



# OXFORD UNIVERSITY

## ORIENTAL LANGUAGES APTITUDE TEST

November 2020

### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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This booklet contains the Oriental Languages Aptitude Test, for applicants for course combinations which include Arabic, Hebrew, Persian or Turkish.

Please complete the following details:

Surname					
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Other names					
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School/College name*					
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\*If you are an individual candidate, taking this test away from a school or college, please write the name of your examination centre in this box.

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### Time allowed

You have 30 minutes. Your invigilator will notify you when you should begin the paper.

### Question paper

The paper is two pages long. Try to answer all the questions, in order and systematically, but do not rush for the sake of completion if you encounter difficulties. You must use a black pen.

You can use the blank back cover for rough workings or notes, but only answers in the spaces in the papers will be marked. Please hand in all your rough workings done on the separate pages.

No dictionaries of any kind are permitted.

The following questions are based on Sobot, an artificial language. Like English, Sobot has a fixed word order; unlike English, however, it does not distinguish simple from progressive tenses ('goes' = 'is going'). Work out the meanings of the following sentences, individual words, and their components by reading carefully and paying attention to the differences between similar forms.

Hint: keep an eye on the grammatical gender of words, as in *ram* (masculine) vs *ewe* (feminine) vs *sheep* (undetermined). The exercises are built up gradually, so it is best to do them in order.

(a)

<b>suneeli a'follif.</b>	<i>The hens run.</i>
<b>luseki pessit.</b>	<i>A postwoman laughs.</i>
<b>suleefa porris.</b>	<i>Billy goats sleep.</i>
<b>durega a'mettir.</b>	<i>The waiter is gardening.</i>
<b>suneelwi</b>	<i>We (women) are running.</i>
<b>suleefsa.</b>	<i>You (men) are sleeping.</i>
<b>fuber a'pesat.</b>	<i>The post office is burning.</i>
<b>ruseefi a'mottir perris.</b>	<i>The waitresses see a goat.</i>
<b>kureedi porris melam.</b>	<i>Nanny goats drink water.</i>
<b>tukebwa tekab.</b>	<i>I (man) am writing a letter.</i>
<b>rusefa pessit a'fellif.</b>	<i>A postman sees the chicken.</i>

Give the meaning of:

**fuber tekab.**

\_\_\_\_\_ [3]

**suleefi a'possit.**

\_\_\_\_\_ [3]

Translate into Sobot:

*You (men) see a chicken.*

\_\_\_\_\_ [3]

*A waiter is running.*

\_\_\_\_\_ [3]

(b)

<b>fuberwi a'tokob.</b>	<i>I (woman) am burning the letters.</i>
<b>yadureegi a'possit.</b>	<i>The postwomen were gardening.</i>
<b>suleefim porris a'betat ka.</b>	<i>Nanny goats do not sleep in the house.</i>
<b>yakureda a'fellif melam derag ka.</b>	<i>The rooster drank water in a garden.</i>
<b>lukeemim follif bolom ka.</b>	<i>Hens do not live in towns.</i>
<b>yaruseefwa a'follif a'gesan ka</b>	<i>We (men) saw the chickens in the park.</i>
<b>ruseefam a'sokkik a'pesat.</b>	<i>The actors do not see the post office.</i>
<b>yakuteessim botot a'belam ka.</b>	<i>You (women) did not build houses in the town.</i>
<b>kuredsi tefas.</b>	<i>You (woman) are drinking tea.</i>
<b>yasunelwa na yamulemsam.</b>	<i>I (man) ran and you (man) did not cry.</i>
<b>yafuleti a'sekkik a'sekat ka</b>	<i>The actress fell in the forest.</i>

Give the meaning of:

**yakureda a'sekkit a'tefas.**

\_\_\_\_\_ [4]

**yamuleemsam a'dorog ka.**

\_\_\_\_\_ [4]

Translate into Sobot:

*Waiters do not build towns.*

[3]

*I (woman) was sleeping in the garden and did not see the goats.*

[5]

(c)

**yafurega a'perris tokob an sekkik.**  
**suleefwa a'derag ana'pessit ka.**  
**yasuneela a'follif laa'gesan ka da**  
**betat ka.**  
**yafubeeri a'mottir bekat an pellis**  
**sekat ka.**  
**yakureedim a'porris ana'sekkik**  
**a'melam ana'keppit.**  
**ruseefsa sekat laa'betat ka.**  
**yafuretwim a'fellif ana'mettir**  
**daa'melam ka.**  
**yamuteti a'pellis tekab da pessit ka.**  
**yafuber a'betat ana'mottir belam**  
**a'ka**  
**yafuberm a'tekab ana'sekkik**  
**a'sekat ka.**

*The billy goat ate an actor's letters.*

*We (men) are sleeping in the postman's garden.*

*The roosters ran from the park into a house.*

*The waitresses burned a police officer's book in*  
*a forest.*

*The actor's nanny goats weren't drinking the*  
*mayor's water.*

*You (men) see a forest from the house.*

*I (woman) didn't throw the waiter's chicken into*  
*the water.*

*The policewoman gave a letter to a postman.*

*The waiters' town house was burning.*

*The actor's letter was not burning in the forest.*

Give the meaning of:

**muteetsim a'tokob ana'pollis daa'possit ka.**

[5]

**yafubera a'keppit a'betat sekat a'ka na yakutesa betat belam a'ka.**

[6]

Translate into Sobot:

*The actors' tea fell into the water in a park.*

[6]

*The waiters' roosters ran from the actor's house to the forest.*

[5]

The back page of this booklet is intentionally left blank for your rough working or notes

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