

Lgcs 101: Historical Linguistics. Solution to Assignment 1. 9 Feb 2010.

1. Exercise 2.5: Tulu

From Sapaliga to Holeya we have the following three changes:

Lenition/Palatalization/Affrication ($t \rightarrow tʃ$)

Voiceless alveolar stop \rightarrow alveopalatal affricate / # __

Low Vowel Backing ($a \rightarrow \alpha$)

Front low vowel \rightarrow back / __ nasal

High Vowel Fronting ($u \rightarrow i$)

High back rounded V \rightarrow front unrounded / __ nasal

Of the four daughter dialects, all four dialects share the *Low Vowel Backing* change, and only Holeya has the *High Vowel Fronting* change. For the rest of the discussion of this problem, we look only at differences in the lenition of initial [t].

From Sapaliga to Setti, we get $t \rightarrow s$. For this change, we can posit an intermediate stage of [tʃ], so that $t \rightarrow tʃ \rightarrow s$. This gives us the following two changes for this dialect, the first crucially applying before the second:

Lenition/Palatalization/Affrication ($t \rightarrow tʃ$)

Voiceless alveolar stop \rightarrow alveopalatal affricate / # __

Lenition/Spirantization/Deaffrication: ($tʃ \rightarrow s$)

Voiceless alveopalatal affricate \rightarrow alveolar fricative / # __

From Sapaliga to Jain 1, there appears to be further lenition, with $t \rightarrow h$. Here too we can posit intermediate stages, so that $t \rightarrow tʃ \rightarrow s \rightarrow h$. This gives us the following three changes, again crucially applying in sequence:

Lenition/Palatalization/Affrication ($t \rightarrow tʃ$)

Voiceless alveolar stop \rightarrow alveopalatal affricate / # __

Lenition/Spirantization/Deaffrication: ($tʃ \rightarrow s$)

Voiceless alveopalatal affricate \rightarrow alveolar fricative / # __

Lenition/Spirantization₂: ($s \rightarrow h$)

Voiceless alveolar fricative \rightarrow glottal / # __

Finally, from Sapaliga to Jain 2, there appears to be even further lenition, with $t \rightarrow \emptyset$. Here too we can posit intermediate stages, so that $t \rightarrow tʃ \rightarrow s \rightarrow h \rightarrow \emptyset$. This gives us the following four changes, again crucially ordered in sequence:

Lenition/Palatalization/Affrication ($t \rightarrow tʃ$)

Voiceless alveolar stop \rightarrow alveopalatal affricate / # __

Lenition/Spirantization/Deaffrication: ($tʃ \rightarrow s$)

Voiceless alveopalatal affricate \rightarrow alveolar fricative / # __

Lenition/Spirantization₂: ($s \rightarrow h$)

Voiceless alveolar fricative \rightarrow glottal / # __

Lenition/Deletion: ($h \rightarrow \emptyset$)

Voiceless glottal fricative $\rightarrow \emptyset$ / # __

2. Exercise 2.6: Brule Spanish

The following changes can be posited from Standard American Spanish to Brule Spanish. Crucial orderings between rules are discussed below.

- (1) *V-Lowering* (e → æ / __ liquid)
Mid front V → low / __ liquid
- (2) *Glide Insertion* (∅ → y / V __ V)
∅ → palatal glide / V __ V
- (3) *Non-initial d-Deletion* (d → ∅ EXCEPT # __)
Voiced alveolar stop → ∅ EXCEPT in the environment # __.
- (4) *Liquid Lateralization* (r → l / C __ or __ C)
Voiced alveolar flap → lateral approximant / C __ or __ C
- (5) *Initial a-Deletion* (a → ∅ / # __)
Back low vowel → ∅ / # __
- (6) *Syllable-final lenition* (s → h / __]_σ)
Voiceless alveolar fricative → glottal / __]_σ
- (7) *Lenition* (x → h)
Voiceless velar fricative → glottal
- (8) *Final r-deletion* (r → ∅ / a __)
Alveolar approximant → ∅ / low back vowel __

Non-initial d-Deletion, (3), crucially applies before *Liquid Lateralization*, (4), since in (17), *padre* → *pare*. If *Liquid Lateralization* applied first, we would expect *pale*, which is not the correct form.

Glide Insertion, (2), crucially applies before *Non-initial d-Deletion*, (3), as (39), *rodiya* → *ruiya*, shows. *Non-initial d-deletion* creates adjacent vowels (vowel hiatus), but *Glide Insertion* does not apply in this case. Compare (40), *oir* → *uyir*, in which *Glide Insertion* does apply.

Non-initial d-Deletion, (3), crucially applies before *Initial a-Deletion*, (5), since in (20), *adonde* → *one*. If *a* were to instead delete first, then the then-initial *d* would be predicted to be preserved.