Swahili is the mother tongue of about 5 million people, and is the common language of trade and political communication along the east coast of Africa. Here are six dates in Swahili. Match them with their English translations, given in random order on the right.

___ *tarehe tatu Disemba jumamosi*

___ *tarehe pili Aprili jumanne*

___ *tarehe nne Aprili jumanne*

___ *tarehe tano Oktoba jumapili*

___ *tarehe tano Oktoba jumatatu*

___ *tarehe tano Oktoba jumatano*

a. Monday, October 5th

b. Wednesday, October 5th

c. Sunday, October 5th

d. Tuesday, April 2nd

e. Tuesday, April 4th

f. Saturday, December 3rd

Original problem by A. N. Zhurinsky. English adaptation by Valentin Vydrin.

There are 3,344,720 speakers of **Tajik** in Tajikistan (one of the Central Asian republics of the former Soviet Union) and another million speakers in surrounding countries.

дусти хуби хамсоай сумо — a good friend of your neighbor

хамсоай дусти хуби сумо — a neighbor of your good friend

хамсоай хуби дусти сумо — a good neighbor of your friend

Above are three phrases in Tajik with their English translations. Your task is to give the English translations of all four Tajik words. The possibilities are simply "good," "friend," "neighbor," and "your." The order of the words – which is not the same order as in English! – does the rest.

дусти _____

хамсоай _____

хуби _____

сумо _____

Problem by Adriana Solovyova.

The following are 17 arithmetic equations in **Indonesian**. Knowing that *satu* means "one", can you work out the rest? Beware: one of the statements contains an intentional error!

Satu ditambah satu menjadi dua.

Dua ditambah dua menjadi empat.

Satu ditambah dua menjadi tiga.

Dua dikalikan dua menjadi empat.

Enam dikurangi tiga menjadi tiga.

Sepuluh dikurangi enam menjadi empat.

Dua dikalikan tiga menjadi lima.

Sepuluh dibagi dua menjadi lima.

Tiga dikalikan enam menjadi delapan belas.

Delapan belas dikurangi satu menjadi tujuh belas.

Tiga ditambah empat menjadi _____.

Tiga dikalikan tiga menjadi sembilan.

Sepuluh ditambah sembilan menjadi _____.

Dua puluh dibagi dua menjadi _____.

Tiga puluh dibagi lima menjadi enam.

Tujuh puluh dibagi dua menjadi _____.

Enam belas dibagi dua puluh empat menjadi dua per tiga.

Now write out these numbers (and one fraction) in Indonesian:

7 _____   12 _____   19 _____

23 _____   39 _____   ¾ _____

Rewrite the incorrect statement so that it's correct: _____

Problem by Raymond Weisling.

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Yaqui is an American Indian language currently spoken by about 16,400 people in Northern Mexico and southern Arizona.

The following are eight emphatic sentences in the Yaqui language. Your task is to match the correct English translations, given below in random order, to each Yaqui sentence.

__ Inepo siika.
__ Empo nee aniak.
__ Inepo apo'ik aniak.
__ Inepo apo'ik vichak.
__ Inepo enchi vichak.
__ Inepo enchi aniak.
__ Empo ye'ek.
__ Aapo enchi vichak.

a. You helped me.
b. You danced.
c. I saw you.
d. I saw him.
e. I helped you.
f. I helped him.
g. He saw you.
h. I left.

Problem by Tom Payne.

The following are inscriptions in hieroglyphic **Luvian**, an ancient Anatolian language related to (and once thought to be) Hittite. These writings were totally incomprehensible until one scholar discovered the key: many of the words were names of regions, cities, and kings.

1.

4.

2.

5.

3.

6.

Above are six inscriptions that correspond to the names of two regions (*Khamatu, Palaa*), two cities (*Kurkuma, Tuvarnava*), and two kings (*Varpalava, Tarkumuva*). Your job is to match each inscription with the name that it represents. The process you use to solve this puzzle is very similar to what archeological linguists actually do when they discover writings and inscriptions in unknown languages.

Original problem by A. N. Zhurinskj. English adaptation by Valentin Vydrin.

Hawaiian is a Polynesian language, spoken fluently by about 2000 people. The following Hawaiian sentences, with their English translations, are about a girl named Mele and a boy named Keone:

Ehiku ona kaikuaana.	He has seven elder brothers.
Ekahi o Mele kaikunane.	Mele has one brother.
Ekahi o Keone kaikaina.	Keone has one younger brother.
Aohe o Mele kaikuaana.	Mele has no elder sisters.
Aohe o Keone kaikuahine.	Keone has no sisters.
Ekahi ou waa.	I have one canoe.
Aohe o Mele kaikaina.	Mele has no younger sisters.

1. There are two possible English translations for the following Hawaiian sentence: *"Aohe ou kaikuaana."* What are they?

2. Translate the following sentence into English and indicate who is speaking, Mele or Keone: *"Aohe ou kaikuahine."*

3. The English sentences *"Keone has one brother"* and *"Mele has one younger brother"* would be difficult to translate directly into Hawaiian. Explain why this is true.

Original Problem by V. Belikov. English adaptation by Valentin Vydrin and Thomas Payne

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