

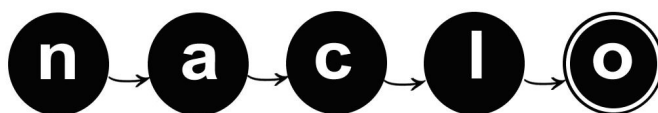
(H) Phàasàa and Pháasăa (1/2)

Shan (native term: Phàasàa Tái, ဟဲးသးတဲး) and Lao (native term: Pháasăa Láaw, ພາສາລາວ) are Tai languages from Southeast Asia. Shan is spoken in Myanmar and Thailand by about 3 million people, and Lao is spoken in Laos and Thailand by about 20 million. They are quite closely related, but are essentially mutually incomprehensible due to grammatical changes in both languages. Similarly, they are both written in writing systems that descend from the ancient Sanskrit script Brahmi, but these writing systems have rather different ways of marking the same sounds. The Shan writing system is a modification of the alphabet used by Burmese and Mon, whereas the Lao script is a streamlined form of the Thai alphabet.

Note: the diacritics (accent marks) above the Shan and Lao vowels in the Roman transcription of the native terms for the two languages shown above serve to mark tone. The doubled vowels indicate long vowels.

HI. Your task is to determine what goes in the blanks in the Shan and Lao columns. If you think that more than one answer is possible, write the likeliest one first, then the second-likeliest, and so on.

Shan	Lao	English	Shan	Lao	English
တဝ်း	ທ້ອງ	belly	လိတ်း	ເລືອດ	blood
လုဂ်း	ລູກ	child	ထာင်	ຊ້າງ	elephant
မာဂ်,	ໝາກ	fruit	မိတ်း	ນິດ	knife
ဟဲး	ພ້າ	large knife	သး	ຊ້າງ	left
ဆိတ်	ເນື້ອ	meat	ဆဲး	ນ້າ	mother's younger sibling
ဆွဂ်း	ນອກ	outside	ဂາບ,	ກາບ	pith
ဂုဂ်း	ຮາກ	root	ထິတ်း	ເຊືອກ	rope
ລິတ်,	ແດດ	sun	သိတ်	ຊື້	to buy
ဂິတ်	ຄ້ຽວ	to chew	ລິတ်း	ເລືອກ	to choose
ထາဂ်,	ຕາກ	to dry in the sun	ກູတ်,	ກອດ	to embrace
ဂ.	ຮູ້	to know	ຕູງ,	ຕອກ	to pound



(H) Phàsàa and Phásăa (2/2)

Shan	Lao	English
ປ້တ်,	ແຜດ	to roar
ຕ້တ်,	ແຕກ	to split
ລິ້.	ລິ້ນ	tongue
ມໍ.	ໄມ້	wood
ມູ້,		to crouch
	ແປດ	eight
	ເປືອກ	rind

Shan	Lao	English
ດູ້;	ຊອກ	to seek
ລູ້,	ດູດ	to suck
ປິ້,	ປີກ	wing
ດູ້.		bad
ລາ້;		to pull
(e)	ມ້າ	horse

H2. Out of the symbols ິ, ື, and ຸ in Shan, and ື, ື, and ື in Lao, which represent consonants, which vowels, and which tones?

Consonants Vowels

Tones

