LX 513 Phonology **Instructor: Prof. Trigo**

Third Assignment Serbo-Croatian p.74 (GP) Jilani S. Warsi ID# 611-16-8375

A cursory look at the data indicates that the masculine gender in Serbo-Croatian is the root and the corresponding feminine gender, neuter gender, the plural forms contain different suffixes:

1.

Masc.	Fem.	NeuterPlura	1		
bogat	bogata	bogato	bogati		
krizan	krizana	krizano	krizai	ni	
mlad	mlada	mlado	mladi		
pust	pusta	pusto	pusti		
zelen	zelena	zeleno	zeleni		
It seems reasonable to assume that the underlying forms are the following:					
bogat	krizan	mlad	pust	zelen	
As is the case	in many Slavid	c languages, the	e endings are a	s follows:	
masculine [o]					
feminine [a]					
neuter [o]					
plural [i]					
We see that the	nere are certain	variations. Th	e following for	rms show that	
ning also is honnoning:					

something else is happening:

2. Variation 1:

jasan	jasna	jasno	jasni			
ledan	ledna	ledno	ledni			
dobar	dobra	dobro	dobri			
bodar	bodra	bodro	bodri			
In the above examples, it appears that the stem forms are:						
jasn	ledn	dobr	bodr			

It seems as if [a] is being inserted between two consonants where the consonant following [a] is a sonorant. We must now account for the insertion of "a" into the masculine form by positing a rule for epenthesis.

3. Epenthesis:

o-----> a / C _____ C# [+sonorant]

Derivation:

UR
feminine
neuter
plural
[a] insertion

There is one example, however, that causes problem to our epenthesis rule. We stated that [a] is inserted root-finally between two consonants. As we can see, this doesn't happen in the following case:

4. Variation 2:

	mukao	mukla	muklo	mukli	
	Remembering	g the previous of	observations, v	we can co	nclude that the stem form is
'mukl'	, and [a] is inse	rted between th	ne two conson	ants, satis	sfying the epenthesis rule. The
follow	ving data suppo	rt our assumpti	on:		
	beo	bela	belo	beli	
	mio	mila	milo	mili	
	veseo	vesela	veselo	veseli	
	ustao	ustala	ustalo	ustali	
	Apparently, [l] is becoming	[0] in these ca	uses here.	This will be the vocalization
rule:					
5. Vo	calization:				
	[1]	> [o] /	#		
	Following the	e pattern establi	ished so far, w	ve can ass	ume that the masculine forms
are:					
	beo	mio	veseo	ustao	
We need to state now in what order these rules are operating:					
6. Rule Ordering:					
I.	mukl	Stem			
II.	mukal	Epenthesis ([a] is inserted)		
III.	mukao	Vocalization	([1] is becomi	ng [o])	
Application of the various endings gives us:					

mukao mukla muklo mukli

This seems appropriate because if we reverse the rule ordering-vocalization before epenthesis-it would result in ungrammatical forms.

Now that we have discussed segmental alternations, we need to discuss the location of the accent. If we look at the data carefully, it becomes clear that the accent generally falls on the rightmost vowel of the word. The following data strengthens our assumption:

7. Accent Placement:

mlad		mlada
pust		pusta
bel		bela
mil		mila
zelen		zelena
jasn		jasna
dobr		dobra
mukl		mukla
T	1.	

Based on the data, we need to posit a rule for accent placement.

8. Accent Placement Rule:

V ----> V where V is the rightmost vowel of the word.

We need to specify the sequence of rules. It is reasonable to assume that the accent placement rule operates before epenthesis and vocalization. It follows that in

proposing rules, we should explain only the possible grammatical forms. If we reverse the rule ordering, i.e. apply epenthesis before the accent placement rule, we will get ungrammatical forms.

9. Rule Ordering:

mukl	Stem	
mukl	mukla	Accent Placement
mukal	mukla	Epenthesis
mukao	mukla	Vocalization

10. Verbs:

We have already determined the suffixes to be o, a, and respectively. Now we need to pinpoint the past and 1st singular present endings:

1 sg. Pres	Past-Masc.	Past-Fem	Past-Neut		
tepem	tepao	tepla	teplo		
skublem	skubao	skubla	skublo		
tresem	tresao	tresla	treslo		
vezem	vezao	vezla	vezlo		
pecem	pekao	pekla	peklo		
zezem	zegao	zegla	zeglo		
Underlying forms:					
tepao	skubao	tresao	vezao	pekao	zegao
Suffixor					

Suffixes:

The data show that the 1st singular present suffix is -em, and the past morpheme is -l. On the surface, the past-masculine appears to be contradicting our assumption. But our vocalization rule seems to be at work in this particular case. We stated earlier that l becomes o when followed by #. This accounts for the fact that the past morpheme has an -o ending.

Some other verbs such as 'kradem', 'pletem', 'metem', and 'vedem' indicate that our rule ordering is not accurate. That is to say, we need an additional rule to account for the following:

kradem	kralo	krala	kralo
pletem	plelo	plela	plelo
metem	mel	mela	melo
vedem	vel	vela	velo

A close scrutiny of the data reveals that another rule is deleting [t] or [d] before an [1]. We will call this rule coronal deletion rule.

11. Coronal Deletion:

 $[t/d] ----> o / ___ [1]$

To derive the forms listed above, we must order the rule as follows:

- 1. Accent Placement
- 2. Coronal Deletion
- 3. Epenthesis
- 4. Vocalization

The motivation for ordering rules in this way comes from the fact that if we apply the epenthesis rule before coronal deletion, we get ungrammatical forms. For example, if we apply epenthesis rule first, we will get forms such as 'pletal', kratal', metal', etc. because vocalization has not taken place yet under this wrong assumption. Therefore, it must be the case that the coronal consonants [t/d] are deleted first to prevent the derivation of ungrammatical forms. Also, in this particular case, epenthesis cannot take place after coronal deletion because the requirements for epenthesis are not fulfilled; there must be two consonants for epenthesis to occur.

12. Deviation

Data:

	pacem	pekao	pekla	peklo		
	zezem	zegao	zegla	zeglo		
Underlying for	orms:	-	-	-		
	peg					
	zeg					
13. Palataliza	ation:					
We now must account for the $k \sim c$ and $g \sim z$ alternations:						
[+velar]> [+palatal] / e						
This is our palatalization rule which applies in the following way:						
	pecem	pekal	pekla	peklo		
	zezem	zegal	zegla	zeglo		
There is no data which gives us reason to believe that palatalization needs to be						
ordered with	the other rule	e in any nartic	ular wav			

ordered with the other rules in any particular way.