

# LIGN 101 Section Activity - Language Analysis

One of the most fun parts of Linguistic work is digging into data, so we'll start off the class by diving deep into some great data.

## 1 Cheyenne

With your group members, take a look at these language data, from Cheyenne, an Indigenous American Language, spoken in the American West, and see if you can figure out what parts of these words correspond to what meanings. Look to see what chunks occur where in each word, and what chunks only show up with a certain meaning. /ʃ/ is a voiceless post-alveolar fricative, like in “Shush”.

	Cheyenne	English Gloss
1.	namesehe	‘I eat.’
2.	emesehe	‘He eats.’
3.	naefemesehe	‘I already ate.’
4.	esaamesehehe	‘He doesn’t eat.’
5.	emeomesehe	‘He ate this morning.’
6.	eohkemesehe	‘He always eats.’
7.	epevemesehe	‘He eats well.’
8.	esaaefemesehehe	‘He has not eaten yet.’
9.	eohkesaapevemesehehe	‘He never eats well.’
10.	eohkepevemesehe	‘He always eats well.’
11.	nameoefemesehe	‘I already ate this morning.’
12.	naohkepevenemene	‘I always sing well.’

### 1.1 Predicting new data

If you’re feeling like you’ve got a handle on these data, try to figure out how to say...

1. He already ate
2. I never eat
3. I always eat well
4. He already sang
5. He doesn’t sing well

## 2 Fore

If you're finished with that dataset, try this one from Fore, a language of Papua New Guinea. The colon (:) represents a long version of that vowel, so /a/ and /a:/ are two different sounds.

	Fore	English
1.	natuwi	I ate yesterday.
2.	nagasuwi	I ate today.
3.	nakuwi	I will eat.
4.	nata:ni	You ate yesterday.
5.	nata:naw	You ate yesterday?
6.	nakiyi	He will eat.
7.	nakiyaw	He will eat?
8.	natuni	We ate yesterday
9.	nagasuni	We ate today.
10.	nakuni	We will eat.
11.	nagasusi	We two ate today.
12.	nakusi	We two will eat.
13.	nata:wi	They ate yesterday.
14.	nata:si	They two ate yesterday.

### 2.1 Predicting new data

If you're feeling like you've got a handle on these data, try to figure out how to say...

1. We two ate yesterday.
2. They will eat.
3. They two ate today.
4. I ate yesterday?

Data from Merrifield, W. R., Naish, C. M., Rensch, C. R., & Story, G. (1974). *Laboratory manual for morphology and syntax*, rev. edn. Huntington Beach, CA: Summer Institute of Linguistics.