

ILC Qualification Round

December 2025

1 Problem A

1. to sing - ʃɪnu
2. river - nara
3. to carry - plʊtʃɒn
4. long - sntʃ
5. tree - tile
6. cold - gelun
7. to sleep - burak
8. house - tʃeso
9. to break - ravik
10. bright - lasao

2 Problem B

11. cntʃ nara mika gelup tʃɒn plʊtʃɒn
12. mika lasao kosab ʃɪnu
13. gɒp nimo tile loraɪv ravik

3 Problem C

a) The word order of Language X seems to be Subject-Object-Verb. Looking at examples 15 and 16, we see that 'telum' is common across both, so we may conclude that this means 'the boy', which is the object in both sentences. Therefore, the object must come in the middle of the sentence. In addition, comparing examples 15 and 17, 'feru' is common across both, and with 'telum' already determined this must be 'to see', indicating that the verb must be at the end of the sentence. This means the subject must be at the beginning of the sentence, giving Subject-Object-Verb order.

b) Plural nouns seem to be formed by adding an 'i' if the word ends in a

consonant sound and by adding an 'n' if it ends in a vowel sound. For example, 'telum' and 'kanab' become 'telumi' and 'kanabi' respectively, whereas 'pano' becomes 'panon'.

c) panon kanabi o lomun baraa

4 Problem D

a) The verb in Language X seems to agree with the object of the sentence. Compare examples 24 and 18: 'kanab kura bara' and 'kanab kuran baraa' respectively. Since the only change between these two sentences is the plurality of the object 'kura'/'kuran', the verb 'bara' must match the object. It seems that for plural objects, an 'a' is added to the verb. Furthermore, it appears that intransitive verbs always take a singular form: 'kanabi felu' and 'kanab felu' (Examples 22 and 14 respectively).

b) kosab nara o tilen ferua

Here, the noun tile (tree) was pluralised by adding an 'n' as it ends in a vowel sound. The verb was also pluralised because the object is plural.

5 Problem E

a) The agreement system of Dialect II seems to be similar to Dialect I in the fact that the verb agrees with the object if one is present: in "kanabi telum feru", the verb matches the object. However, Dialect II differs in the conjugation of intransitive verbs. Compare "kanabi feru" (correct in Dialect I) with "kanabi ferua" (Dialect II). Either intransitive verbs in Dialect II agree with the subject or always take plural form: the data does not allow us to conclude which option is correct, as both examples we have ("kanabi ferua" and "panon ferua") both have plural subjects. However, it seems likely that the verb would agree with the subject as this is a common pattern in most languages and always being plural would be unintuitive.

b) Assuming that our assumption that intransitive verbs agree with the subject is correct, there would be no single equivalent of (31), rather being one of two options depending on the subject:

felu: he/she dance
felua: they dance