



VENTSPILS
2021

XVIII INTERNATIONAL LINGUISTICS OLYMPIAD – Individual Round

Name: Alexander Robson

Problem number: 4

July 20 – Ventpils, Latvia

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~~4 a) mĩnĩ (water) becomes tĩmĩtĩnĩ, but should be tũmĩtĩnĩ.~~

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b) 1. rútv̂ → túrv̂tv̂

2. r̂ŵv̂ → ~~t̂ŵv̂~~ t̂r̂v̂ŵ

3. b̂k̂ó → t̂b̂it̂úk̂ó

4. r̂ŷē r̂ŷā → n̂t̂ŷē t̂r̂it̂ŷā

5. b̂ékŵv̂ → t̂v̂b̂é t̂v̂kŵv̂

6. r̂ŷōr̂ō → ~~t̂r̂ŷō~~ t̂r̂it̂ŷōt̂r̂ō

7. ĥŵōĝā → t̂v̂ĥŵōt̂v̂ĝā

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To form the Aghingba form from the Ogbakiri, a syllable of the form tV (where V is a vowel) is inserted before every syllable except the first if there is no onset.

The quality of the vowel is determined by the following syllable:

1. a) Before y , the vowel is I .

b) Before b , n , or w , the vowel is U .

2. If there is not one of the consonants in 1, the quality is determined by the vowel of the following syllable.

a) Before I or E , the vowel is I .

b) Before U , O , or A , the vowel is U .

3. There is ATR vowel harmony across words:

| Vowel | I | U | E | O | A |
|-------|---|---|---|---|---|
| +ATR | i | u | e | o | - |
| -ATR | ɪ | ʊ | ɛ | ɔ | a |

a) I and U are realised as i and u in +ATR words,

b) I and U are realised as $ɪ$ and $ʊ$ in -ATR words.

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4. The tone and nasalisation of the vowel is determined by the following vowel.

a) If there are two falling tones i.e. $\hat{V}\hat{C}\hat{V}$, this is realised as a high followed by a low, i.e. $\acute{V}\acute{C}\acute{V}$.

If the initial syllable is a syllabic nasal, it assimilates in place of articulation to the following consonant. As a result, /m/, /n/, /ɲ/, and /ŋ/ all become /m/ in Agbèngbè due to the insertion of a H syllable afterwards.

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