

Typology I — Midterm exam

Name:

Student ID:

Note:

- This exam contains 14 questions, 2 for each of the 7 sessions.
 - Each exercise is labeled with its score; the maximum score for the exam is 100.
 - Do not use extra sheets, but the empty space on the exam sheets for your answers.
 - Please put your name on every sheet!
 - Don't write too much, and try to distribute your time well among the questions.
 - You have 90 minutes. Good luck!
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1 Language Families

1. Name the two major African language families, and name one language from each. (4)

2. Which two groups of African languages do not belong to either of these families? Are these groups language families? (6)

Name: _____

3 Phonological Typology

1. What are the minimal and maximal sizes of consonant inventories occurring in the world's languages? Speculate why there is a minimal and a maximal size. (8)

2. Name five contrastive features of vowels. (5)

Name: _____

6 Case Marking Systems

1. Explain the term “accusative” in terms of the three universal roles. (5)

2. Here are four transliterated example sentences from Udmurt, a Uralic language of Russia. Decide which alignment type the language belongs to, and justify your answer. (8)

Ton atajedly jurttis'kod val.	“You helped your father.”
Mi tone gurte k'el'timy.	“We left you at home.”
Mi užany košk'im.	“We went to work.”
Ton tatčy kyl'em'ed.	“You stayed here.”

Name:

7 Comparative Lexical Semantics

1. Which are the typologically most common bases languages across the world use for building complex numerals? (3)

2. Here is some (simplified) dictionary data from three languages. Draw the semantic map for the covered portion of the semantic space. HINT: Seven links are sufficient. (14)

FINNISH:

tuore: fresh, recent, new

uusi: new, fresh

ITALIAN:

fresco: fresh, cool

nuovo: new, recent, fresh

novellino: fresh, young, new

SWEDISH:

frisk: fresh, green, cool

färsk: recent, new, sweet, fresh

sval: fresh, cool