Question A: Gilbertese fruit and flowers

A1. Translate the following into English:

(a) E na noorii taian uaa te aine.
 (b) A kunea te uaa taian aomata.
 (c) E na nooria te uee te aine
 (d) E kunea taian uee te aine
 The woman will see the fruit (3)
 The woman will see the flower (3)
 The woman found the flowers (3)

1 point for each word underlined. Singular/plural and tense must be correct.

A2. Translate the following into Gilbertese:

(a) The woman found the fruits. E kunei taian uaa te aine (6)
(b) The women will see the flowers. A na noorii taian uee taian aine (7)
(c) The man found the fruit. E kunea te uaa te aomata (6)
(d) The women will see the flower. A na nooria te uee taian aine (7)

Yes, 1 point for each word. Endings and word order must be exactly right. Deduct 1 mark if no appears in (a) or (c) – it indicates future tense and so must be omitted for past tense.

Total possible 38. A2 is worth more marks, which is reasonable as it is harder to get exactly right.

Explanation:

Word order is marker [tense] verb object subject
Marker is A if the subject is plural, E if singular
Optionally na marks future tense; if omitted, it is past tense
Verbs noori- 'see' and kune- 'find' take endings -a if the object is singular, -i if plural
Definite article is te (singular), taian (plural)
Vocabulary: uee 'flower', uaa 'fruit', aine 'woman', aomata 'man'

Question B: Shizuoka Japanese

B1. How would the following adjectives be emphasized in Shizuoka Japanese? You do not need to give the English translation.

(a) kittanai
 (b) miŋgamashii
 (c) ookkanai
 (d) ikkai
 (e) kimbishii
 (f) yassashii
 (g) sammui
 (h) munzukashii
 (i) hindoi

B2. What are the plain forms of the following emphasized adjectives?

(a) atarashii
 (b) shibui
 (c) kodomoppoi
 (d) hisashii
 (e) anzenna *
 (f) tanoshii
 (g) dogitsui
 (h) rippana *
 (i) nikui

Simply 1 point for each correct answer, which must be exactly as shown (though see * below). Total 18.

Explanation:

Emphasis affects just the first syllable and depends on the second syllable: If the second syllable starts with a voiced sound (b,d,g,m,z) insert a nasal with the same place of articulation (i.e. if labial b or m, insert m; if dental d or z, insert n; if velar g insert η) If the second syllable starts with a voiceless consonant (t, s, k) double it

If there is already a nasal after the first vowel, or if the second syllable already begins with a double consonant, then double the first vowel.

Question C: To and from Perm

C1. Translate the following Permyak words into English.

(a) pɨzanɨslis' from his desk(b) vərrezlən of the forests

(c) kəinnɨt your (pl.) wolf NB no credit if just "your"

(d) jus'la for the swan

4 points each: 1 for case (including no case marker in c), 1 for possessive (or 'the' in b and d), 1 for noun and 1 for correct sing/plur.

C2. Translate the following English phrases into Permyak.

(a) his hands k'i ez is
(b) my knives purt tez ə
(c) of your (pl.) feet kok kez nit lən
(d) towards their house k'erku nis lan'

Answers should be written as one word, but marks awarded for morphemes as shown.4 points each: 1 for correct noun, 1 for plural (or omission in d), 1 for possessive and 1 for case marker (or omission in a and b). We were also strict about spelling (not allowing i for i, and penalising omission of '). Total 32.

Explanation:

The morpheme order is root-plural-possessive-case. The dictionary is as follows:

Roots		Plural	Possessive	Case
k'erku	'house'	-ez *	<i>-ә</i> 'my'	-lən 'of'
pɨzan	'desk'		<i>-ɨt</i> 'your	-lan' 'towards'
			(sg.)'	
pon	'dog'		<i>-is</i> 'his'	-la 'for'
purt	'knife'		<i>-nə</i> 'our'	-lis' 'from'
t i	'lake'		-nɨs 'their'	
vər	'forest'			
kəin	'wolf'			
jus'	'swan'			
kok	'foot'			
k'i	'hand'			

^{*} The plural is -ez after vowels; when attached to stems ending in a consonant, it doubles the stemfinal consonant

You have to infer that 'your (pl.)' is -nit in 1c and 2c, i.e. 'your (sg.)' with an initial n-, on the model of my~our $(-a \sim -na)$ and his~their $(-is \sim -nis)$.

Question D: This is Mohawk

D1. What is the Mohawk word for 'fish'?	itsi	(1)
D2. Translate into English hatsi'ktarakvt	the white louse	(2)
D3. Translate into Mohawk 'The flower is red'	Ka ji:jia onekwenhtara hikvt	(4)

^{*} The above rules permit parasitic solutions aazenna and riipana, which we have therefore credited

Ha- also allowed

- D4. Translate into English wahatitsi'ktaienta'ne They caught a louse (3)
- D5. If you know that ien:'a is 'son', give the Mohawk for 'my' ri (1)
- D6. If you know that e:rhar is 'dog', translate into English harie:rhararakvthikvt

My dog is white (3)

D7. Translate into Mohawk 'The dog crawls' Ha te'sene'o e:rhar (3)

Ka- also allowed

D8. Translate into Mohawk 'The beans are red' Ha hsahe'taonekwenhtara hikvt (3)

Ka- also allowed

Total 20

Note that D8 is only 3 marks: you don't actually have to figure out the words for 'red' and 'beans': just add ha- and -hikvt to the translation of 'red beans' already given.

Explanation:

Definiteness is shown by the prefix Ha-, or Ka- ... you do not need to know how the choice is made, just copy what is given. The verb appears at the end of the sentence, except in the case of 'crawls'. Looking at the two sentences with 'crawls', how do you know where the verb ends and the subject begins? We have Hate'sene'otsi'kta and Hate'sene'oriien:'a ... is the verb te'sene' or te'sene'o? The clue is in one of the other questions: you can see in D4 that 'louse' is tsi'kta not otsi'kta, so the -o must be part of the verb. This in turn guides you to the answer for D5, which must be ri, not ori.

The verb 'to be' appears as -hikvt appended to the colour name.

Vocabulary:

itsi	fish	aienta'ne	(they) caught
kwiskwis	pig	te'sene'o	crawls
tsi'kta	louse	hihwi	spilled
ien:'a	son	onekwenhtara	red
hsahe'ta	beans	rakvt	white
ji:jia	flower	hikvt	is (colour)

Question E: Reading Meroitic

E1. Match up the Meroitic words with their corresponding transcriptions.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Е	Α		J	В	D	С	G	F	Н

E2. Transcribe the following Meroitic words.

(a) perite (b) atari (c) pilege (d) medewi

10 points for the match-up.

I originally gave 1 point each for the four examples, but looking at the answers we actually got I think that was a bit severe, and would suggest 3 points each, 1 for each syllable, eg parite for (a) would score 2.

Explanation

Meroitic is written right-to-left

Symbols represent consonants or vowels, but if there is no vowel following, an implicit vowel 'a' is assumed: However, two symbols imply a different vowel: VII (se) and $I \neq$ (te) (there are two other cases not used in this problem).

The consonant symbols seen are as follows (the symbols in the greyed-out cells were not used in this problem):

	δ	ν	1	J	ß	又	ω	4	L	}	3	VII	9	3	H	5	/ †	ب	足
У	W	b	р	m	n	ne	r	I	ch	kh	S	se	sh	k	q	t	te	to	d

The vowel symbols are as follows:

52	5	4	1
а	е	i	0

If we were not auto-grading, it would have been nice to ask students to transcribe some words INTO Meroitic.