Assignment – Typological Issues

Due

1. Develop the Typological Page
2. By this point, you should be becoming familiar with what research is available for your language, how it is classified, and know at least a few languages that may be related in some way.
3. Considering your language in light of its classification, and status in the country it is spoken in, are there any issues that seem to define or identify your language. You do not need to post about this, but should develop, for yourself, and idea of the status of the language because this will inform the historical aspects as well. Ask yourself these questions:
   1. Is your language characteristic of the family, or does it have significant outside influences?
   2. Is your language a “macrolanguage”? Are there many dialects of your language?

Part I - Typology - Everyone

1. Typology
   1. What is typology and how is it used to understand a language and a group’s history?
2. Digital typology
   1. What digital resources are available for your language?
   2. Is your language in any group archives to reconstruct Proto languages?
3. Typological Aspects of your language
   1. Describe any typological characteristics of your language that are distinctive or often discussed.
      1. Are there any distinctive sounds?
         1. Clicks
         2. Glottals
         3. Nasals
      2. Is there any distinctive morphology?
         1. Noun Classes

If you chose to make a Typology Page

1. Typological characteristics
   1. What is the basic word order?
      1. SOV
      2. SVO
      3. VSO
   2. Tone… Is it
      1. Syntactic?
      2. Phonological?
      3. Emphasis only?
   3. Adjectives
      1. Do adjectives act like verbs or nouns or their own category?
   4. Double Object Constructions? (Bantu mostly)
   5. Serial Verb construction? (W. Africa mostly)
   6. “Missing” features?
      1. “the”