Questions (sources for answers: Himmelmann 2006, Berge 2010, lectures)

1. For whom and for which purposes are languages documented?

2. Why should native speakers take an active part in documenting a language?

3. Why is it important to store primary data in open archives?

4. Why is it not possible to record all communicative events in a given speech community?

5. What are the functions of metadata?

6. What is the relationship between documentation and description?

7. Why are grammars and dictionaries NOT "lasting, multipurpose records" of a language?

8. "In some instances a documentation project may contribute to the demise of the very linguistic and cultural practices it proposes to document." (Himmelmann 2006: 17) Comment, give (invent) an example.

The following terms and concepts were mentioned in the chapter by Himmelmann. What do they mean? How are they related to the content of the chapter?

elicitation

ethnobotany

ethnography of communication

falsifiability

replicability

grammaticality (acceptability)

Hittite

language maintenance

negative evidence

structuralist linguistics

control phenomena in complex sentences

information structure (topic, focus)

VSO sentence

Homework for next week and the following (17. + 24.10.)

Reading:

- Johnson, Heidi. 2004. Language documentation and archiving, or how to build a better corpus. Language Documentation and Description, ed. Peter K. Austin, vol. 2, 140-153. London: SOAS. Available at: http://www.elpublishing.org/PID/026.

- Mosel, Ulrike. 2006. Fieldwork and community language work (in *Essentials of Language Documentation*)

- Start exploring archives, register for access to more data. Start with the archives listed on the slide of the second lecture, and/or find more by yourself!

It may be useful to download the program ELAN, which we will use in exercises later:

- ELAN – https://tla.mpi.nl/tools/tla-tools/elan/

Task 1 for course credits and grading, due 7 November 2017 (later submission = worse grade)

Explore three language documentations that are stored in publicly accessible archives (at least two different archives).

Give **short** information about **two** of these **documentations** (language, what is documented, when, by whom, where archived…) (about ½ page in total).

Give **detailed** information about **one** of these **documentations**, critically discuss its strong and weak sides on the basis of what you learned about language documentation in the first three lectures. The chosen documentation must contain spoken language data.

Give **detailed** information about **at least one session/recording** of the chosen documentation. Attention: you may need to have ELAN or Annotation Pro installed on your computer to view it.

Always try to use your own words and structure ("copy-paste" is bad, allowable only in small amounts and using quotation marks).

Your result should cover 2-3 typed pages. You may deliver it either printed out on paper or submitted via e-mail **as PDF**. No other formats will be accepted.