

Fourteenth International Linguistics Olympiad

Mysore (India), 25–29 July 2016

Team Contest Problem

You are provided with 114 audio files. Each file contains a recording of a Taa word, pronounced twice. Below is the list of these words in transcription. Both audio files and written words are in arbitrary order.

| | | | | |
|------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1. ǀnú'úi | 24. ǀ'â: | 47. ǁáá | 70. ǀ'āa | 93. ǀqoú |
| 2. d̥əm | 25. ngāa | 48. gǀxána | 71. gǀhalē | 94. ǀnáǎ |
| 3. ǀq'ama | 26. ǀxóǎ | 49. nǁǀgàa | 72. d̥ts'qàa | 95. ǀgà: |
| 4. gǁhàǎ | 27. ǁxâǎ | 50. t'qàa | 73. ǀqâ: | 96. ǁqàa |
| 5. ǁhaā | 28. gǁxàn | 51. khàla | 74. dtsháǎ | 97. gǁxá'ǎ: |
| 6. qáǎ | 29. gǁk'qǎ: | 52. ǀk'qóm | 75. dthàǎ | 98. gǁhàǎ |
| 7. lhāǎ | 30. gǁk'qáǎ | 53. d̥ts'áǎ | 76. d̥ts'qala | 99. ǀnà: |
| 8. gǀhà: | 31. gǀhòǎ | 54. bà | 77. ǁháa | 100. ǀq'um |
| 9. ǀxá: | 32. gǁk'qǎ: | 55. ǁq'ǎna | 78. hâa | 101. ǀk'qâǎ |
| 10. ǀqhòǎ | 33. ǁâ: | 56. tháa | 79. ǁǀâ'am | 102. ǁqáheh |
| 11. ǁgâǎ | 34. ǀnâ: | 57. ǀnǎǎ | 80. dt'qáa | 103. ǁnâ: |
| 12. ǀ'óǎ | 35. ǁmala | 58. tshála | 81. ǁnahn | 104. ǀnâhǎ |
| 13. ǁxáǎ | 36. dzàni | 59. xáǎ | 82. káa | 105. ǀnâ'ǎ |
| 14. tâa | 37. nǁqhāna | 60. ǀ'áá | 83. tsàhǎh | 106. ǀgòǎ |
| 15. kx'qā: | 38. ǀhàǎ: | 61. gǀk'qóǎ | 84. nǁgáa | 107. ǀ'áa |
| 16. ǁk'gá: | 39. ǀà: | 62. hôo | 85. ǀhòǎ | 108. ǀaje |
| 17. ǁhàǎ | 40. nǁgâ: | 63. ǀǀâ'am | 86. ǁgá: | 109. nǁgá: |
| 18. ǁqhà: | 41. ǀhâǎ | 64. ǁxàa | 87. ǁ'âa | 110. ǁnáǎ |
| 19. ǁgà: | 42. ǁqáǎ | 65. txâli | 88. ǀs'ǎa | 111. gǎǎ |
| 20. n̄nà | 43. nǀgǎo | 66. ǁqhà: | 89. gǁxa'án | 112. ǀǀâ'ǎ: |
| 21. ǁk'qâà | 44. gǀk'qà: | 67. ǀôǎ | 90. gkx'qâ:la | 113. ǀâ: |
| 22. sâa | 45. ǁk'qà: | 68. dtshxà'ǎ: | 91. ǀǀnaje | 114. ǁq'ǎn |
| 23. ǀqhà: | 46. gǁhâ: | 69. ǀq'ǎn | 92. dtxàa | |

(a) (114 points) Match the audio files with the written words.

(b) (6 points) Briefly describe all of your observations on the Taa language and its transcription.

⚠ Taa belongs to the Tuu family. It is spoken by approx. 2,600 people in Botswana and Namibia. —*Danylo Mysak*

English text: Danylo Mysak, Hugh Dobbs.

Good luck!