

Review questions for the class Documentary Linguistics I

Nicole Nau & Tomasz Wicherkiewicz, UAM winter term 2017/2018

- (1) Give a definition of *language documentation* and name three characteristics of *a language documentation* according to 21st century standards.
- (2) For whom and for which purposes are languages documented?
- (3) Explain what are primary data in a language documentation. Distinguish different kinds of primary data.
- (4) Explain what are metadata and what are their functions in language documentation.
- (5) Which metadata can be reasonably encoded in a filename?
- (6) Which information is important on a consent form?
- (7) What is the Observer's Paradox? How can it be overcome?
- (8) What characterizes the narrative as a discourse type (genre)?
- (9) Discuss methods of eliciting a narrative.
- (10) Discuss methods of eliciting a description or a procedural discourse.
- (11) Explain the following tools for data gathering (used by whom, for which purpose, results):
 - Swadesh lists
 - The North Wind and the Sun
 - The Frog Story
 - The Pear Story
- (12) Explain some principles in obtaining a first list of words in a language that has not been documented before. How would you go about this task in a fieldwork situation?
- (13) Explain main ethical principles in documenting a language.
- (14) Explain with examples how the perspective of linguists and the perspective of members of a speech community may differ regarding the documentation of a language.
- (15) Give examples for cooperation between linguists and members of a speech community in the process of documenting a language and explain why such cooperation is valuable.
- (16) Explain legal aspects of language documentation, such as:
 - intellectual property rights
 - copy right
 - moral right
 - access and usage right
- (17) Write a checklist for the preparation of a recording session!
- (18) What is *annotation*? Give examples of specific annotation tasks (name 4 possible layers).
- (19) What is ELAN, what is it used for, what are its assets?
- (20) Name and explain different systems of transcription.
- (21) Discuss: why can transcription be thought of as a kind of translation?