

Speedlang Challenge #26

Odenevo

Start: Wednesday, October 1st, 2025

Due: Wednesday, October 15th, 2025

Hi, I'm Odenevo and this is the 26th Speedlang Challenge for the r/Conlangs subreddit. As is usually the case, the timeframe for this challenge is given above. Note that as I am in an earlier time zone I am willing to give more leeway to submissions, but must be submitted by the end of the 15th of October (GMT-12). Please send your submission to me on Reddit (/u/odenevo), or make a post on the subreddit. PDF format is preferred, but as long as I can read your submission, that will be acceptable. To have successfully completed this challenge, you must complete at least all the primary constraints and all of the tasks.

Phonological constraints:

- Include tone and/or phonation that is contrastive on the level of the word or lower. This could be tone/phonation that works on a word, foot, syllable, or mora level.
- Have some asymmetries between the set of consonants allowed to occur in the onset and coda, meaning that either more or less consonants are allowed in the onset than in the coda, or having consonants that only occur in either the onset or the coda.
 - Bonus: have restrictions specific for clusters that are different to the constraints for initial onsets and final codas.
- Include at least two different strategies for resolving clusters or hiatus at morpheme boundaries, distinct from how clusters or hiatus are resolved within roots. These strategies must both be synchronically active.

Grammatical constraints:

- Have a closed or near-closed set of words within a broader class (nouns, adjectives, verbs, demonstratives, numerals, etc) that take more and/or unique inflectional morphology.

Morphology here could be stem alternations (gradation/consonant mutation/apophony), or tone changes, not necessarily affixes. How small this set of words is isn't really important, as long as it does not constitute a majority of a given class.

– Bonus: do this with more than one class.

- Have more than one morpheme that are complete homophones with at least one other, but appear in different contexts. An example of this in a natural language are the various English morphemes of the shape -s /-z/. This does not have to be an affix or alternation, and could be two or more grammatical morphemes that are simply homophones with each other.

Sociolinguistic constraints:

- Create at least two dialects, each of which differs from the main language in at least three grammatical or phonological features. These features need not be the same across dialects, but each dialect should have at least three clear distinguishing features from the main language¹. These dialects can be as distinct or similar to the main language, as long as they are still intelligible. Denote throughout your description where the dialects differ from the main language.

– Bonus: create one or more sociolects/registers (as opposed to a geographically distinct dialect).

Tasks:

- Translate 5x 5MOYD (Just Used 5 Minutes of Your Day) or Conlang Syntax Test Cases sentences.
- Document and showcase the language.
- Submit your document on or by the 15th of October, 2025.

¹Note: The dialect/sociolects may contravene the other constraints I have discussed, but they do not need to.