

Swarthmore College

## Works

---

Digital Humanities Curricular Development

Faculty Development

---

Fall 2017

### Homeworks 1, 2, 5, And 10

Emily Gasser

*Swarthmore College*, [egasser1@swarthmore.edu](mailto:egasser1@swarthmore.edu)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://works.swarthmore.edu/dev-dhgrants>



Part of the [Linguistics Commons](#)

---

#### Recommended Citation

Emily Gasser. (2017). "Homeworks 1, 2, 5, And 10". *Structure Of Wamesa*. DOI: 10.24968/2476-2458.dhgrants.8

<https://works.swarthmore.edu/dev-dhgrants/8>



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 License](#).

This work is brought to you for free by Swarthmore College Libraries' Works. It has been accepted for inclusion in Digital Humanities Curricular Development by an authorized administrator of Works. For more information, please contact [myworks@swarthmore.edu](mailto:myworks@swarthmore.edu).

Structure of Wamesa  
Fall 2017  
HW 1  
Due 9/11/17

For next week, come up with a working hypothesis for what you think the phoneme inventory of Wamesa is, based on the sound clips found in the talking dictionary (<http://talkingdictionary.swarthmore.edu/wamesa/>). Turn in a) vowel and consonant charts laying out your proposed inventories, and b) a brief writeup of why you came to these conclusions, some evidence, remaining questions, other interesting observations. No more than two pages, please. *Do not* turn in a list of 900 transcribed words. Don't expect to find minimal pairs for all sounds, though there's a few in there; you should be able to find relevant contrasts in similar environments. We'll talk about your answers in class. If you're feeling ambitious, you may reference Klammer (2002), uploaded on the Moodle.

Structure of Wamesa  
Fall 2017  
HW 2  
Due 9/18/17

Pick an aspect of the phonetics that interests you and do some measurements - VOT, stop closure duration, stress correlates, vowel formants, etc. Use the recordings from the talking dictionary as your source material. For whatever you're investigating, make sure to measure *at least* 5 tokens and report the mean. Hand in a writeup giving your measurements, supporting screenshots where appropriate, and a summary of your findings.

A note on open-ended assignments like this one: The idea on open-ended HWs like this is for you to find something that interests you and explore it. There's no one measurement or result in particular I want everyone to get - you may not end up with any meaningful pattern at all, and that's fine. What I want is for you to get your hands dirty with some (raw, messy) data, and see what it tells you. The important thing in your writeup is to be clear, be thorough, be concise, and **give evidence** (/supporting data) for your hypotheses!

So far we've seen several (segmental) phonological rules in Wamesa:

- /C<sub>1</sub>C<sub>2</sub>/ → [C<sub>2</sub>]
- /C<sub>1</sub> + {β, r, k, b, d}/ → [ND] (a nasal-voiced stop cluster at the place of articulation of C<sub>2</sub>)
- /V<sub>[+high, -stress]</sub>/ → [-syllabic] (aka becomes a glide) adjacent to another vowel, obligatorily where it would create an otherwise absent onset, variably/optionally where it would create a coda or complex onset
- /V<sub>α</sub>V<sub>α</sub>/ → [V<sub>α</sub>] / C \_\_
- /a<sub>[-stress]</sub>/ → ∅ / 2/3sg \_\_ (unstressed /a/ deletes after the high vowel of the 2sg and 3sg agreement affixes)

We've seen how subject agreement works on verbs<sup>1</sup>:

	Prefix	<i>ase</i> 'to swim'	<i>pera</i> 'to cut'	<i>ra</i> 'to go'
Singular				
1sg	/i-/	<i>y-ase</i>	<i>i-pera</i>	<i>i-ra</i>
2sg	/bu-/	<i>bu-ase</i>	<i>p&lt;u&gt;era</i>	<i>r&lt;u&gt;a</i>
3sg	/di-/	<i>di-ase</i>	<i>p&lt;i&gt;era</i>	<i>r&lt;i&gt;a</i>
Dual				
1du incl	/tur-/	<i>tur-ase</i>	<i>tu-pera</i>	<i>tun-da</i>
1du excl	/amur-/	<i>amur-ase</i>	<i>amu-pera</i>	<i>amun-da</i>
2du	/mur-/	<i>mur-ase</i>	<i>mu-pera</i>	<i>mun-da</i>
3du	/sur-/	<i>sur-ase</i>	<i>su-pera</i>	<i>sun-da</i>
Plural				
1pl incl	/tat-/	<i>tat-ase</i>	<i>ta-pera</i>	<i>tan-da</i>
1pl excl	/amat-/	<i>amat-ase</i>	<i>ama-pera</i>	<i>aman-da</i>
2pl	/met-/	<i>met-ase</i>	<i>me-pera</i>	<i>men-da</i>
3pl hum	/set-/	<i>set-ase</i>	<i>se-pera</i>	<i>sen-da</i>
3pl NH	/si-/	<i>si-ase</i>	<i>si-pera</i>	<i>si-ra</i>

<sup>1</sup>The data in this HW is written using orthography, not IPA. Important points of difference are: *y* = [j], *ng* = [ŋ], and *v* = [β].

And we've amassed a bit of a lexicon. Here's some words, affixes, and clitics we've seen already to get you started on this assignment. (Stressed [a]s are marked as such):

pl: <i>-si</i>	dog: <i>wona</i>	I: <i>yau</i>	to eat (tr): <i>áne</i>
sg: <i>-i</i>	child: <i>mararia</i>	he/she/it: <i>andi</i>	to hug: <i>tapu</i>
applicative: <i>it-</i>	mosquito: <i>kamumi</i>	this: <i>nini</i>	to go home: <i>vavou</i>
causative: <i>on-</i>	coconut: <i>anggadi</i>	all: <i>vura</i>	to hit: <i>rora</i>
essive: <i>ve-</i>	fish: <i>dia</i>	knife: <i>nioi</i>	to fall: <i>táwa</i>
topicalizer: <i>=ma</i>	two: <i>muandu</i>	tree: <i>ai</i>	to be angry: <i>kasio</i>
3pl.human: <i>-sia</i>	fire: <i>adia</i>	shark: <i>suomuse</i>	to grill: <i>nunu</i>
definite determiners: <i>=ne</i> (proximal), <i>=pa</i> (default/medial), <i>=wa</i> (distal)			

To answer the questions in this problem set, feel free to consult the data given here, previous handouts, and class notes. Some questions will require you to check the talking dictionary; the directions will tell you when that's the case.

## Part 1

Let's start slow. Here are some fully glossed example sentences:

- (1) *Wona=pa-i di-ane dia=wa-si.*  
 dog=DET-SG 3SG-eat fish=DET-PL  
 'The dog eats those fish'
- (2) *Yau i-rora kamumi=pa muandu.*  
 I 1SG-hit mosquito=DET two  
 'I hit the two mosquitos'
- (3) *Mararia=pa-sia vura sem-bavou*  
 child=DET-3PL.HUM all 3PL.HUM-go.home  
 'All the children go home.'
- (4) *Nioi nini=ma tat-i-pera anggadi.*  
 knife this=TOP 1PL.INCL-APPL-cut coconut.  
 'We use *this* knife to cut a coconut.'

Q 1: How would you say:

- (a) The coconut falls.
- (b) The children hug all the sharks.
- (c) You (pl) use fire to grill the fish (sg).

## Part 2

Here's some additional data. Morpheme breaks and morpheme-by-morpheme glosses are no longer given:

- (5) *Yau yane piderekari pasi.*  
'I eat mangos'
- (6) *Piderekari pasi vura siate.*  
'All the mangoes are delicious'
- (7) *Sereni nei kota diate.*  
"This papaya is also delicious."
- (8) *Au buane sereni vekake pai.*  
'You eat the green papaya.'
- (9) *Pibata nini=ma kike. Diase.*  
'This turtle is green. It swims.'
- (10) *Maneta pa sandu susamuai nawa pasi sivekake.*  
'The two friends collect baskets which are green.'
- (11) *Sandu sunggasio suomuse katu pa toru.*  
'They two are angry at the three small sharks.'

Q 2: What are the Wamesa roots for:

- (a) mango?
- (b) papaya?
- (c) you?
- (d) delicious?
- (e) also?
- (f) green?
- (g) turtle?
- (h) they two (3du)?
- (i) collect?
- (j) basket?
- (k) small?
- (l) three?
- (m) friend?

Q 3: Give morph-by-morph glosses and English translations (as given here in examples 1-3) for the following Wamesa sentences:

- (a) *Au kota nunu suomuse.*

- (b) *Mararia katu nesia sendora piderekari veate wasi.*
- (c) *Ai pai viesereni.*
- (d) *Maneta pasia sembetoru.*
- (e) *Nawa pasi metisamuai dia pasi vura.*

### Part 3

- Q 4: Go to the talking dictionary and look up the word for 'ripe'. The word as spoken in the sound clip doesn't match the root form given as a headword. Why not? Be specific. How would you say 'the mango is ripe' in Wamesa?
- Q 5: Using the talking dictionary, create three new sentences using nouns and verbs not already used in this assignment. Make sure to use different person/number combinations, and at least one applicative construction.

### Part 4

In class, we briefly discussed an example with the word 'sit'. Look at the following examples:

- (12) *Imaso.*  
'I sit'
- (13) *Imaso na ai pai.*  
'I sit in the tree.'
- (14) *Yau imaso na wana.*  
'I sit over there.'
- (15) *Yau isera.*  
'I see'
- (16) *Yau iserai.*  
'I see (something).'
- (17) *Yau isera au.*  
'I see you'

- Q 6: What are the roots for 'sit' and 'see'?
- Q 7: There's a morphological alternation going on with these verbs that we haven't talked about yet. What's the morpheme, and what does its function seem to be?

Structure of Wamesa

Fall 2017

HW 10

Due 11/29/17

Take a look at some of the other dictionaries at <http://talkingdictionaries.swarthmore.edu>. Find other examples of on- or offline dictionaries. Think about what sorts of challenges are involved in creating a dictionary. What do the examples you looked at do well? What do they stumble on? What sorts entries or information do we want to include in a dictionary, and what gets left out? How does this vary based on the intended audience? Come prepared to talk about these ideas in class.