

How to invent five conlangs
in 45 mins
and still leave ample time for discussion

Njenfalgar

The art of sketchlanging

- the con-analogue of *borsht con sushi* or Milwaukee...
- Quidquid Elphense dictum sit, altum sonotur.

My credentials: more than a hundred languages, most of them quite worthless.

Conlang nr. 0: Engwish



Conlang nr. 0 bis: Lallâtínidor

Qui dquid El phine dictu m sit ,
al tum so n otu r.

Conlang nr. 0 bis: Lallâtínidor

Quillídquidor Ellëlphine dictullûm sitor,
allâtumidor sollonollotudor.

Conlang nr. 1: Orkish

- tharik: to cause to bring
- -ed: future
- -l: them
- -ok: fully

Hurrian

Conlang nr. 1: Orkish

- tharik: to cause to bring
 - -ed: future
 - -l: them
 - -ok: fully
- Hurrian*
- thrak-: to bring
 - -at: jussive future
 - -ul: them
 - -ûk: all

Conlang nr. 1: Orkish

- tharik: to cause to bring
- -ed: future
- -l: them
- -ok: fully

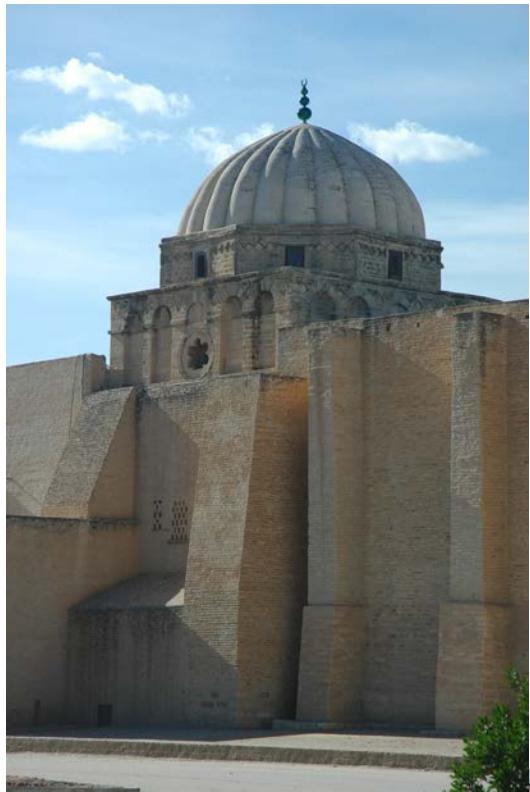
Hurrian

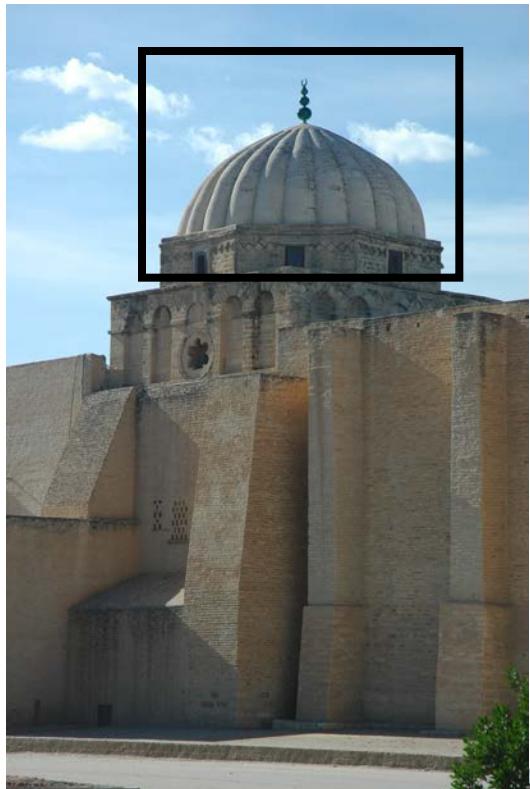
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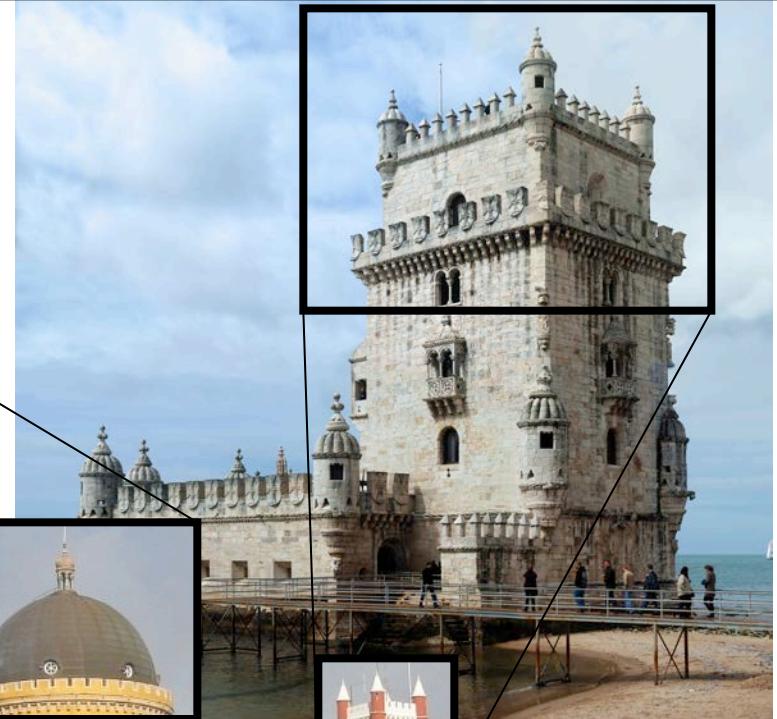
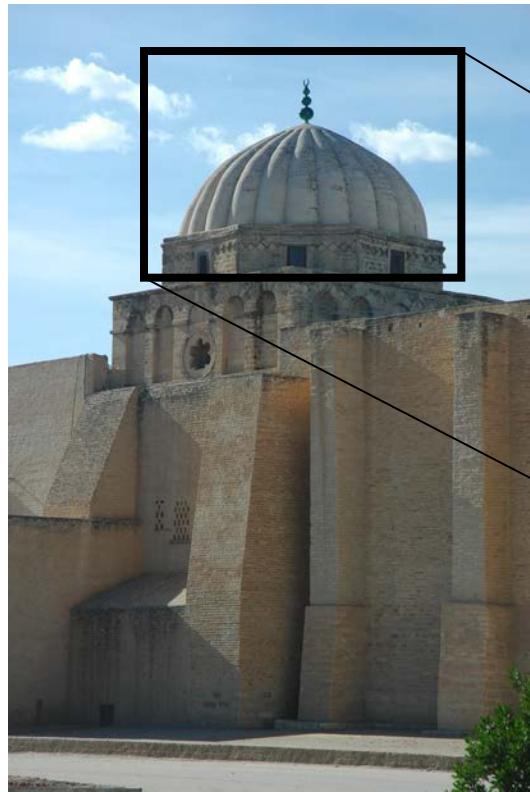
thrakatulûk

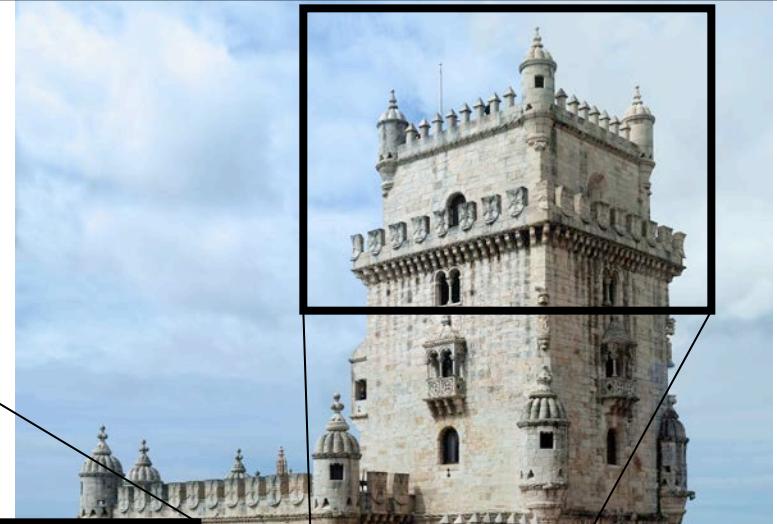
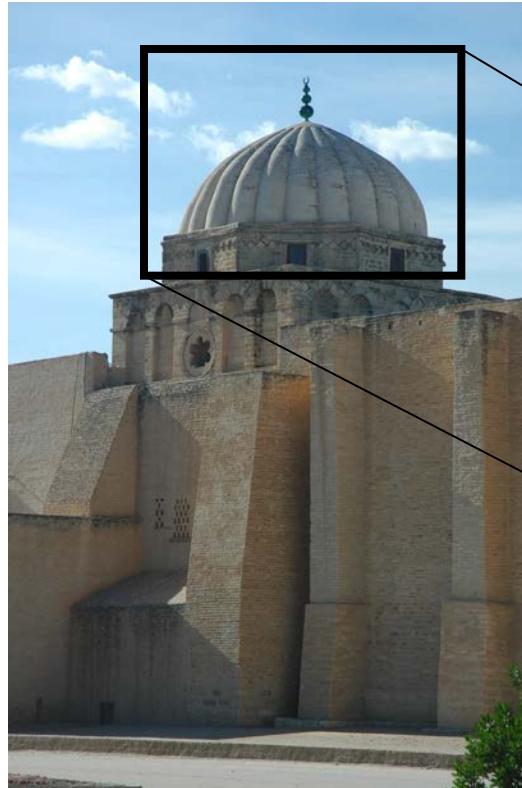
thrak-at-ul-ûk

bring-JUSS-them-all
to bring them all









Conlang nr. 2: hlaP'insui

Requirements:

- name of language, people...
- boy's name
- girl's name
- king's name
- translate wise saying by that king
- random words: “lion”, “but”, “zebra”,
“hyena”, “penguin”, “simple”

Conlang nr. 2: hlaP'insui

wikipedia.org/wiki/Nuxálk_language

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Salish (for example, the absence of [pharyngeals](#), and the presence of marked gender). Nuxálk also borrows many words from [Heiltsuk](#), as well as some from neighboring [Athabaskan languages](#) and [Tsimshian](#).^[3]

Sounds

Consonants

The 28 consonants of Nuxálk, with the orthography of (Davis & Saunders 1997, p. 23) when it differs from the IPA. (An Languagegeek.com link below.)

		Bilabial	Alveolar		Palatal	Velar		Uvular		Glottal
			central	lateral		palatalized	labialized	plain	labialized	
Stop	aspirated	pʰ	tʰ <t>			kʰ <k>	kʷʰ <kʷ>	qʰ <q>	qʷʰ <qʷ>	?
	ejective	p'	t' <t>			k'j <kj>	kʷ'w <kʷw>	q' <qj>	qʷ'w <qʷw>	
Affricate	aspirated	tsʰ <c>								
	ejective	ts' <c>	tʃ' <č>							
Fricative		s	f <ɸ>		xj <xj>	xʷ	X	Xʷ	(h)	
Sonorant	m	n	l	j <y>	w					

(Nater 1984, p. 3) postulates the existence of phonemic syllabic consonantal counterparts of the [sonorants](#) -- /m, n, l/ (<m n l>). By this analysis Nuxálk would only have one phonemic vowel, /a/. (Words claimed to have unpredictable syllabics include [some children](#).^[4])

Vowels

	Front	Central	Back
Close	i		u
Open		a	

Allophony

/i/ may be pronounced:

Conlang nr. 2: hlaP'insui

		Bilabial		Alveolar		Palatal		Velar		Uvular		Glottal	
		central	lateral			palatalized	labialized	plain	labialized				
Stop	aspirated	p ^h	t ^h <t>			k ^h <k>	k ^{wh} <kʷ>	q ^h <q>	q ^{wh} <qʷ>			?	
	ejective	p'	t' <t>			k'j <kj>	k' ^w <kʷj>	q' <qj>	q' ^w <qʷj>				
Affricate	aspirated	tʂ ^h <cc>											
	ejective	tʂ' <c> tʂ' <j>											
Fricative			s	t <t>		x̥ <x>	xʷ	X	Xʷ	(h)			
Sonorant		m	n	l	j <y>		w						

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Conlang nr. 2: hlaP'insui

wikipedia.org/wiki/Nuxálk_Language
Books SPIRES-HEP Search

Salish (for example, the absence of pharyngeals, and the presence of marked gender). Nuxálk also Heiltsuk), as well as some from neighboring Athabaskan languages and Tsimshian.^[3]

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		central	lateral			palatalized	labialized	plain	labialized				
Stop	aspirated	p ^h	t ^h <t>			k ^h <k>	kʷ ^h <kʷ>	q ^h <q>	qʷ ^h <qʷ>				?
	ejective	p'	t'	<t>		k' ^h <k>	kʷ' ^h <kʷ>	q' ^h <q>	qʷ' ^h <qʷ>				
Affricate	aspirated	ts ^h <c>											
	ejective	ts' ^h <c>	t' ^h <k>										
Fricative		s	f <l>			x<x>	xʷ	X	Xʷ	(h)			
Sonorant		m	n	l	j <y>		w						

(Nater 1984, p. 3) postulates the existence of phonemic syllabic consonantal counterparts of the sonorants. By this analysis Nuxálk would only have one phonemic vowel, /a/. (Words claimed to have unpredictable vowels are children'.^[4])

Vowels

	Front	Central	Back
Close	i		u
Open		a	

Allophony

/i/ may be pronounced:

group a		eɪ	ɔɪ	əɪ	əʊ								
ao		ao		baʊ	pao	maʊ		daʊ	taʊ	naʊ	laʊ	gao	kao
ou		ou			pou	mou	fou	dou	tou	nou	lou	gou	kou
an		an		baŋ	pan	maŋ	fan	daŋ	taŋ	naŋ	laŋ	gaŋ	kaŋ
en		en		beŋ	peŋ	meŋ	feŋ	deŋ		neŋ		geŋ	keŋ
ən		ən		haŋ	naŋ	maŋ	faŋ	daŋ	taŋ	naŋ	laŋ	gaŋ	kaŋ

KISWAHILI ? HAKUNA MATATA !

KISWAHILI GRAMMAR - TABLE OF CONTENTS

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APTER 04	Verbs : The Imperative
APTER 05	Nominal Classes
APTER 06	Nouns : The M-/WA- Gender
APTER 07	Subject Pronouns
APTER 08	Verbs : Present Definite Tense
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APTER 11	Concordant Adjectives
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Conlang nr. 2: hlaP'insui

wikipedia.org/wiki/Nuxálk_language

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Sounds

Consonants

The 28 consonants of Nuxálk, with the orthography of (Davis & Saunders 1997, p. 23) when it differs from one's group, such as one's company.

Respectful verbs

some irregular respectful forms [citation needed]

meaning	plain	respectful (sonkeigo)	humble (kenjōgo)	polite (teineigo)
see / look / watch	見る: <i>miru</i>	ご覧になる <i>go-ren ni naru</i>	拝見する <i>haiken suru</i>	見ます <i>mimesu</i>
meet	会う <i>au</i>	regular (ex. お会いになる <i>o-ai ni naru</i>)	お目にかかる <i>o-me ni kakaru</i>	会います <i>aimasu</i>
be ¹	ある <i>eru</i>			ござる <i>gozaru</i>
	いる <i>iru</i>	いらっしゃる <i>irassharu</i> おいでになる <i>o-ide ni naru</i>	おる <i>oru</i>	おる <i>oru</i>
come / go ¹	来る <i>kuru</i> (come) 行く <i>iku</i> (go)		伺う <i>ukageau</i> 参る <i>maru</i>	参る <i>maru</i>
know	知る <i>shiru</i>	ご存じだ <i>go-zonji da</i>	存じあげる <i>zonji ageru</i>	存じている <i>zonji te iu</i>
eat / drink	食べる <i>taberu</i> (eat) 飲む <i>nomu</i> (drink)	召しあがる <i>meshi-agaru</i>	頂く <i>itadaku</i>	頂く <i>itadaku</i>
receive	もらう <i>morau</i>		頂く <i>itadaku</i> ² 頂戴する <i>chōdai-suru</i> ²	もらいます <i>moraimasu</i>
give (who receives is respected)	やる <i>yaru</i> (considered rude today, except in Kansai dialect) あげる <i>ageru</i> (once the humble form)		差しあげる <i>sashiageru</i>	あげます <i>agemasu</i>
give (who gives is respected)	くれる <i>kureru</i>	くださる <i>kudasaru</i>		くれます <i>kuremasu</i>
do	する <i>suru</i>	なさる <i>nasaru</i>	致す <i>itasu</i>	します <i>shimasu</i>
say	言う <i>iu</i>	おっしゃる <i>ossharu</i>	申し上げる <i>mōshi-ageru</i> 申す <i>mōsu</i>	言います <i>iimasu</i>
put on	着る <i>kiru</i>	お召しになる <i>omeshi ni naru</i>		着ます <i>kimasu</i>
sleep	寝る <i>neru</i>	お休みになる <i>o-yasumi ni naru</i>		休みます <i>yasumimasu</i>
die	死ぬ <i>shinu</i>	お亡くなりになる <i>o-nakunari ni naru</i>		亡くなる <i>nakunaru</i>

¹ The distinction between these three verbs is lost in some respectful forms.
² Both are the humble form of receive (もらう *morau*); it can also be used for related verbs like eat (食べる *taberu*) and drink (飲む *nomu*).

Word beautification

See also: [#Honorific prefixes](#)

oup a
finals

e-	ci-	ue-	pe-	me-	re-	de-	te-	ne-	re-	ge-	
ao	ao	bao	pao	mao		dao	tao	nao	lao	gao	kao
ou	ou		pou	mou	fou	dou	tou	nou	lou	gou	kou
an	an	ban	pan	man	fan	dan	tan	nan	lan	gan	kan
en	en	ben	pen	men	fen	den		nen		gen	ken
										fan	kan

AKUNA MATATA !

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- mperative
- ses
- M-/WA- Gender
- ouns
- ent Definite Tense
- M-/MI- Gender
- ent Indefinite Tense
- Adjectives
- djectives
- II-/MA- Gender

Conlang nr. 2: hlaP'insui

- root of some placename: p'in·suj
- class 1/2: wu-, q'a-
- class 7/8: t'a-, X^wa-
- class 14: ?a-

hlaP'insui is spoken in aP'insui by the
q'aP'insui

Conlang nr. 2: hlaP'insui

- class 5/6: sa-, p^hiw-, often null, p^hiw-
- bright: x^wa·t^hun
- velvet: ?an·maw
- lion: mian·k^ju
- boy s name: Khwatun (cfr. Minh)
- girl s name: Anmau (cfr. Nhung)
- king s name: Mianku (cfr. Simba)

Conlang nr. 2: hlaP'insui

- class 9/10: k^wa-, k^wa-
- language: k^wa-lia·χan
- polite conj: -k^{hw}an-
- 1pp: ji-
- with: ni
- but: lan·tʃ'i
- zebra: k^wa-k^{hj}u·p^hian
- and: q^{hw}iw
- friend: wu-ts^hin
- hyena: k^wa-wi·χu·ts'in
- new: q^{hw}i·ts^haj
- penguin:
k^wa-jian·q'uj·sun
- beautifying part: -ts^hi
- simple: t'i·jan

Conlang nr. 2: hlaP'insui

Qwiu yikwanni k'waliaqhantsi k'waqwitsai,
q'atsin!

q^{hw}iw ji-k^{hw}an-ni k'^wa-liaχan-ts^hi k'^wa-q^{hw}its^haј,

and 1pp-POL-with CL9-language-BEAU CL9-new,
q'a-ts^hin!

CL2-friend!

And we have a new language, friends!

(*Sayings of the Lion*, King Miank'u)

Conlang nr. 3: Tý!one'ö miú

to represent this phoneme. However, that does not prevent anyone from using Hawaiian. [6]

The missionaries also found allophonic variation between [l] and [r] (written

Consonants

Hawaiian has one of the smallest consonant inventories (Rotokas, the sma

Consonants

	Labial	Alveolar	Velar	Glottal
Nasal	m	n		
Plosive	p	t ~ k		?
Fricative				h
Sonorant	w ~ v	l		

[p] and [b] are reported to be in **free variation**, although reports of [b] could be

There is basic free variation of [t] and [k]. However, since Hawaiian has no fricative, or affricate, can function as a /k/. [10] In essence, [d], [s], [z], [l] are allophones noted by the missionaries in the 1820s, and by linguists, are [t]

West Maui dialect (DoBeS 2008)					
affricated clicks		'sharp' clicks		Clicks analyzed as segm	
labial clicks	dental clicks	lateral clicks	alveolar clicks	palatal clicks	accompaniment and DoBeS analysis
Clicks analyzed as segm					
0			!	‡	Tenuis
g0	gl	gll	g!	g‡	Voiced
0h	jh	jh	jh	jh	Aspirated. <#ha> is explosively aspirated [‡?a].
g0h	jh	jh	jh	jh	Breathy voiced. <gjh> is phonetically [‡#a]
0'	'	''	'	'	Ejective. <#a> is phonetically [‡k'?a]; the strong burst of the [k] vowel comparable to that of <#a> [‡?a].
g1'	g1'	g1'	g1'	g1'	<g1'a> is phonetically [‡ša], with a creaky onset to the vowel.
nh	nh	nh	nh	nh‡	Voiceless nasal. <n‡a> is phonetically [n‡ã], nasal with voiceless
n0	n	n	n!	n‡	Voiced nasal. <n‡a> is phonetically [n‡ã], nasal with murmured
h0	'n	'n	'n!	'n‡	Preglottalized nasal. <h‡a> is phonetically [ʔj‡ã], nasal with a glottal closure
Clicks analyzed as clus					
q0	q	q	q!	q‡	<q‡> ← /#/ + /q/. Two releases, /#/ and /q/.
g0q	gjq	gjq	gjq	gjq‡	<gjq> ← /#/ + /q/
0qh	jqh	jqh	jqh	jqh	<jqh> ← /#/ + /q/. Two releases, /#/ and /q/.
	gjqh	gjqh	gjqh	gjqh	<gjqh> ← /#/ + /q/ ([q] ~ [q])
0q'	jq'	jq'	jq'	jq'	<jq'> ← /#/ + /q/. <jq'a> is phonetically /jq?a/.
	gjq'	gjq'	gjq'	gjq'	<gjq'> ← /#/ + /q/
0x	x	x	!x	‡x	<‡x> ← /#/ + /x/ (analogous to <tx, tsx>)
g0x	gx	gx	gx	gx‡	<gx> ← /#/ + /x/ (analogous to <dx, dzx>)
0qx'	jqx'	jqx'	jqx'	jqx'	<jqx'> ← /#/ + /qx/ (analogous to <pqx', tqx', tsqx'>)
g0qx'	gjqx'	gjqx'	gjqx'	gjqx'	<gjqx'> ← /#/ + /qx/ (analogous to <dqx', dzqx'>)
0"	"	"	"	"	<"> ← /#/ + /?/. Initial <"a> is phonetically [‡?a], after a vowel, contrast with the ejective click <#a>.
n0"	n "	n "	n!"	n‡"	<n‡"> ← /#/ + /?/. <n‡a> is phonetically [n‡ã]. The nasal venting
0hh	jh	jh	jh	jh	<jh> ← /#/ + /h/. <jh> is phonetically [jh]; the [h] is weak click <#h>.
					<nhh> ← /#/ + /h/. <nhh> is phonetically [nhh]. The nasal venting

Conlang nr. 3: Tý!one'ö miú

to represent this phoneme. However, that does not prevent anyone from using the *t* realization in Hawaiian.^[6]

The missionaries also found allophonic variation between [t] and [k].

Consonants

Hawaiian has one of the smallest consonant inventories (Rhotacism is absent).

Consonants

	Labial	Alveolar	Velar	Glottal
Nasal	m	n		
Plosive	p	t ~ k		?
Fricative				h
Sonorant	w ~ v	l		

[p] and [b] are reported to be in **free variation**, although reported by the missionaries.

There is basic free variation of [t] and [k]. However, since Hawaiian has no rhotacism, the lateral [l] can function as a /k/.^[10] In essence, the lateral [l] is the only lateral consonant in Hawaiian. The two lateral allophones noted by the missionaries in the 1820s, and by linguists, are [t] and [k]. Elbowing is a common feature of Hawaiian lateral release.

(in central Ju); and two lateral clicks, which in the only dialects known to distinguish them, are lateral /l/ with a rear release. There may be an additional **palatal lateral click** (a palatal click with a lateral release). There are at least five places of articulation.

Click release inventory	Languages	
dental l only	Dahalo	
alveolar l only	Sesotho	
3 releases, l, l̪, ll	Sandawe, Hadza, Xhosa, Zulu	(in Hadza and Sandawe)
4 releases, l, l̪, l̪̪, ll	Korana, Nama, Yeyi, Zhu hōasi (southeastern Ju)	
4 releases, l, l̪, l̪̪, ll	!Kung (Grootfontein)	
5 releases, o, l, l̪, l̪̪, ll	#Hōā, Nju, Xam, !Xóõ	
5 releases, l, l̪, l̪̪, ll, ll̪	!Kung (Angola)	
5 releases, o, o↑, l, l̪, l̪̪	Damin	

Conlang nr. 3: Tý!one'ö miú

	Labial	Dental	Alveolar	Velar	Glotta
Nasal	m		n		-
Plosive	p		t ~ k		?
Nasal click			n ~ n!		
Click			!		
Fricative					h
Sonorant	w ~ v				

Conlang nr. 3: Tý!one'ö miú

	Labial	Dental	Alveolar	Velar	Glotta
Nasal	m	n			-
Plosive	p		t ~ k		?
Nasal click			n ~ n!		
Click			!		
Fricative					h
Sonorant	w ~ v				

+ French vowels, Pirahã tones (according to Everett)

Conlang nr. 3: Tý!one'ö miú

Word order:

some Japanese:

- possessor + object
- postpositions
- standard + comp. & domain + superl.
- verb-final
- rel. clause + ant.

some Welsh:

- noun + adjective
- number + noun
- auxiliary + verb

Conlang nr. 3: Tý!one'ö miú

Word order:

all Basque:

- possessor + object
- postpositions
- standard + comp. & domain + superl.
- verb-final
- rel. clause + ant.
- noun + adjective
- number + noun
- auxiliary + verb

Conlang nr. 3: Tý!one'ö miú

- cool place: ký!one
- noise: miu
- some genitive: -?ø
- orchid: ?εɔhi
- two: ín|œ
 - this language: Tý!one'ö miú
(cfr. *tiếng Việt*)
 - girl's name: 'Εɔhi (cfr. Lan)
 - boy's name: Ín|œ (cfr. Nhị)

Conlang nr. 3: Tý!one'ö miú

- example: wika (cfr. *mᾶu*)
- simple: kiana (< t'i·jan, cfr. *cơ bản*)
- rather: kaihe
- it is: !y (very irregular verb, of course)
- fun: |ole, |ole-|økø (cfr. *hởi*, *hởi* *hƯỚC*)
- isn't it: po + verb
- still: liywu
- but: áó (cfr. *mà*), lanaki (< lan·t'i, cfr. *nHƯNG*), lanakiao (cfr. *nHƯNG mà*)

Conlang nr. 3: Tý!one'ö miú

Liývu vika káihε tiana !y, lanatiáó |ole|
őkö po !y?

liywu wika kaihε kiana !y,
still example rather simple is,
lanaki-ao |ole-|økø po !y?
but-but fun-REDUP Q is?

It's still a rather simple example, but it's
fun, isn't it?

(Very Wise Proverb™)

Conlang nr. 4: Mbghartihmlunjgwe

Consonants

Hmong makes a number of phonemic contrasts unfamiliar to English speakers. All non-glottal stops and affricates distinguish independently of this. The consonant inventory of Hmong is shown in the chart below. (Consonants particular to Hmong D)

		Bilabial		Labio-dental		Dental		Retroflex	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Glottal						
		Plain	Lateral *	Plain	Lateral *	Plain	Lateral *											
Nasal	Voiceless	r̥	(m̥)			n̥			p̥									
	Voiced	m	(m̥)			n			j̥									
Plosive	Voiceless	p	p ^h	(p ^l)	(p ^{lh})	t	t ^h	(t ^l)	(t ^{lh})	t	t ^h	c	c ^h	k	k ^h	q	q ^h	?
	Voiced					d	d ^h											
	Prenasalized **	m̥b	m̥b ^h	(m̥b ^l)	(m̥b ^{lh})	n̥d	n̥d ^h	(n̥d ^l)	(n̥d ^{lh})	nd̥	nd̥ ^h	ŋ̥	ŋ̥ ^h	ŋ̥g	ŋ̥g ^h	ŋ̥G	ŋ̥G ^h	
Affricate	Voiceless					ts	ts ^h			tʂ	tʂ ^h							
	Prenasalized **					n̥dʐ	n̥dʐ ^h			n̥dʐ̥	n̥dʐ̥ ^h							
Fricative	Voiceless			f	s	t̪		ʂ		ʂ̥		h						
	Voiced			v̥				ʐ̥	ʐ̥̥	ʐ̥̥̥								
Approximant						l̥												

* The status of the consonants described here as single phonemes with lateral release is controversial. A number of scholars consider them to be sequences of two phonemes, with the second element being a lateral release. The difference in analysis (e.g. between /pV/ and /pVl/) is noted based on any disagreement in the sound inventories of different scholars. Those in favor of a unit-phoneme analysis generally argue for this based on distributional evidence (e.g. the lack of contrast in the language, although see below) and dialect evidence (the laterally released dentals in Green Mong, e.g. /tl/, correspond to the vowel clusters in other dialects). Some scholars tend to analyze the basis of general phonetic principles (other examples of labial phonemes with lateral release).

common speech, though the orthography resists it. *singizwa iteka* would be pronounced as "Re-singizwa iteka". In the colloquial language, there are some variations following:

Orthog.	Pron.
rw	/rgw/
pw	/pk/
bw	/bg/
mw	/mj/
my	/mj/
tw	/tkw/
dw	/dgw/
cw	/tʃkw/
by	/by/

Note that these are all sequences; /bg/, for example, is not a single phoneme.

Grammar

Conlang nr. 4: Mbghartihmlunjgwe

- prefix like по- in по-Русский: ${}^m b^h u$ -
- a region on some planet: $a \dot{t}im \ddot{o} lu$
- adjectives end in -e, to make them one adds an infix - $\ddot{\jmath}u$ -

name of language: ${}^m b^h u$ - $a \dot{t}im \ddot{o} lu$ - $\ddot{\jmath}u$ -e

- loans:
 - girl's name: Ehi (< 'Eɔhi)
 - fun: !ole!eke (< |ole-|økø)

Conlang nr. 5: Wæst-Ostæ̈:şh

	infinitive	past tense	some gerund	form for aux.
cover	kwæ̈:şhə			
be	tu:			
choose	hro:t			
show	zæ:			
go	twæ:			
put	şym			
shit	stif			

Conlang nr. 5: Wæst-Ostæ̈:şh

	infinitive	past tense	some gerund	form for aux.
cover	kwæ̈:şhə	kwæ̈:şhəm	kwæ̈:şhətʃə	kwæ̈:şhəm
be	tu:			
choose	hro:t			
show	zæ:			
go	twæ:			
put	şym			
shit	stif			

Conlang nr. 5: Wæst-Ostæ̈:şh

	infinitive	past tense	some gerund	form for aux.
cover	kwæ̈:şhə	kwæ̈:şhəm	kwæ̈:şhətʃə	kwæ̈:şhəm
be	tu:	ha:s/hʌrə	tu:tʃə	tu:k
choose	hro:t	hrɔ:t	hro:tʃə	hrɔ:tək
show	zæ:	zæ:m	zæ:tʃə	zæ:k
go	twæ:	ne:hm	twæ:tʃə	twæk
put	şym	şym	şyamtʃə	şym
shit	stif	stæf	stiftʃə	stæf

Written assignment

- vowels from Sakao
- contrasting different phonations on consonants (you may choose a language)
- Hixkaryana syntax
- conjugation for linkedness (copy from Kirundi)
- add some English messiness
- Vietnamese-inspired etymologies

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- the architects of the Pena National Castle, for going so horribly and irredeemably nuts when designing the thing
- my boss, for not checking what I’m actually doing when at work...