is based on an ancient script from Southern India.



Below is an extract from the menu of a Cambodian restaurant, with English translations of each dish. English words in brackets are added for clarity, but do not correspond to any Khmer word. You do not need to know how any Khmer words are pronounced to solve this problem.

Note that *buffalo* is a cow-like animal, kept for its meat and milk in Asia. *Tofu* is a vegetarian food made from soya beans.

ម្ហូបខ្មែរ	Cambodian food
បាយឆាសាច់ក្របី	<i>fried rice (with) buffalo</i>
បាយឆាសាច់ជ្រូក	<i>fried rice (with) pork</i>
បាយឆាហាតៅហ៊ី	<i>fried rice (with) tofu</i>
បាយដំណើបខ្លិះដូង	<i>sticky rice (with) coconut milk</i>
បាយដំណើបស្វាយ	<i>sticky rice (with) mango</i>
សាឡាត់សាច់គោ	<i>beef salad</i>
សាឡាត់ត្រី	<i>fish salad</i>
ស៊ីបត្រី	<i>fish soup</i>
គុយទាវស៊ីតសាច់គោ	<i>egg noodles (with) beef</i>
គុយទាវស៊ីតសាច់ជ្រូក	<i>egg noodles (with) pork</i>
គុយទាវទឹកៗសាច់បង្កា	<i>noodles (in) liquid (with) shrimp</i>
គុយទាវទឹកៗ	<i>noodles (in) liquid</i>

Q 3.1 A vegetarian friend, who does not eat meat, fish, or seafood, is planning a trip to Cambodia. Which of the following dishes are suitable for them?

- a. ក្អែកសាច់បង្កា
- b. គុយទាវទឹកៗត្រី
- c. បាយឆា
- d. សាឡាត់ហាតៅហ្វី
- e. គុយទាវស៊ីតសាច់មាន់

Q 3.2 If you know that គោ means “cow” and ជ្រូក means “pig”, what does the word សាច់ mean?

Q 3.3 What common Western food or drink is written in Khmer as ទឹកដោះគោ?

Q 3.4 Here are four more dishes from the restaurant menu. Translate them (or say what they contain).

- f. ស៊ីបបង្កាដូង
- g. គុយទាវឆា
- h. សាឡាត់ស៊ីត
- i. បាយឆាសាច់បង្កា

Problem 3. Khmer Answers

For Q3.1 tick 'yes' if a dish is vegetarian or 'no' if it is not.					
	a.	b.	c.	d.	e.
Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

3.2	<i>meat, flesh</i>
3.3	<i>(dairy) milk</i>

3.4	f. <i>soup (with) shrimp (and) coconut</i>	h. <i>egg salad</i>
	g. <i>fried noodles</i>	i. <i>fried rice (with) shrimp</i>

- Q 3.1** Max 5. 1 pt per correct tick. Accept any unambiguous marking instead of a tick, e.g. x.
- Q 3.2** Max 1. 1 pt if correct. Accept anything similar to meat, flesh etc. Do not accept “animal product”, “meat”, or “seafood”. Do not accept specific kinds of meat, e.g. “beef”, “pork”.
- Q 3.3** Max 1. 1 pt if correct. Accept anything containing milk, e.g. “milk shake”. Do not accept non-dairy milks, such as “soy milk”.
- Q 3.4** Max 10. 1 pt per correct word. Ignore words in brackets. If the answer has all of the correct words with extra ingredients, deduct 1 pt. E.g. both *coconut soup* and *coconut shrimp meat soup* score 2 pts.

Problem 3. Khmer Explanations

Q 3.1

	dishes	suitable for vegetarians?
a.	ក្អែក្អែងសាច់បង្កា	No. Highlighted is the word for <i>shrimp</i>).
b.	គុយទាវទឹកៗត្រី	No. Highlighted is the word for <i>fish</i>).
c.	បាយឆា	Yes. This means <i>fried rice</i> .
d.	សាឡាត់ហាតៅហ្វូ	Yes. This means <i>tofu salad</i> .
e.	គុយទាវស៊ីតសាសាច់មាន់	No. We don't know what the highlighted word is, but it's some sort of meat. (Actually, it's <i>chicken</i> .)

Q 3.2 សាច់ only appears in dishes with meat (not fish or vegetarian options; however, it does occur with shrimp). In a similar manner, English makes a distinction between the live animals with 'cow' and 'pig' for example, and when referring to the meat of these animals, English uses 'beef' and 'pork' instead.

Q 3.3 Literally: *liquid* (something) cow

References

- Smyth, D. (1995) *Colloquial Cambodian. A Complete Language Course*. Routledge
- <https://www.omniglot.com/writing/khmer.htm>