



**TASK 3: ORKHONO-YENISEYAN LANGUAGE<sup>1</sup>**

Group no.: ..... School: .....

**Participants:**

- 1. ....
- 2. ....
- 3. ....

The sentences are from the Orkhono-Yeniseyan language. Let's assume we know nothing about this language beyond sentences 1-8. Our goal is to solve part of the puzzle of how the language works. Analyse the sample data from this language and answer questions 1-5:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <b>Oghuling baliqigh alti.</b>         | 'Your (all's) son conquered the city.' |
| 2. <b>Baz oghuligh yangilti.</b>          | 'The vassal betrayed the son.'         |
| 3. <b>Siz baliqimizin buzdingiz.</b>      | 'You all destroyed our city.'          |
| 4. <b>Qaghanimiz oghulingin yangilti.</b> | 'Our king betrayed your (all's) son.'  |
| 5. <b>Oghulim barqingin buzdi.</b>        | 'My son destroyed your (all's) house.' |
| 6. <b>Siz qaghanigh yangiltingiz.</b>     | 'You all betrayed the king.'           |
| 7. <b>Biz baliqigh altimiz.</b>           | 'We conquered the city.'               |
| 8. <b>Bazim qaghanimizin yangilti.</b>    | 'My vassal betrayed our king.'         |

POINTS: For tasks (1) and (2) you can get 1.0 point for each correct answer. For tasks (3) and (4) you can get 0.5 point for each correct translation. Totally, you can get 4 points.

**TASK**

(1) What is the difference between *oghuling* and *oghulim*?  
.....  
.....

(2) What is the difference between word orders in English and in Orkohono-Yeniseyan?  
.....  
.....

(3) Translate the following sentences into English.  
1. *Qaghanimiz baliqigh alti.* .....  
.....  
2. *Baz barqigh buzdi.*.....  
.....

(4) Translate the following sentences into the Orkhono-Yeniseyan language:  
1. *The son conquered our city.* . .....  
.....  
2. *The king betrayed the vassal.* .....  
.....

<sup>1</sup> The linguistic data used in this puzzle are copyrighted by the Department of Linguistics, University of Oregon.



## TASK 3: KEY

- (1) *oghuling* means your 'all's son' and *oghulim* means 'my son'
- (2) English is an SVO language (subject verb object) while Orkhono-Yeniseyan is an SOV language.
- (3)
  1. *Qaghanimiz baliqigh alti* (*Our king conquered the city*)
  2. *Baz barqigh buzdi.* (*The vassal destroyed the house*)
- (4)
  1. *The son conquered our city.* (*Oghuligh baliqimizin alti*)
  2. *The king betrayed the vassal.* (*Qaghanigh baz yangilti*)