Review questions for the class Documentary Linguistics I
Prof. Nicole Nau, UAM winter term 2018/2019

(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) Why is it not possible to document all (kinds of) communicative events in a speech community?

(5) Why is it important to store primary data in open archives?

(6) Give an example of a language archive, explain what it contains and how it is structured.

(7) Explain what metadata are and what functions they have in language documentation.

(8) Which metadata can be reasonably encoded in a filename?

(9) Which information is important on a consent form?

(10) What is the Observer's Paradox? How can it be overcome?

(11) Discuss methods of eliciting a narrative.

(12) Discuss methods of eliciting a description or a procedural discourse.

(13) Discuss methods of gathering words and expressions.

(14) What is problematic with the traditional "monolingual fieldwork" approach as demonstrated in the video by Daniel Everett? (Lecture 6)

(15) 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

(16) Explain main ethical principles in documenting a language.

(17) 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.

(18) 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.

(19) What is *annotation*? Give examples of specific annotation tasks (name 4 possible layers).

(20) "An annotation should be multi-tiered, time-aligned and expandable." Explain.

(21) What is ELAN, what is it used for, what are its assets?

(22) Name and explain different systems of transcription.

(23) Discuss: why can transcription be thought of as a kind of translation?

(24) Explain some linguistic and non-linguistic aspects of writing systems that are important to know when one wants to develop an orthography for a language.

(25) Discuss aspects of word meaning that may be important for dictionaries as parts of a language documentation.