

Assignment #1: Malagasy. Data from Richardson (1885)¹

Due Tuesday, Oct. 7

Directions

- Account for the alternations in the verb paradigms below. This involves proposing...
 - underlying forms for all the roots and affixes—the unaffixed form is not necessarily identical to the underlying form!!!
 - rules and their order
- Write up your analysis in prose form (like a *short* paper). Don't turn in your notes or scratchwork. Don't just list rules and then give a bunch of derivations. Rather, lead the reader through the analysis: "The basic stress rule of Malagasy is ... which can be seen in the form ... Stress is different, however, in the following forms ... because ...as seen in the following derivation:"
- For each rule, describe in prose what it does (in addition to writing it out in rule notation) and give it a brief, mnemonic name (e.g., "Rounding Harmony"). In your discussion and derivations, refer to the rule by its name, not by a number or abbreviation—this is much easier on the reader.
- The row numbers in the data below are for your convenience when you have group discussions. When talking about a form in your writeup, please write it out in full (or copy and paste from this document)—don't just refer to a form by its row number or gloss so that I have to go look it up.
- Stress is predictable in this language, so you should formulate a rule to account for it. You can use [stress] as a feature—stressed vowels are [+stress] and everything else is [-stress].
- I have put in **bold** some representative forms that you should be sure your analysis accounts for. (In future it will be up to you to notice the crucial types of form.) It's a good idea to do derivations for all those forms (at least mentally) to make sure your solution works. But don't include all those derivations in your writeup—to keep it from getting too long you'll have to select the most illustrative derivations to show.
- You don't have to account for why there are gaps in some of the paradigms.
- There are some rules here that call on rather unusual combinations of features. Therefore, you can use IPA symbols (instead of features) in your rules that affect consonants. Your rules that affect vowels should use features.
- Treat superscript consonant letters as belonging to the adjacent consonant. Thus, ⁿdʳ is a single consonant. Don't worry about the feature values of such consonants—you will probably want to use IPA symbols rather than features in any rules that affect those consonants anyway.
- The order in which the data are presented is meant to be helpful. Try coming up with a solution for the first row, then modifying it once you run into a row that behaves differently, etc. I recommend that you tackle stress in the roots and imperatives for #1-#5 first, then consider stress in the passives for those forms. Then continue through the data, looking for other alternations. Your write-up doesn't have to follow that order, though it can if you like.
- Remember the basics: each morpheme (whether root or affix) has a single, unchanging underlying representation, and the same rules apply in the same order in all derivations!

Data notes

- I have simplified the data by giving only roots and suffixes, omitting all prefixes. Don't try these forms on your next trip to Madagascar.

¹ Richardson, J. (1885). *A New Malagasy-English Dictionary*. Antananarivo: London Missionary Society.

- In many dialects of Malagasy some of the vowels (and all of the *hs*) are deleted in normal speech, so when you hear Malagasy it might not sound much like the transcriptions.
- Acute accent marks main stress. (Secondary stress not marked.)
- It's not the case that most words in Malagasy start with *b*—I just relied heavily on that part of the dictionary.

<i>unaffixed noun or adj.</i>	<i>passive imperative</i>	<i>active imperative</i>	<i>passive1</i>	<i>passive2</i>	<i>gloss of root</i>
1. bábu	babúí	babúa	babúana	babúina	plunder
2. bá ^h gu	ba ^h gúí	ba ^h gúa	ba ^h gúana	ba ^h gúina	plait
3. béku	bekúí	bekúa	bekúana	bekúina	foreign words
4. bári	baríu	baría	bariana	barína	brilliant
5. burúsi	burusú	burusía	burusiana	burusina	brush
6. bá ^h ga	ba ^h gáu	ba^hgá	ba^hgána	ba ^h gáina	gappy
7. báta	batáu	batá	batána	batáina	lift
8. buréra	bureráu	burerá	burerána	bureráina	weak
9. bá ⁿ zina	baⁿzínu	ba ⁿ zína	ba ⁿ zínana	ba ⁿ zínina	stare
10. búbana	bubánu	bubána	bubánana	bubánina	calumny
11. bú ⁿ t ^s ina	bu ⁿ t ^s ínu	bu ⁿ t ^s ína	bu ⁿ t ^s ínana	bu ⁿ t ^s ínina	swollen
12. burídana	buridánu	buridána	buridánana		going off in haste
13. búruna	burúni	burúna	burúnana	burúnina	tapped out
14. dúna	dúni	<i>dúna</i> ²	dúnana	dúnina	strike
15. rúna	rúni	<i>rúna</i>	rúnana		leaning
16. fúna	fúni	<i>fúna</i>	fúnana		
17. vúna	vúni	vúna	vúnana		knot
18. tána	tánu	<i>tána</i>	tánana		

(There are many exceptions to the generalizations illustrated below, but treat the data as representative)

19. bábuka	babúhi	babúha	babúhana		prostration
20. badíaka	badiáhu	badiáha	badiáhana	badiáhina	badly done
21. balíaka	baliáhu	baliáha	baliáhana		big-eyed
22. gúka	gúhi	gúha	gúhana	gúhina	guzzling
23. búhaka		buháfa	buháfana	buháfina	fastened
24. áluka	alúfi	alúfa	alúfana		shelter

² This form and the others in *italics* below don't really exist, but pretend they do.

25. vélna	velúmi	velúma	velúmana	velúmina	alive
26. á ⁿ d ^r ana	a ⁿ d ^r ámu	a ⁿ d ^r áma	a ⁿ d ^r ámana		attempt
27. léna	lému	léma	lémana		moist
28. búhit^ra	buhíru	buhíra	buhírana	buhírina	convex
29. bulásit ^r a	bulasíru	bulasíra	bulasírana	bulasírina	slip
30. súrat^ra		suráta	surátana		writing
31. purít ^r a	purítu	puríta	purítana	purítina	cramped
32. lumánu	lumanúsi	lumanúsa	lumanúsana	lumanúsina	swimming
33. vúlu	vulúsi	vulúsa	vulúsana	vulúsina	hair, feathers
34. búhi	buhízu	buhíza	buhízana		inflated
35. fúí	fuízu	fuíza	fuízana	fuízina	hatched
36. dí	dízu	díza	dízana		wild
37. pí	pízu	píza	pízana	pízina	twinkle
38. lálu	lalúvi	lalúva	lalúvana		gone
39. nía	niávu	niáva	niávana		resolve
40. lú	lúvi	lúva	lúvana	lúvina	rotten

(It is not a coincidence that most of the words below have [e] in the first syllable instead of some other vowel, but I didn't give you enough data for you to account for that fact. What you should account for is the [e]-[i] alternation.)

41. bédi	bedéu	bedé	bedéna		tattle
42. é ⁿ gi	e ⁿ géu	e ⁿ gé	e ⁿ géna		praise
43. éti	etéu	eté	eténa		narrow
44. bédi	bedésu	bedésa	bedésana	bedésina	tattle
45. réni	renésu	renésa		renésina	perceived
46. véli	velézu	veléza	velézana	velézina	blow
47. téti	tetézu	tetéza	tetézana	tetézina	bridge
48. é^mbit^ra	e ^m béru	e ^m béra	e^mbérana	e ^m bérina	prevented
49. éfika	eféhu	eféha	eféhana	eféhina	shaking
50. é ⁿ d ^r ika	e ⁿ d ^r éhu	e ⁿ d ^r éha	e ⁿ d ^r éhana	e ⁿ d ^r éhina	feature
51. tá ⁿ d ^r ina	ta ⁿ d ^r ému	ta ⁿ d ^r éma	ta ⁿ d ^r émana		remembered
52. télina	telému	teléma	telémana	telémina	pleasant
53. é ⁿ d ^r ina	e ⁿ d ^r énu	e ⁿ d ^r éna	e ⁿ d ^r énana		lemur/clown