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Notes on preparation of linguistic papers for publication

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NOTES ON PREPARATION OF LINGUISTIC PAPERS FOR PUBLICATION

R. S. Pittman

The word "fluctuation" is an SIL-ism--"alternation" or "variation" are more acceptable to the general linguistic public.

Write "suspect" and "non-suspect" instead of "suspicious" and "non-suspicious".

Words commonly misspelled: occurring, preceding, vocalic, permissible.

Avoid use of contractions--use "do not" instead of "don't", "will not" instead of "won't".

Do not use "etc.". Use . . . instead.

DO NOT USE UNION SKIN, THIN PAPER, SLICK PAPER OR ERASEABLE BOND FOR ORIGINAL TYPESCRIPT. USE NEW BLACK TYPEWRITER RIBBON.

Entire manuscript should be double-spaced, including illustrations and footnotes.

Put footnote numbers at ends of sentences, not before.

Do not use long strings of numbers for numbering paragraphs.

Format for Examples: Make descriptive statement with a regular sentence, give examples following the sentence period, without "e.g." or other introduction.

Do not use footnotes to refer readers forward in an article. It is all right to refer back to material already covered.

Phonemic Papers: Avoid the use of loan words, proper names, and onomatopoeic words for phonemic evidence.

In phonemic papers, the patterns on which decisions are based should be given at or near the beginning of the paper.

Do not use the words "vocoid" and "contoid" as mere synonyms for "vowel" and "consonant". Use the words "vowel" and "consonant" unless you are contrasting phonetic and phonemic material, in which case it is good to use "vocoid" and "contoid" for the phonetic designations.

The possibility of pronouncing a sequence of two phonemes as one phonetic segment does no violence to phonemic theory. A pronunciation [bugsai] would not necessarily destroy the possibility of a "yi" interpretation for Tausug bugsayi. Tagalog siya being pronounced as /sa/ does not destroy the possibility of a /siya/ interpretation.

A rule-of-thumb for transforms: same open classes, different closed classes.

Use style illustrated in Pike, Language; Part I (1954 edition), page 25 for references to other authors in body of text.