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## Hawaiian – KEY

*Puzzle by V. Belikov. English adaptation by Valentin Vydrin and Thomas E. Payne*

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:

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|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. He has seven elder brothers.   | Ehiku ona kaikuaana.     |
| 2. Mele has one brother.          | Ekahi o Mele kaikunane.  |
| 3. Keone has one younger brother. | Ekahi o Keone kaikaina.  |
| 4. Mele has no elder sisters.     | Aohe o Mele kaikuaana.   |
| 5. Keone has no sisters.          | Aohe o Keone kaikuahine. |
| 6. I have one canoe.              | Ekahi ou waa.            |
| 7. Mele has no younger sisters.   | Aohe o Mele kaikaina.    |

A: There are two possible English translations for the following Hawaiian sentence. What are they?

Aohe ou kaikuaana. **I have no elder brothers (Keone/male speaking) 2) I have no elder sisters (Mele/female speaking)**

B: Translate the following sentence into English and indicate who is speaking, Mele or Keone:

Aohe ou kaikuahine. **'I have no sisters' (Keone speaking.)**

C. The following English sentences would be difficult to translate directly into Hawaiian. Explain why this is true.

Keone has one brother. **Because in Hawaiian, the word for the brother of a boy and a sister of a girl are the same, and they are always distinguished according to age - younger or older. Thus there is no way to say "Keone" has one brother in Hawaiian without saying whether the brother is younger or older.**

Mele has one younger brother. **The words for brother of a girl and sister of a boy are not distinguished by age. So you could easily say 'Mele has one brother,' but not 'Mele has one younger brother' given the words available in this problem.**