

Two morphological puzzles

Linguistics 201

February 9, 2007

1 Danish definite markers

1.1 Data

- (1)
- a. hesten ‘the horse’
 - b. *den hest ‘the house’
 - c. *gamle hesten ‘the old horse’
 - d. *den gamle hesten ‘the old horse’
 - e. den gamle hest ‘the old horse’

1.2 Questions

1. How many definite markers appear in the data?
2. What are they?
3. Where does each one occur?

2 Orkhono-Yeniseyan

2.1 Data

Consider the sentences in (2), from the Orkhono-Yeniseyan language.

- (2) a. Oghuling baliqigh alti. ‘Your son conquered the city.’
- b. Baz oghuligh yangilti. ‘The vassal betrayed the son.’
- c. Siz baliqimizin buzdingiz. ‘You all destroyed our city.’
- d. Qaghanimiz oghulingin yangilti. ‘Our king betrayed your son.’
- e. Oghulim barqingin buzdi. ‘My son destroyed your house.’
- f. Siz qaghanigh yangiltingiz. ‘You all betrayed the king.’
- g. Biz baliqigh altimiz. ‘We conquered the city.’
- h. Bazim qaghanimizin yangilti. ‘My vassal betrayed our king.’

3 Questions

1. For each sentence, where is the subject? The object? The verb?
2. How does one express ‘the’?
3. How does one express ‘your’?
4. How does one express ‘my’?
5. How does one express ‘our’?
6. Where does ‘-in’ appear?
7. Where does ‘-imiz’ appear?
8. Where does ‘-ingiz’ appear?
9. Where does ‘-ti’/‘-i’ appear?