Arrernte is an Australian Aboriginal language, spoken mainly in and around Alice Springs, in the center of the country. It is one of the largest Aboriginal languages, spoken by both adults and children and taught in schools such as the Yipirinya School in Alice Springs.¹

When written, Arrernte uses the same alphabet we use for English. Some combinations of letters signal special sounds, in the same way that English 'th' represents a sound that is not a combination of the 't' and 'h' sounds. For example, 'rr' represents the single sound of a rolled r, 'rl' indicates an l with the tongue tip touching higher and further back, and 'th' indicates a t-like sound with the tongue further forward, touching the back of the upper teeth.

Consider the following examples of Arrernte verbs:²

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arrernte</th>
<th>English gloss</th>
<th>Arrernte</th>
<th>English gloss</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>atherreme</td>
<td>'is laughing'</td>
<td>areme</td>
<td>'is looking'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>atherreke</td>
<td>'was laughing'</td>
<td>areke</td>
<td>'was looking'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>atherreperreme</td>
<td>'keeps laughing'</td>
<td>arerlpame</td>
<td>'starts to look'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>atheme</td>
<td>'is grinding'</td>
<td>atakeme</td>
<td>'demolish some-thing'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>atheke</td>
<td>'was grinding'</td>
<td>atakepakeme</td>
<td>'keeps demolishing something'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>athelpatheme</td>
<td>'starts to grind'</td>
<td>aterlpatakeme</td>
<td>'starts to demolish something'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mpwareme</td>
<td>'is making'</td>
<td>untheme</td>
<td>'is going along'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mpwareke</td>
<td>'was making'</td>
<td>unthepuntheme</td>
<td>'keeps going along'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mpwarepareme</td>
<td>'keeps making'</td>
<td>unthepuntheke</td>
<td>'kept going along'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mpwelmpwareme</td>
<td>'starts to make'</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D1. (i) What meaning is expressed by -eme or -eke suffixed (i.e., added) to the stem of each of these words? The stem is the part of the word which is common to all of its inflected forms (e.g., in English, the stem of the words does and doing is do). Tick your answer from the following choices:

A. □ Type of action   B. □ Time of action   C. □ Duration of action   D. □ Start of action

¹ Yipirinya is the Arrernte word for 'caterpillar', the symbol of the of the Arrernte people of Alice Springs.
² Examples from:
www.ling.upenn.edu/Events/PLC/plc25/schedule/rainy.pdf
(D) Double or Quit in Caterpillar Country (2/2)

(ii) Indicate (by completing the answer with a single entry in each blank) which two aspects of a word indicate that an action is:

(a) frequent ('keeps on doing X')
Add _______ to the verb stem followed by duplication of the __________ vowel and consonant(s) of the verb stem.

(b) commencing ('starts to do X')
Add _______ or_______ (the latter after r or t) after the __________ consonant(s) of the verb stem followed by the whole ____________________.

(iii) Which 'commencing' verb in the above list needs an additional 'tweak' in order to produce the correct attested form? (Write the Arrernte verb in the box below.)

(iv) What sort of sound or sequence of sounds must always follow -ep, -elp or -erlp? (Tick the correct answer.)

A. □ consonant  B. □ vowel  C. □ consonant plus vowel
D. □ vowel plus two consonants

D2. Here are three new words in Arrernte:

arlkweme 'is eating'
kwerneme 'is swallowing'
itirreme 'is thinking'

How would you say the following?

(a) was eating
(b) kept swallowing
(c) starts to think

[Blank spaces for input]