

X LINGUISTIC MARATHON

TASK 4: TRAMBORAN (14 pts)

Below you will find some information concerning a fictional language – Tramboran. A fragment of the Tramboran lexicon is followed by Tramboran sentences with their English translations. Your task is to analyse the data and reconstruct enough of the language's grammar to be able to decipher ten sentences written in Tramboran as well as translate some English sentences into Tramboran.

Hint: Pay special attention to the way Tramboran uses morphology to mark case on nouns and agreement on verbs. Individual morphemes in morphologically complex words are separated with a dash in the examples. Also, look out for the word order. Don't worry about tense and aspect – use only the present simple tense in English translations.

TRAMBORAN LEXICON

VERBS	NOUNS AND PRONOUNS
see – buruk	man – trama [m]
find – katos	woman – tramik [f]
meet – rata	animal – burus [n]
hit – truf	lion – gara [n]
eat – miro	llama – bros [n]
arrive – kruko	plate – gru [n]
apologize – kruki	table – broku [n]
break – bakruf	coin – grafa [n]
sleep – brukos	I [1sg][f] – mik
speak – trambo	I [1sg][m] – ma
laugh – kramaf	you [2sg][f] – tik
hunt – krakato	you [2sg][m] – ta

TRAMBORAN SENTENCES WITH ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS

Trama-bra tramik buruk-rik-raka. = 'A man sees a woman.'
 Tramik-abra trama buruk-ra-raka. = 'A woman sees a man.'
 Trama-bra tramik-an buruk-rik-raka-ran. = 'A man sees women.'
 Trama-n-abra bros miro-ru-raka. = 'Men eat a llama.'
 Bros-an-abra gara miro-ru-raka. = 'Llamas eat a lion.'
 Tramik-abra ma buruk-ra-rama. = 'A woman sees me [m].'
 Trama-bra tik buruk-rik-rata. = 'A man sees you [f].'
 Tik-abra trama buruk-ra-raka. = 'You [f] see a man.'
 Trama kruko-ra-raka. = 'A man arrives.'
 Gara-n kruko-ru-raka-ran. = 'Lions arrive.'

ABBREVIATIONS

[m] – masculine gender
 [f] – feminine gender
 [n] – neuter gender

[1sg] – 1st person singular

[2sg] – 2nd person singular

PART 1: *Translate the following Tramboran sentences into English:*

1. Trama-bra tramik rata-rik-raka.

.....

2. Trama krakato-ra-raka.

.....

3. Tramik krakato-rik-raka.

.....

4. Trama-bra gara truf-ru-raka.

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5. Gara-bra trama miro-ra-raka.

.....

6. Tramik-abra bros-an truf-ru-raka-ran.

.....

7. Bros-an-abra tramik miro-rik-raka.

.....

PART 2: *Translate the following English sentences into Tramboran:*

1. You [2sg][m] arrive.

.....

2. I [1sg,f] see you [2sg][m].

.....

3. You [2sg,m] meet me [1sg][f].

.....

4. I [1sg][f] speak.

.....

5. A man speaks.

.....

6. You [2sg][m] break a table.

.....

7. Plates break.

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Author: mgr Piotr Gulgowski

KEY:

SOLUTION FOR PART 1

1. A man meets a woman.
2. A man hunts.
3. A woman hunts.
4. A man hits a lion.
5. A lion eats a man.
6. A woman hits llamas.
7. Llamas eat a woman.

SOLUTION FOR PART 2

1. Ta kruko-ra-rata.
2. Mik-abra ta buruk-ra-rata.
3. Ta-bra mik rata-rik-rama.
4. Mik trambo-rik-rama.
5. Trama trambo-ra-raka.
6. Ta-bra broku bakruf-ru-raka.
7. Gru-n bakruf-ru-raka-ran.