

# (O) Cameroonian Compounds (1/2) [10 points]

Vengo is the language of the Vengo ethnic group which consists of approximately 14,000 people living predominantly in the village Vengo in Cameroon.<sup>1</sup> The words in this problem are presented in the writing system of the language. The symbol ' represents the glottal stop (the consonantal sound we produce between the vowels in the English expression *uh-oh*).

Compounding is a common word formation process in Vengo. Similarly to English, compounds are variably written as one word, two words, or two hyphenated words in Vengo. Each Vengo word in the column on the left has its English translation (which is explicitly marked as a noun (*n.*) or a verb (*v.*) for clarity) somewhere in the column on the right, but the translations are in a scrambled order.

- |                |                                   |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. tɔ          | A. horn ( <i>n.</i> )             |
| 2. fɔ wi       | B. head ( <i>n.</i> )             |
| 3. nyaa shijii | C. stay ( <i>v.</i> )             |
| 4. tɔŋii       | D. hospital ( <i>n.</i> )         |
| 5. nyaa        | E. climb/climb onto ( <i>v.</i> ) |
| 6. shijii      | F. gun ( <i>n.</i> )              |
| 7. fɔ          | G. medicine ( <i>n.</i> )         |
| 8. nyaa yiko'  | H. house ( <i>n.</i> )            |
| 9. wi          | I. ladder ( <i>n.</i> )           |
| 10. shi        | J. gunpowder ( <i>n.</i> )        |
| 11. nyaa ndaw  | K. roof ( <i>n.</i> )             |
| 12. ŋii        | L. bull ( <i>n.</i> )             |
| 13. ko'        | M. home ( <i>n.</i> )             |
| 14. ndaw       | N. pet ( <i>n.</i> )              |
| 15. ŋii-vəfɔ   | O. horse ( <i>n.</i> )            |
| 16. vəkɔ'      | P. animal ( <i>n.</i> )           |

**O1.** Match each Vengo entry (1-16) to its English translation (A-P).

- |                         |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. <input type="text"/> | 2. <input type="text"/>  | 3. <input type="text"/>  | 4. <input type="text"/>  | 5. <input type="text"/>  | 6. <input type="text"/>  | 7. <input type="text"/>  | 8. <input type="text"/>  |
| 9. <input type="text"/> | 10. <input type="text"/> | 11. <input type="text"/> | 12. <input type="text"/> | 13. <input type="text"/> | 14. <input type="text"/> | 15. <input type="text"/> | 16. <input type="text"/> |

<sup>1</sup> Speakers of the language call their village Vengo and their language Ghang Vengo [ɣəŋ vəŋo]; however, the village is officially called Babungo and appears with this name on maps of Cameroon, and the language is, therefore, often referred to as Babungo.



## (O) Cameroonian Compounds (2/2)

Below are some additional Vengo words, each one written next to its English translation. Note that (*adj.*) indicates that the word is an adjective.

<b>dii</b>	heavy ( <i>adj.</i> )
<b>ley</b>	clean, clear, light ( <i>adj.</i> )
<b>nsi</b>	ground ( <i>n.</i> )
<b>so</b>	to wash ( <i>v.</i> )

**O2.** From the English options Q. through W., choose the most likely meaning of each of the Vengo compound words a. through d., in light of the additional Vengo words and meanings given above. Write the letter (Q-W) of your choice in the corresponding box below:

- |                      |                              |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| a. <b>to ley</b>     | Q. housework ( <i>n.</i> )   |
| b. <b>ko' fi nsi</b> | R. wisdom ( <i>n.</i> )      |
| c. <b>to dii</b>     | S. shame ( <i>n.</i> )       |
| d. <b>so to</b>      | T. courthouse ( <i>n.</i> )  |
|                      | U. source ( <i>n.</i> )      |
|                      | V. festival ( <i>n.</i> )    |
|                      | W. forgiveness ( <i>n.</i> ) |

a.       b.       c.       d.

**O3.** What is the likely English word equivalent of the Vengo word **fi** ?

