Review

FSEM CORE S119: Language as Human Nature

Fall 2025

Prof. Forrest Davis

October 16 & 21, 2025

Warm-up

1. Discuss with your neighbor the highlight of your fall break

Logistics

• Report 1 revisions due Oct. 21

Learning Objectives

• Reviewing core material from the class

Summary: We review material from the class so far.

Before Next Class

• Prep for the exam

Exam Overview

- 5-6 questions
- Mostly short answer
- In class Thursday Oct. 23
- If you have accommodations, please reach out to me

Phonology

Key Terms and Skills	Phonemes	Allophones
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Minimal Pairs Manner of Articulation

Place of Articulation Voicing

Nasality Phonological Rules Segments/Phones Identifying Allophones

Practice Problems

Consider the following Korean data. Are [s] and [∫] allophones
of the same phoneme or different phonemes? If the sounds are
allophones of the same phoneme, give the underlying phoneme
and provide rules for the distribution of allophones.

IPA	Meaning
[ʃi]	'poem'
[mi∫in]	'superstition'
[∫inmun]	'newspaper'
[t ^h aksan∫ige]	'table clock'
[∫ilsu]	'mistake'
[o∫ip]	'fifty'
[paŋ∫ik]	'method'
[kan∫ik]	'snack'
[ka∫i]	'thorn'
[sal]	'flesh'
[kasu]	'singer'
[sanmun]	'prose'
[kasəl]	'hypothesis'
[miso]	'smile'
[susek]	'search'
[tapsa]	'exploration'
[so]	'cow'

Table 1: Representative data from Korean

2. List all the nasals in English giving their place of articulation.

3. Consider the following data from Burmese, which is a Sino-Tibetan language spoken in Myanmar. It contains both voiced and voiceless nasals (like [m] and [m]). Are [m] and [m] allophones of the same phoneme or different phonemes? Similarly, for [n] and [n] and [n] and [n]? If they are allophones of the same phonemes, give a rule that captures the pattern. Note, Burmese is a tone language where a with high tone is [a], with low tone [a], and falling tone [a]. Vowels with no tone marking are mid-tone.

IPA	Meaning
[mî]	'fire'
[mwêi]	'to give birth'
[mji?]	'river'
[mjâwn]	'ditch'
[mjin]	'to see'
[nê]	'small'
[nji?]	'dirty'
[nwè]	'to bend flexibly'
[hmjaw?]	'to multiply'
[hņêɪ]	'to heat'
[hṇja?]	'to cut off (hair)'
[hŋe?]	'bird'
[niè]	'fine, small'
[nwâ]	'cow'
[ŋâ]	'five'
[ŋou?]	'stump (of tree)'
[mîn]	'old (people)'
[hmí]	'to lean against'
[hṃwêɪ]	'fragrant'
[hmjaj?]	'to cure (mean)'
[hmòwn]	'flour, powder'
[hnji?]	'to wring, squeeze'
[hņjeɪ?]	'to nod the head'
[hŋâ]	'to borrow'
[hîn]	'curry'

Table 2: Representative data from Burmese

Morphology

Key Terms and SkillsMorphemesAllomorphsMorphological StructureAffixes

Morpheme Identification Roots

Bases Morphological Rules

Practice Problems

 Consider the following data from the Lukunosh dialect of Mortlockese (a language of Micronesia) It is in orthography (not IPA).
 Note: INCL means inclusive (that the group includes the speaker and the addressee) and EXCL means exclusive (that the group includes the speaker and someone else but not the addressee). The Lukunosh data was attributed to Emerson Lopez Odango and the Irarutu data to Jason Jackson in Contemporary Linguistics.

IPA Meaning 'my tooth' ngiij ngiimw 'your (SG) tooth' ngiin 'his/her/its tooth' ngiish 'our (INCL) tooth' ngiimam 'our (EXCL) tooth' ngiimi 'your (PL) tooth' ngiir 'their tooth'

Table 3: Representative data from Lukunosh

• Identify the morpheme corresponding to each of the following:

tooth	 our (INCL)	
my	 our (EXCL)	
your (SG)	 your (PL)	
his/her/its	their	

• Given that the word for 'leg/foot' in Mortlockese is *peshe*, how would you say each of the following?

your (SG) leg/foot	
his/her/its leg/foot	
our (EXCL) leg/foot	

2. Consider the following data from Irarutu (an Austronesian language spoken in West Papua, Indonesia). Data are in orthography.

Word	Meaning	Word	Meaning
adena	'my mother'	ifra	'his/her hand'
odena	'your mother'	atgrag	'my ear'
idena	'his/her mother'	otgram	'your ear'
ambamba	'my elder brother'	itgra	'his/her ear'
ombamba	'your elder brother'	atgra	'my stomach'
imbamba	'his/her elder brother'	oftam	'your stomach'
afrag	'my hand'	ifta	'his/her stomach'
ofram	'your hand'		

Table 4: Representative data from Irarutu

• Irarutu has different strategies for expressing possession in the case of kinship and possession in the case of body parts. Based on the data above, identify the morphemes used to express each type of possession.

• Given that mce means 'eye' and that nfut means 'younger sibling', how would you say each of the following in Irarutu?

his/her younger sibling	
my eye	
his/her eye	

- 3. Draw the morphological structure for the following words.
 - disappearance
 - unaffordable
 - manliness
 - oversimplification
 - mismanagement

Syntax

Key Terms and SkillsPhrasesX'-SchemeComplementsSpecifier

Drawing Trees Heads

1. Draw a tree for the phrase 'the collection of books'. Identify the words serving as heads, complements, and specifier.

- 2. Draw trees for the following sentences:
 - The cat will sleep
 - I wished that the week would stop for the cats
 - Will you patiently swim