

Third Asia Pacific Linguistics Olympiad

March 28 – April 11, 2021

Language Information

Problem 1. Pitjantjatjara (**language I**) is a variety of the Western Desert language, which belongs to the Pama–Nyungan family. It is spoken by approx. 3,125 people in Central Australia.

Problem 2. Cushillococha Ticuna (**language II**) is a variety of the Ticuna language, which is a language isolate. It is spoken by approx. 7,000 people in Peru.

Problem 3. Somali (**language III**) belongs to the Cushitic branch of the Afro-Asiatic family. It is spoken by approx. 1,600,000 people in East Africa, mainly in Somalia and Djibouti.

The Osmanya script (**X script**) is a writing system that was created between 1920 and 1922 to transcribe the Somali language. In 1961, it was recognized as one of the official scripts by the Somali government. Nowadays, it is mostly substituted by the Latin script.

Problem 4. Hdi (**language IV**) belongs to the Chadic branch of the Afro-Asiatic family. It is spoken by approx. 29,000 people in Cameroon and Nigeria.

The language has two tones, but they were not considered in this problem for the sake of simplicity.

Problem 5. Sandawe (**language V**) is a language isolate. It is spoken by approx. 60,000 people in the Dodoma region of Tanzania.