Assignment 1 – Classification

Due **Feb 25 by 11:59pm**

Part I – Wordpress

1. Create a set of pages with the titles, and make sure that they all appear in your Menu
    a. Home
    b. Classification
    c. History
    d. Phonetics
    e. Morphology
    f. SynSem
    g. Social

2. On the page 'Home'
    a. Include this text:
        i. Welcome to my website on _____. This site is developed for a class project in African Languages at Lehman College; it will be completed on May 28th, 2013. Until then, it is still in the process of being developed.
            1. I encourage you to hyperlink to the course website and/or Lehman College, though this is not required.
    b. You may include this text afterwards, but do not have to
        i. If you have comments, suggestions, or feedback, please contact me at *xxxx.yyyy at lh at cuny dot edu* or my instructor, Michelle Johnson at *michelle dot johnson2 at lehman dot cuny dot edu*
    c. Skip at least 1 line, and write a brief overview of the language
        i. Where is it spoken?
        ii. What country are you focusing on?
        iii. How many speakers?
        iv. Any other interesting, general information.

3. On the page 'Classification'
    a. Explain, in your own words, the difference between Genetic Language Classification, Typology, and Areal or Geographic features and how it relates to your language or linguistics in general
        i. Keep this short and simple!!! - remember that you are writing for the public – not academics.
        ii. You may hyperlink to relevant sources if you wish
    b. Determine the phyla and family and subfamilies of your language. This information is easily found on Ethnologue. Be sure to trace your language all of the way back to one of the 4 major phyla.
        i. You may cite your sources via hyperlinks or a short list at the bottom of the page.
    c. Determine the typological characteristics that are unique to your language. Start by reading about your language on the internet. What does SIL say

about your language? Wikipedia? Are there any grammars? Does FSI have a book?

    i. Be sure to find all the information you can – this will provide the foundation of texts you can draw on to build the rest of the site.

  d. Determine the areal or geographical features that have been used to classify your language.

    i. How widespread are these?

    ii. How have these been used in the past?

4. Proofread your page at least twice – this is public writing, and should be able to be read by most people.

  a. Some considerations about accessibility

    i. Webpages should be built with accessibility in mind – keeping some basic design principles in mind will allow a wider audience for your page.

      1. Accessibility does not mean modification – when it is possible to build something accessible to begin with, do so – modifications don't help anyone.

    ii. Use a simple, clear, sans serif font, at least 12 point font – your page needs to be legible even for people with visual impairments.

    iii. If you are including images, be sure to include a description of the image, your description should be understandable to someone who is blind.

    iv. Do not change the size of the page – not all reader software will be able to adjust.

    v. Do NOT make a page with a black background and white font

    vi. Make sure your hyperlinks contrast in more than just color – not everyone can see color distinctions, though most people can see intensity distinctions.

5. Email me the link to your Classifications page.