

Preface to Volume 2

This two-volume set includes more than 100 original problems (and their solutions) in (traditional) linguistics and computational linguistics. Many of the problems were used in the first five installments of NACLO¹ (North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad). NACLO, inaugurated in 2007, is an annual competition for high school students interested in human languages as well as the ways in which humans and computers deal with them using logic. NACLO is modeled after the IOL² (International Linguistics Olympiad) but, unlike IOL, includes a large percentage of problems in formal and computational linguistics. NACLO is a part of ELCLO (the consortium of English-language computational linguistics olympiads, which includes Australia, Ireland, and Great Britain in addition to NACLO's members, USA and Canada).

This collection has been edited and augmented in order to make it appealing to a variety of audiences, from middle and high school students interested in languages, to teachers of languages, linguistics, and computer science, and to anyone fascinated by the phenomena of human language. All problems include detailed solutions that indicate how one can reach the answer even without any knowledge about the specific language or phenomenon on which the problems are based. The authors of the problems are linguistics and computer science professors and students and include several past contestants in the IOL, NACLO, and similar competitions.

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¹ <http://www.naclo.cs.cmu.edu>

² <http://www.ioling.org>

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