

Hall  
Ling 503  
Spring 2006

### In Class Activity: Recognizing, Describing, Explaining Phonology Problems

#### I. Recognition

Look at the distribution of the sounds [d] and [ð] in the following data from Spanish. Can you find a pattern?

<i>Word</i>	<i>Gloss</i>	<i>Word</i>	<i>Gloss</i>
[drama]	“drama”	[komiða]	“food”
[dolor]	“pain”	[anda]	“scram”
[dime]	“tell me”	[sueldo]	“compensation”
[kaða]	“each”	[durar]	“to last”
[laðo]	“side”	[toldo]	“curtain”
[oðio]	“hatred”	[falda]	“skirt”

Some more data: this time, look at the distribution of [b] and [β], and at the distribution of [g] and [ɣ].

<i>Word</i>	<i>Gloss</i>	<i>Word</i>	<i>Gloss</i>
[bino]	“he came”	[uβa]	“grape”
[diβino]	“divine”	[golpe]	“a hit”
[kaβo]	“end”	[gato]	“cat”
[suβteraneo]	“subterranean”	[ayo]	“I do”
[brotar]	“to sprout”	[iɣaðo]	“liver”
[imbierno]	“winter”	[teɲgo]	“I have”
		[leyal]	“legal”

## **II. Description**

Write out, in prose form, the patterns you saw in I. This should be purely descriptive, like the descriptions you gave in homework 1 of how to recreate particular patterns. Describe what you see on the page – without giving any sort of explanation. Be as general as possible.

## **III. Explanation**

Indicate what you think must be stored in the mental lexicon, and what rules you think apply to the data. Why do you think the patterns in I are the way they are? Are they totally random, or is there some sort of explanation you can give?