Cambridge Textbooks in Linguistics

Linguistic Fieldwork

Jeanette Sakel and Daniel L. Everett

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Contents

Preface *page* xi
Acknowledgements xii

1 Introduction: what is linguistic fieldwork? 1
1.1 A definition of fieldwork 2
1.2 Overview: the following chapters 8
1.3 Summary and further reading 8

2 Fieldwork projects: two examples 10
2.1 Fieldwork project 1. Mosetén in Bolivia: text-collection, transcription, analysis and elicitation 10
2.2 Fieldwork project 2. Somali in contact with English: setting up a fieldwork project 20
2.3 Summary and further reading 25

3 The languages 26
3.1 Bilingual and monolingual fieldwork 26
3.1.1 Bilingual fieldwork 27
3.1.2 Monolingual fieldwork 29
3.2 Learning the language(s) 35
3.3 Types of language data 37
3.4 Types of languages 38
3.4.1 Major languages and languages with many speakers 38
3.4.2 'Small' languages and endangered languages 39
3.4.3 Well-described versus little-studied languages 40
3.4.4 Working on a language that you speak 41
3.5 How to find a language to work on 42
3.6 Summary and further reading 43

4 The people 44
4.1 The speakers 44
4.1.1 Speakers' language use and proficiency 45
4.1.2 Contacting a language community 49
4.1.3 Selecting the speakers 50
4.1.4 The main teachers 54
4.1.5 Other speakers 54
4.2 The linguist 55
4.2.1 The significance of the first day 57
4.2.2 The role of the linguist among the speakers 58

UNIVERSITAS KATOLIK SOEGIJAPRANATA
PERPUSTAKAAN

4.2.3 Teamwork among linguists 60
4.3 Other parties 61
4.3.1 The language community 61
4.3.2 Organizations in the area or in related fields 62
4.3.3 Other researchers 64
4.3.4 Conflicting interests 65
4.4 Fieldwork ethics 67
4.4.1 Information and consent 67
4.4.2 Payment and working conditions 71
4.4.3 Training language teachers 73
4.4.4 Helping the community 74
4.4.5 Ethics for the dissemination of the data and the results 75
4.5 Summary and further reading 77

5 Fieldwork preparation 79
5.1 Linguistic prefield preparation 79
5.1.1 Research questions 80
5.1.2 Choose a mentor 81
5.1.3 Prefield literature review 82
5.1.4 Computers and tools 83
5.1.5 Financing your fieldwork 84
5.1.6 Funding proposals for PhD theses and beyond 85
5.1.7 Ethics application 86
5.1.8 The place and timing of fieldwork 87
5.2 Considerations for remote fieldwork 88
5.2.1 Culture and relations 89
5.2.2 Paperwork and bureaucracy 90
5.2.3 Vaccinations and medicals 90
5.2.4 Medical training 91
5.2.5 Basic fieldwork equipment 92
5.2.6 Additional equipment 93
5.2.7 Consumable study supplies 94
5.2.8 How long to stay 95
5.2.9 Accommodation 96
5.2.10 Travel arrangements 98
5.3 Summary and further reading 98

6 Fieldwork methods 99
6.1 Types of research method 99
6.1.1 Qualitative methods 100
6.1.2 Quantitative methods 100
6.1.3 Mixed methods 101
6.1.4 Cross-sectional and longitudinal studies 101
6.2 Metadata, recordings and field notes 101
6.3 Text data 104
6.3.1 Transcription 107
6.3.2 Translation 108
6.3.3 Glossing 110
6.4 Elicitation 113

6.4.1 Types of elicitation 114
6.4.2 Limits of elicitation 117
6.4.3 Ethical considerations for elicitation 120
6.4.4 Monolingual elicitation 121
6.4.5 Third-party interpreters 126
6.4.6 Group teaching, serial teaching and individual teachers 127
6.5 Quantitative questionnaires and structured interviews 128
6.5.1 Questionnaires 129
6.5.2 Structured interviews 132
6.6 Experiments and stimulus tests 132
6.7 Participant observation 136
6.8 Integrating ethnography and fieldwork 136
6.9 Summary and further reading 137

7 The outcomes 139
7.1 The fieldwork corpus 139
7.2 Archiving 140
7.3 Presenting methodology and results 141
7.3.1 Presenting the results of qualitative studies 143
7.3.2 Presenting the results of quantitative studies 144
7.4 Grammars 145
7.5 Dictionaries 148
7.6 Language documentation 150
7.7 Summary and further reading 150

Appendix 1 Perspectives on the history of fieldwork 152
Appendix 2 Phonology questionnaire 159
Notes to chapters 167
References 171
Index 176

A handy beginner's guide, this textbook introduces the various stages of linguistic fieldwork, from the preparation of the work to the presentation of the results. Drawing on over forty years of fieldwork experience between them, in over two dozen languages, the authors pack the book with examples and anecdotes from their experiences, and include practical exercises for students to test what they have learnt. Independent of any particular perspective, the methods can be applied to a wide range of fieldwork settings, for projects with very different theoretical backgrounds, and without the need to travel too far. The book covers 'traditional fieldwork' such as language description and documentation, as well as less typical methods, including language contact and quantitative studies with experiments or questionnaires.

- Textboxes throughout provide lively anecdotes from the authors' and others' fieldwork experiences
- Includes useful exercises and ways of trying out fieldwork methods wherever the student happens to be based
- Gives practical help on presenting fieldwork results
- An accompanying website includes answer keys to the exercises and a sound recording for students to analyse real-life data

'...a perfect students' guide through the intricate landscape of planning and conducting language research and documentation with the aid of native speakers'

Thomas Stolz, Chair of Linguistics, University of Bremen, Germany

'Because of the contemporary emphasis on the description and documentation of endangered languages, the publication of this extremely useful guide to field research by Sakel and Everett, both experienced fieldworkers, is very timely.'

Robert D. Van Valin, Jr, Heinrich Heine University and University at Buffalo

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