

# Some O'odham Morphology

from Adrian Akmajian, Richard A. Demers, and Robert M. Harnish (1984) *Linguistics: An Introduction to Language and Communication*. MIT Press.

## Part 1

Consider the following data from O'odham. Determine the relationship between the words in List A and those in List B. What are the morphemes that make up these words?

	<u>List A</u>		<u>List B</u>	
1.	hoa	'basket'	ñhoa	'my basket'
2.	'o:gĩ	'father'	m'o:gĩ	'your father'
3.	kakkio	'legs'	hakakkio	'their legs'
4.	no:nowĩ	'hands'	'emno:nowĩ	'your (pl.) hands'
5.	kotoñ	'shirt'	kotoñij	'his/her shirt'
6.	wopnam	'hats'	twopnam	'our hats'

- A. List the possessive morpheme of O'odham.  
 'my'  
 'your'  
 'his/her'  
 'our'  
 'your (pl.)'  
 'their'
- B. What morphological process(es) is/are involved? Is one of the possessives expressed using a different process than the others?

## Part 2

Consider the following verb forms in O'odham.

	<u>Singular</u>		<u>Plural</u>	
1.	ñeok	'speaks'	ñeñeok	'speak'
2.	him	'walks'	hihim	'walk'
3.	dagkon	'wipes'	dadagkon	'wipe'
4.	helwuin	'is sliding'	hehelwuin	'are sliding'
5.	'ul	'sticks out'	'u'ul	'stick out'

- A. What morphological process is involved in pluralizing verbs?
- B. What is the rule for forming plural verb forms?



O'odham, formerly known as Papago, is a Uto-Aztecan language spoken by approximately 12,000 people in south central Arizona in the United States.