

## (C) Versatile Verb (1/2) [Solution]

C1.

Waama		Literal Translation	
1	Cando dɛbite kpi, o ñ faa o suka.	J	<i>Tchando neighbor died, he and inherited his car.</i>
2	Tando dori.	F	<i>Rain fell.</i>
3	N pe saaki ti yete.	H	<i>My wife swept our house.</i>
4	Bika kɔɔsi kɔɔka.	O	<i>Child sold hen.</i>
5	Soosada kaate.	M	<i>Soldiers assembled.</i>
6	Suka kpi.	N	<i>Car died.</i>
7	Ba kaate tiibu band.	K	<i>They gathered tree under.</i>
8	N yeentire n daaso.	L	<i>I hurt my friend.</i>
9	Bisu yɔkɔɔti.	I	<i>Children had-fun.</i>
10	Tiibu dori puɲa mii.	A	<i>Tree fell forest in.</i>
11	N taka n daaso yete.	C	<i>I went-to my friend house.</i>
12	Maari pei dikitifa, o ñ fa piisi.	E	<i>Marie lost money, she but it found.</i>
13	Suka miiki pɔmpɔmma.	B	<i>Car passed-by earlier.</i>
14	Bika dori.	D	<i>Child fell.</i>
15	N kɔɔka taka Yooto yete.	G	<i>My hen went-to Yooto house.</i>

1. J      2. F      3. H      4. O      5. M      6. N      7. K      8. L  
 9. I      10. A      11. C      12. E      13. B      14. D      15.

### Notes/Observations about Waama based on the presented data:

There is no possessive marker. The structures *Cando house* and *friend house* work similarly to phrases like *garage door* in English.

Word order is SVO except with object pronouns.

In compound sentences, the coordinating conjunction follows the subject Noun Phrase.

The word *ñ* can mean either *and* or *but* depending on the context.

Definiteness is not marked by means of definite or indefinite articles. Definiteness is determined by context.

Instead of prepositions, the language has postpositions (tree under, forest in).

Lexical observations: *take* means 'go to'; *miiki* means 'pass by'; *kpi* means 'die' in the larger sense of 'come to an end' (see Task 2); *yɔkɔɔti* means 'have fun' as well as 'play' (see Task 3c).

The nouns in this problem become plural as follows: *bika*(sg) – *bisu*(pl).

The third person personal and possessive pronoun *o* is not gender marked (*o* = he/she, his/her).



## (C) Versatile Verb (2/2) [Solution]

**C2.** One of the verbs you encountered in the sentences in the column on the left above would be used by speakers of Waama in all 4 sentences below, each of which is translated into English. Which of the verbs you encountered above is that verb?

Waama	English
<b>Sentence 1</b> N tokore <u>kpi</u> .	'My shirt is torn.'
<b>Sentence 2</b> Yaama <u>kpi</u> .	'The matter is settled.'
<b>Sentence 3</b> O beere <u>kpi</u> .	'He lost his fame.'
<b>Sentence 4</b> Yima <u>kpi</u> .	'The water is frozen.'

**C3.** Translate into Waama.

The children gathered under the house.	<b>Bisu kaate yete band.</b>	(Note: 'under' / <i>band</i> is a postposition)
I sold my car.	<b>N kɔɔsi n suka.</b>	
Her friend played in the rain.	<b>O daaso ɣɔkɔɔti tando mii.</b>	( <i>ɣɔkɔɔti</i> = 'have fun = play') ( <i>tando dori</i> = 'rain fell') ( <i>in/mii</i> is a postposition)

**C4.** Translate into English.

Ba kɔɔsi ti kɔɔsu.	<b>They sold our hens.</b> (bika-bisu → kɔɔka-kɔɔsu)
N susu kpi.	<b>My cars broke down.</b> (bika-bisu → susa-susu)
Maari daaso fa faa.	<b>Marie's friend inherited it.</b>

