LING 313.02 Phonology and Morphology of Turkish

Problem Session: Midterm Review

1 Natural classes

(a) Give the smallest description (place, manner, voicing; or height, backness, rounding) that picks out each group and no other sound of Turkish.

1. [ʃ ʒ t͡ʃ d͡ʒ]
2. [c cʰ ɟ]
3. [i ɯ y u]
4. [e ɛ ɑ]

(b) List all the sounds of Turkish (allophones included) that fit each description.

1. voiceless fricatives
2. voiced stops
3. [+round, −high] vowels

2 Minimal pairs

bul pul tel del dil bil kel gel kıl kal kol kul göl gül kör kor

(a) Find four minimal pairs in which the two contrasting phonemes differ in exactly one feature. Write the phonemes and name the feature.

(b) Transcribe *kör* and *kor* narrowly. How many segments differ phonetically, and how many phonemically? Explain.

3 Narrow transcription and syllable weight

Transcribe narrowly with syllable boundaries, mark each syllable L (light) or H (heavy), and name the allophonic rules you used.

	transcription	weight	rules
çatı			
çelik			
ufuklar			
çerezler			
kavun			
kahve			

4 Harmony and other alternations

(a) The roots below are made-up Turkish words. Fill in the table in Turkish spelling. Some cells are given.

root	{-lAr} PL	{-DA} LOC	{-CI} ‘person who…’	{-sIz} ‘without’
turuş	turuşlar			
gölüz		gölüzde		
melet			meletçi	
zıra				zırasız

(b) How many surface forms can each suffix have? Which property of the stem decides each one?

(c) Study the bare and dative forms: kulak / kulağa ‘ear’ ekmek / ekmeğe ‘bread’ kök / köke ‘root’ burun / burna ‘nose’ davul / davula ‘drum’. Why does /k/ disappear in *kulağa* and *ekmeğe* but not in *köke*? Give the URs of *burun* and *davul* and explain why only one of them loses a vowel.

5 Underlying forms and rule order

tıp	tıbba	‘medicine’	dolap	dolaba	‘cupboard’
his	hisse	‘feeling’	top	topa	‘ball’
esas	esasa	‘basis’			

(a) Give the underlying representation of each root. What in the dative form tells you this?

(b) Complete the derivations of the bare forms (“–” = rule does not apply). *his* is done for you.

	UR	degemination	vowel shortening	final devoicing	surface
his	/hiss/	his	–	–	[his]
tıp					
esas					
dolap					

(c) Apply final devoicing *before* degemination to /tɯbb/. What goes wrong? What order do we need?

6 Initial clusters in loanwords

Turkish does not allow word-initial consonant clusters, so a high vowel is inserted. For each word, write the inserted vowel and say which condition decides it.

plan

trafik

gram

bravo

slogan

klima

7 Stress

Imagine a made-up noun *kimar* ‘a kind of fruit’ and a made-up verb *kimar-* ‘to peel’.

(a) Transcribe narrowly with syllable boundaries and stress: *kimar* *kimarlar* *kimarlarda* *Kimarma!* ‘Don’t peel!’

(b) Why does the stress move in the first three forms but not in the last one?