



**TECHNOLOGY  
FOR  
LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION**





# CAREERS IN LINGUISTICS

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There aren't many jobs in *theoretical linguistics*, but an **undergraduate linguistics degree** is valuable for many different kinds of jobs.

**Careers in law**

**Computational linguistics**

**Speech and language disorders**

**Teaching English as a Second Language (TESOL)**

**Advertising and branding**

**Educational testing**

**Technical writing and editing**

# CAREERS IN LINGUISTICS

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There is a whole series of interviews with linguists who do different jobs on the Superlinguo blog, including:

a museum curator

an interpreter

a speech pathologist

an accent coach

and lots more!

# THOUGHTS ON THE LINGUISTS

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# INTRODUCING THE ANNOTATION PROJECT

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# THE NEXT 4 WEEKS OF CLASS WILL BE AN ANNOTATION PROJECT

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In the following weeks, we will work together as a class to annotate tweets from the Voces del Valle project.

This will be useful and will also give you first-hand experience with digital humanities / language documentation work.

## Overview:

- Today: introduction to Valley Zapotec  
introduction to markup languages
- Next week: introduction to linguistic analysis
- Third week: work on annotation

# WESTERN TLACOLULA VALLEY ZAPOTEC

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- Cluster of around 6 languages
- Varying numbers of speakers in each language:
  - almost none for **Tlacolula de Matamoros Zapotec**
  - some for **San Jerónimo Tlacoachahuaya Zapotec**
  - lots for **San Lucas Quiaviní Zapotec** and **Teotitlán del Valle**
- Part of the broader Zapotec language family (~60 languages), which is part of the Otomanguean language family
- Spoken in the western part of the Tlacolula Valley in Oaxaca
- Many speakers in the US, too (especially in LA)!



# ZAPOTECAN LANGUAGES



# PROPERTIES OF THE LANGUAGE

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- Lots of tones
- Lots of vowel quality / phonation contrasts
- Verb - Subject - Object word ordering, but also lots of front-focusing, so OVS and SVO are also fairly common
- Tense and aspect: marked by prefixes on verbs; aspect is more common than tense
- A fair number of borrowings from Spanish that happened so long ago that they are not noticeable to native speakers
- Rich clitic system: pronouns often appear in clitic form on the end of verbs; many adverbials are also clitics
- Interesting possession system

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# PROPERTIES OF THE LANGUAGE

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VERB

SUBJ

OBJ

Rtyug

Lia

Petr

gyia

r-tyug

Lia

Petr

gyia

HAB-cut

HON

Petra

flower

‘Petra cuts flowers (habitually).’

# PROPERTIES OF THE LANGUAGE

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OBJ	VERB	SUBJ	
gyia	rtyug	Lia	Petr
gyia	r-tyug	Lia	Petr
flower	HAB-cut	HON	Petra

‘Petra cuts **flowers.**’



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# PROPERTIES OF THE LANGUAGE

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VERB=SUBJ

OBJ

bdauw=ëng

ru'all guet xtily

bd-auw=ëng

ru'all guet xtily

PERF-eat=3s half bread Castilian

'She ate half the bread.'