

Linguistics Competition

All the problems are intended for all contestants. The final score depends on your high school grade and on your score for each problem solved either completely or partially. For the upper three high school grades it is sufficient to solve any two problems completely, and for younger students it is sufficient to solve any one of them.

Problem 1. Here are some Latin verbs in the 1st person singular present and in the infinitive:

No	1 st sing. pres.	infinitive	translation
1.	refugiō	refugere	to run back
2.	refodiō	refodere	to dig out again
3.	faciō	facere	to do
4.	cupiō	cupere	to desire
5.	mētior	mētīri	to measure
6.	fodiō	fodere	to dig out
7.	pūniō	pūnīre	to punish
8.	reficiō	reficere	to redo
9.	capiō	capere	to receive
10.	recipiō	recipere	to receive again
11.	remōlior	remōlīri	to take up again
12.	patior	patī	to suffer
13.	sāgiō	sāgīre	to perceive
14.	gradior	gradī	to walk

Question. Fill in the gaps. Explain your reasoning.

15.	fugiō	?	?
16.	jacīō	?	to throw
17.	mugiō	?	to moo
18.	morior	?	to die
19.	sōpiō	?	to put to sleep
20.	?	?	to throw back
21.	?	?	to take up

Note. *j* is pronounced like *y* in English *yard*. The bar above the vowel indicates its length.

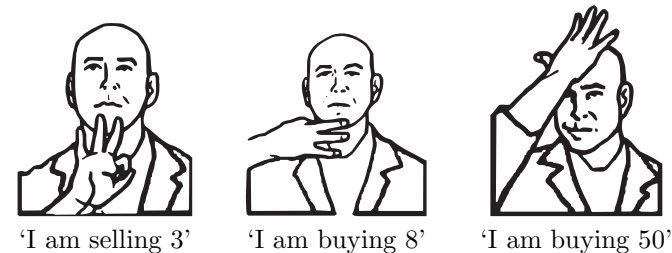
Problem 2. Here are Romanized phrases in Thai¹ and their translations into English in arbitrary order:

krathinthet sam dok	durong si tua		3 acacias	1 monkey
krathinthet si dok	se song dok		4 acacias	3 monkeys
nakleng nueng khon	nakleng si khon		3 otters	3 captives
nangyak si khon	chang nueng khon		1 hibiscus	1 engineer
kabin nueng tua	chang sam khon		3 lotuses	3 engineers
chaba nueng dok	bua sam dok		2 horses	4 engineers
nak sam tua	chang si khon		4 horses	1 hooligan
durong song tua	kabin sam tua		4 giantesses	4 hooligans
chaloei sam khon			2 orchids	

Question. Determine the correct correspondences. Explain your reasoning.

Problem 3. Before the days of computers stock traders often used hand signal systems to quickly convey information about buying and selling. Such signals are sometimes used even now.

Here are gestures belonging to one of these systems and their meanings:



Question 1. What do the following signals mean?



Question 2. This system includes also two gestures denoting 'buy' and 'sell' without amount. What is the main difference between these two gestures?

¹Thai belongs to the Tai-Kadai language family. It is the official language of Thailand, spoken by over 20 million people.