(O) Tone’s Puzzle (1/2) [10 Points]

Below are some phrases in Abawiri, a Lakes Plain language spoken by several hundred people in New Guinea. Their English translations are given on the right in scrambled order.

1. [bórú gⁿákù] a. bird’s earth
2. [sòkrē dúkē] b. chicken’s rat
3. [dēbi āitē] c. child’s car
4. [āitē dēbi] d. child’s father
5. [ājā sōkrē] e. earth’s fish
6. [dúkē sòri] f. father’s child
7. [dēbi wùtù] g. fish’s ear
8. [sòri βórù] h. rat’s bird

O1. Match the English translations to the Abawiri phrases.

1.  
2.  
3.  
4.  
5.  
6.  
7.  
8.  

O2. Translate into English:

a. [ājā βórù]  

b. [dúkē āitē]  

c. [wùtù dúkê]  

O3. Translate into Abawiri:

a. car’s earth  

b. bird’s car  

c. father’s rat  

d. child’s fish  

e. earth’s chicken  

f. father’s ear  

O4. Explain what you have observed about Abawiri. You can use the space on the next page.

Notes: A mark above a vowel indicates its tone—i.e., the pitch it is pronounced with. Specifically, ´ (e.g., ā) indicates low tone, ´ (e.g., ā) indicates mid tone, and ´ (e.g., ā) indicates high tone. The two letters ai function as a single vowel with a single tone; its tone is only marked on the a but applies to both the a and i. ñ is pronounced like b but with the lips only lightly touching. gⁿ is a single consonant pronounced like gw. e and o are vowels.
(O) Tone’s Puzzle (2/2)

04. Explain what you have observed about Abawiri.