PRESENTING LINGUISTIC DATA

FONTS

All data should be presented using appropriate phonetic or orthographic symbols; this generally means making sure you are writing out data in the same way your source does, or if you’re collecting your own data, in the same way a native speaker would.

One exception: If a native speaker would use a writing system other than the Roman alphabet, please give a rough transcription or transliteration into Roman characters (many languages have semi-standard ways to do this), or into the International Phonetic Alphabet. (FYI, English uses the Roman alphabet; Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Arabic, Russian, Greek, Cherokee, etc. do not.)

For typed assignments: If you are able to type using phonetic fonts, diacritics, and whatever else might be necessary to fully type your data, excellent. Otherwise, as long as you’re handing in paper copies of your assignments, you’re also welcome to leave blanks in the typed version and hand-write in any complicated characters.

EXAMPLES

Except for occasional, relatively unimportant examples, all of your examples should be set off from the main text to make it easy for the reader to see and understand.

Each example should be numbered, so you can refer to it easily in the text. Make sure that your numbers are sequential throughout your paper.

All non-English data must be carefully glossed.

Individual monomorphemic words may have individual glosses, like this:

(1)  keṭa  ‘boy’
    keti  ‘girl’

Phrases and sentences must have both morpheme-by-morpheme glosses (identifying all relevant morphemes individually) and also fluent English translations, like this:

(2)  u ek³domei ramro dekin tʰɔ
    3SG(M) really good(M) look HAVE(M)
    ‘He is really good-looking’

(3)  burko keṭa-lai ɔhile nɔ-ramro lagego tʰɔ
    short(M) boy-ACC right.now NEG-good(M) feel HAVE(M)
    ‘The short boy feels bad right now’
Rules for glosses:

- The beginning of each English word must line up with the beginning of each non-English word.
- Morphemes should be separated by hyphens; there should be an exactly equal number of hyphens in corresponding English and non-English words.
- If you need to gloss a single non-English morpheme with multiple English words/morpheme labels, separate these English labels with periods, as above, not hyphens.
- English glosses should be on the line directly below their non-English correspondents; fluent sentence translations should be directly below that (no blank lines).
- Basically, I should always know exactly what part of your English gloss corresponds to exactly which part of the non-English phrase/sentence.

If you refer to non-English data in the middle of a sentence, it should look like this:

(4) The Nepali sentence *mero nam Kathryn ho* ‘my name is Kathryn’ has basic SOV order.

Specifically:

- Non-English data should be presented in italics.
- Gloss the non-English data in fluent English, immediately afterward, inside single quotes.
- Never just refer to a non-English word/phrase by its English meaning; always give the word or phrase in the original language as well.

If you want to refer to English data in a sentence, put it in italics to set it off from your regular English prose, like this:

(5) The English word *cat* is a noun; the word *decapitate* is a verb.