

# How to format interlinearized linguistic examples

## Three-line format

(1) → a. → ?u-g<sup>w</sup>əč'-əd → čəx<sup>w</sup> → ti → sq<sup>w</sup>əbay?  
 → PFV-look.for-ICS → 2SG → SPEC → dog  
 → 'you looked for the dog'

use tabs to separate words and line them up with the interlinear gloss

use a period instead of a space to join separate words in a single gloss

→ b. \*?u-g<sup>w</sup>əč' → čəx<sup>w</sup> → ti → sq<sup>w</sup>əbay?  
 PFV-look.for → 2SG → SPEC → dog  
 → \*'you looked for the dog'

divide morphemes with an n-dash or a plus; make sure they match one-to-one with the interlinear gloss

(Hess 1993: 16)

align glosses with words, not with punctuation

(2) hay laχ-du-bəx<sup>w</sup> ?ə ti?iɬ c'ixc'ix  
 then look.for-LC-MD=now P DIST fish.hawk

equal signs are often used to mark clitic-boundaries and other special divisions (but use it consistently for only one of these)

( ti?iɬ tu=s=cut-t-əb=s ?ə ti?iɬ sčətx<sup>w</sup>əd )  
 DIST PST=NP=speak-ICS-MD=3PO P DIST bear

indent the second line of long examples and leave space before it; use the same tab spacing as for subordinate numbering

'then fish-hawk remembers what bear said to him'

(lit. 'then his was-spoken-by-bear is remembered by fish-hawk')

(Hess 1993: 194, line 46)

indicate a change of cited language and/or give the language name if you are using more than one

### Bella Coola

(3) ?aɬnap-is=k<sup>w</sup>=c' ta=qiiqtii=tχ wa=s=k<sup>w</sup>acta-tu-m  
 know-3SG:3SG=QTV=now D=baby=D D=NP=name-CS-3SG.PASS

if data is not from your own fieldwork, cite your sources (with page numbers for published material)

x=ti=man=ɬ

use a colon to separate values of inflectional categories that are cumulatively expressed

P=D=father=1PL.PO by the same affix

use single quotes for all free translations (and for glosses in the text of the paper)

'the baby knew what he had been named by our father'

(Davis & Saunders 1980: 108, line 12)

number examples sequentially throughout the paper



Word-processing tip: use the "Keep lines together" option to prevent page breaks from interrupting interlinearized examples and separating lines across pages.

## Four-line format

Four-line format is used for data where there are many phonological changes in the affixes that make up the word and the parsed form looks very different from the phonological form of the utterance.

- (2) Lushootseed  
 hay laʃdubəx<sup>w</sup> ?ə ti?iʔ c'iʔc'iʔ ...  
 hay laʃ-dx<sup>w</sup>-b=əx<sup>w</sup> ?ə ti?iʔ c'iʔc'iʔ  
 then look.for-LC-MD=now P DIST fish.hawk  
 'then fish-hawk remembers'

first line reflects the phonological form of the utterance as a whole

second line reflects the phonological form of the individual affixes

(based on Hess 1993: 194, line 46)

- (5) Upper Necaxa Totonac  
 katama:wé:uM nakištjkatkán  
 ka-tamá:-?e:-w-∅ nak=kin-štjkat-kán  
 OPT-lie.down-DEB-1PL.SUB-PFV LOC=1SG.PO-petate-PL.PO  
 'let's lie down on our petates!'

the second line can also contain zero affixes

some formats give the first line in practical orthography rather than phonetic notation

## Five-line format

Five-line format may be used for languages that have an established practical orthography or in detailed phonetic presentation.

- (6) Upper Necaxa Totonac  
 mat ho'lh chi:waká'lh mat ta:lhma:n  
 mat ?oʔ čir:wakáʔ mat ta:ʔma:n  
 mat ?oʔ čir-wakáʔ mat ta-ʔma:n  
 QTV tied.with.rope tie-be.high QTV CLF-long  
 'they say he was tied up high with a rope'

first line gives the utterance in standard spelling (shown here) or close phonetic transcription