

(H) My Grandmother and I (1/2) [15 points]

Pronouns are words like *us* or *she* that refer to a person or group relevant to the conversation. This problem is about the system of pronouns in the language Lardil, which is spoken on Mornington Island, off the north coast of Australia. Lardil's pronoun system may seem complex at first, but it is organized around a systematic and logical set of principles.

Below are thirteen groups of people, followed by pronouns that could refer to them in Lardil. Note that the Lardil words are not translations of the English—they are pronouns that could refer to the group described in English, similar to how the English pronoun *us* is not defined as “Alex and me” but might refer to “Alex and me” in a particular context. The English and Lardil are in the same order as each other, not scrambled.

English	Lardil
my grandmother and I	nyarri
he, his brother, and his sister	bili
you, your sister, and your grandson	kili
my great-grandfather and I	nyaanki
you and your brother	kirri
my grandparents and I	nyali
you and your aunt	nyiinki
you, your father, and your mother	kilmu
my son, my mother, and I	nyalmu
she and her grandparents	bili
my son and I	nyaanki
my sister, my grandson, and I	nyali
she and her great-granddaughter	niinki

H1. Using the spaces on the bottom of this page, match up the following groups and pronouns:

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| a. you and your parents | 1. nyalmu |
| b. my grandfather and I | 2. bili |
| c. you and your grandchildren | 3. kilmu |
| d. she, her grandmother, and her brother | 4. kili |
| e. he and his sister | 5. nyarri |
| f. my daughter, my mother, and I | 6. birri |

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

f.



(H) My Grandmother and I (2/2)

H2. Write the correct Lardil pronoun for each group:

a. my father and I

b. you and your granddaughter

c. my uncle, my aunt, and I

d. he and his parents

e. she and her mother

f. you and your cousin

H3. Circle all of the following groups that would be designated as *birri*. The number of answers that should be circled could be 0, 1, 2, or 3.

my uncle
and I

you, your brother,
and your grandfather

she and
her sister

H4. There is another pair of pronouns in Lardil, *ngakuli* and *ngakulmu*, which are used to refer to groups made of “you, I, and one other person.” Assuming that “I” and “you” are brother and sister, which word would you use to refer to:

a. you, I, and our grandfather

b. you, I, and our aunt

H5. What Lardil word would refer to “you and I”, where “I” refers to the speaker and “you” refers to the speaker’s sister?

