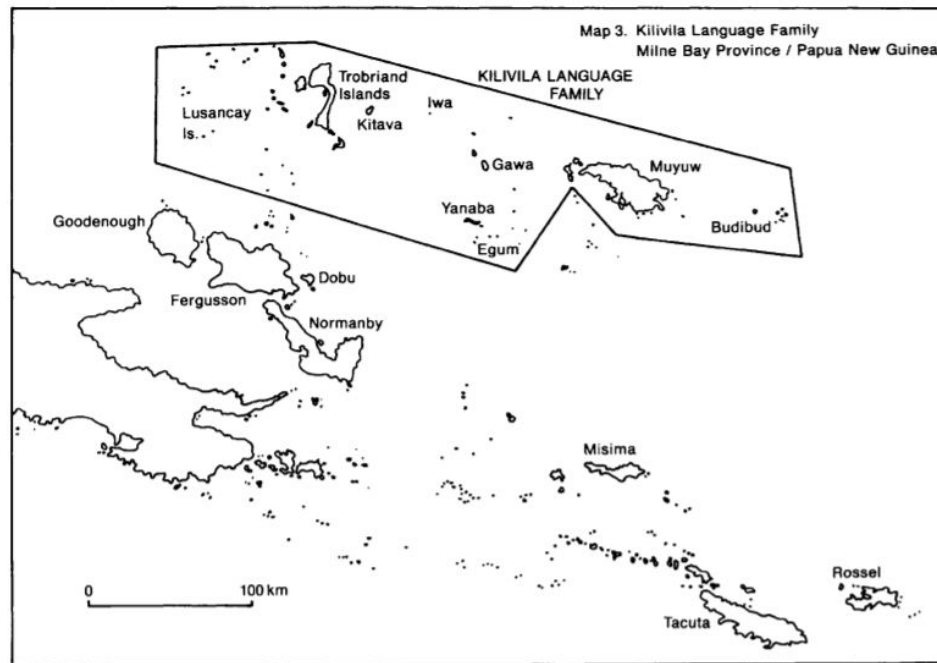

Problem 3: Kilivila

— Samuel Ahmed —

Where is Kilivila spoken?

- Papua New Guinea
- Trobriand Islands



from Gunter Senft (1986) *Kilivila: The Language of the Trobriand Islanders*

Solution

- Overview (theory - 12 points)
 - [1.2 points] Word order
 - [2.3 points] Verbs
 - [1 point] Nouns
 - [4.5 points] Classifiers (*to-/te-, na-, gudi-, ke-, kwe-*)
 - [3 points] Demonstratives (e.g. *mtona*)
- Overview (tasks - 8 points)
 - [3 points] Task (a)
 - [5 points] Task (b)

Solution: theory

- Word order
 - Verb - Object - Subject in non-questions
 - In questions, the noun phrase being questioned moves in front of the verb
 - In noun phrases, Numeral/Question word - Noun - Demonstrative - Adjective
- Verbs
 - **le-** = past tense, **bi-** = future/hypothetical tense
 - **-si** = plural subject
 - BUT **gisi** = 'see' → **gise-si**

Solution: theory

- Nouns
 - Some, but not all, nouns are marked for plurality. These plural forms are irregular.
 - e.g. **gwadi** 'child' and **gugwadi** 'children'
- Classifiers
 - There are five classes of noun in Kilivila, each with an associated prefix:
 - **to-** 'men' (**te-** is found before numerals and **-vila**)
 - **na-** 'women, animals'
 - **gudi-** 'children'
 - **ke-** 'canoes'
 - **kwe-** 'things, e.g. stones'
 - These prefixes are attached to adjectives, numerals and demonstratives.

Solution: theory

- Demonstratives (i.e. 'this' and 'that')
 - **(a-) ma-** Classifier **(-si) (-we) -na**
which plural 'that'
 - **ma-to- → mto-**
 - **ma-na → mina-**

Solution: task (a)

14. How many women will this old man look after?
15. These women will eat two things.
16. Which child arrived?
17. How many men _(subject) will see the wild children _(object)?
How many men _(object) will the wild children _(subject) see?
18. Those women saw one canoe.

Solution: task (b)

19. **Kevila waga legisesi nunumwaya minasiwena?**
20. **Biyamatasi gwadi magudina gudikabitam tevasi dimdim mtosina.**
21. **Gudivila gugwadi bikamkwamsi bunukwa minasina?**
22. **Aminana vivila lebani yena minasiwena namanabweta?**
23. **Legisesi tomwaya mtowena nayu ka'ukwa nagasisi.**

More classifiers

- Much more than in this problem!
- Gunter Senft says there are 176 different 'documented' classificatory particles, of which he observed 92 in normal speech, e.g.
 - **mabwana kai** 'this tree' (**kai** is probably related to **ke-**)
 - **makalasina yam** 'these days'
 - **navila tubukona** 'some months' (**na-** is also used for stars, moons, etc.)
 - **mapwasasina yena** 'these rotten fish'
 - **kila- / kili-** 'clusters (hands) of bananas' (though Kilivila ~ Kiriwina)

Graded by

- Bruno L'Astorina
- Dan Mirea
- Miina Norvik
- Samuel Ahmed

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PLUS

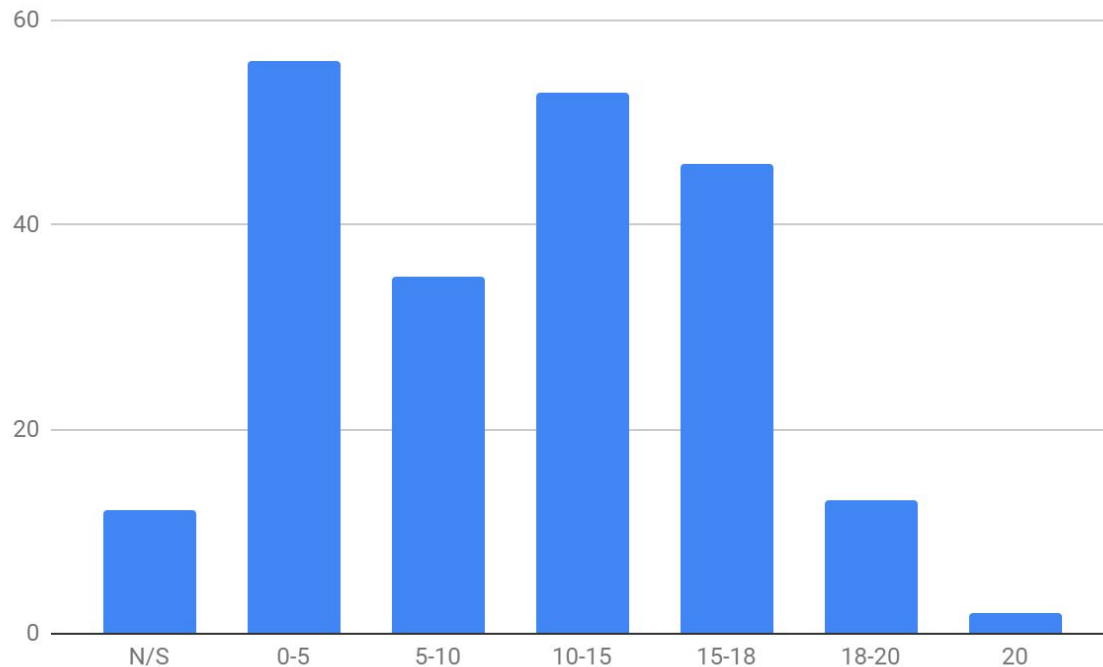
- Gabrijela Hladnik
- Boris Iomdin
- Maria Rubinstein
- Aleksejs Peguševs
- Liam McKnight
- E. J. Warner

Statistics

- Submitted by 204 contestants (94% of you!)
- 8 said it was the hardest problem
- 67 said it was the easiest problem (2nd most)

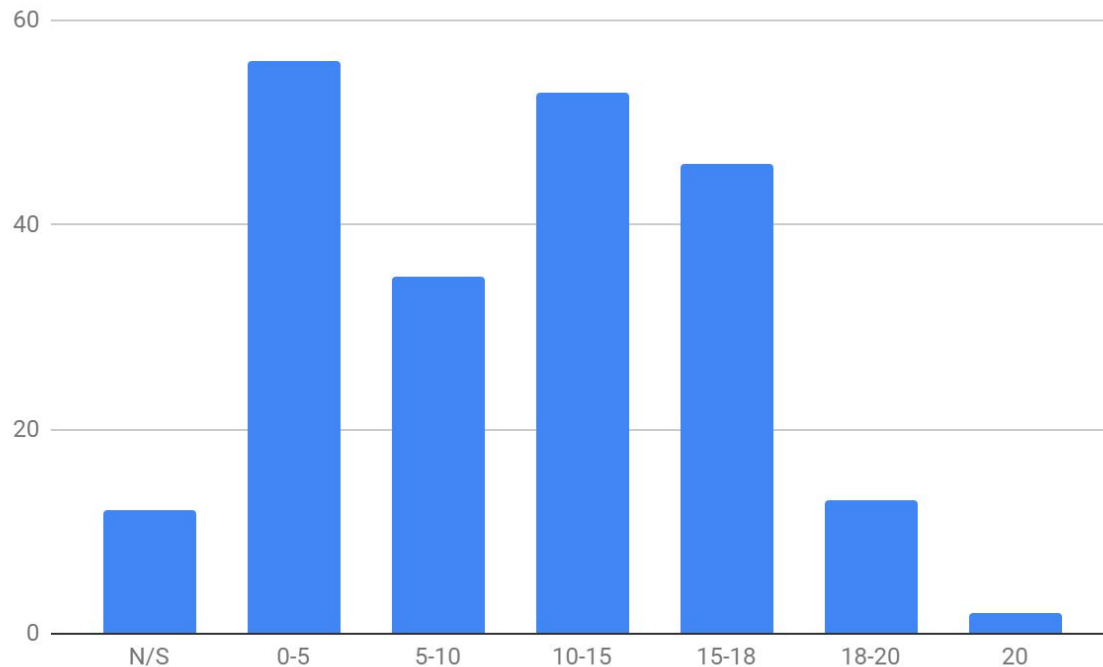
Statistics

- Average score: 9.41
(easiest problem)



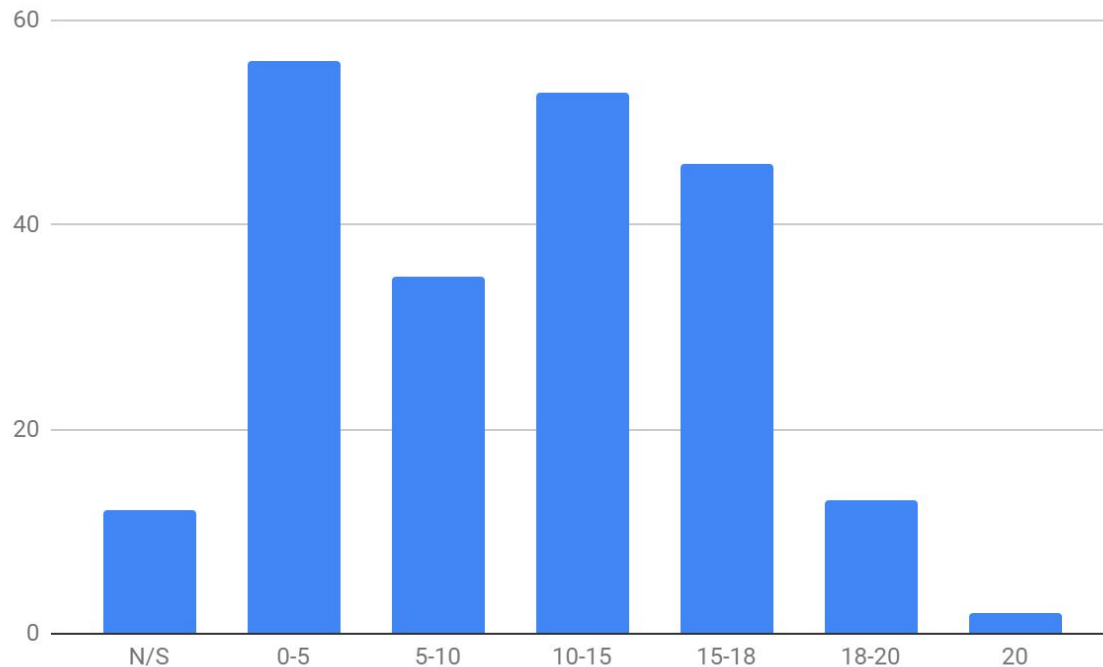
Statistics

- Average score: 9.41 (easiest problem)
- Two contestants received 20



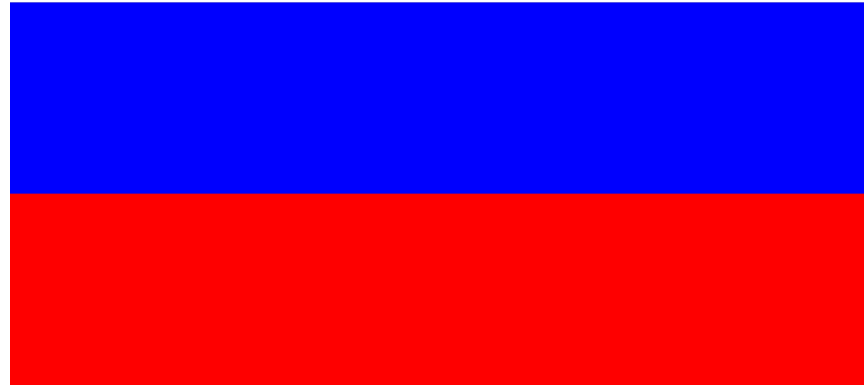
Statistics

- Average score: 9.41 (easiest problem)
- Two contestants received 20
- One best solution...



Best solution

Best solution



Best solution



Grigorii Solnyshkin

Amatokisi!

Thank you!