

Persian – solution

Task 1:

banī- _____ peykar-and
ke _____ gowhar-and
čo _____ rūzgār
degar _____ qarār
be _____ āfarīd
soxan _____ āfarīd

'Ādam a'zā-ye yek
dar 'āfarīn-eš ze yek/yeš 'āfarīn-eš ze dar
'ozv-ī be dard āvarad
'ozv-hā-rā na-mānad
nām-ē Xodā-yī ke jān
goftan andar zabān

Task 2: C.

Task 3:

pīrāhan-e barg bar deraxtān
čun jāme-ye 'īd-e nīk-baxtān
daryāb dam-ī ke mītavānī

Task 4: key, bāz

Task 5: nāme, bāz

A short explanation:

It is crucial to correctly separate the text into syllables. Every syllable begins with one consonant* followed by one vowel, after which there may be up to two more consonants. Within one verse, syllables may spread over more than one word. For example, *soxan goftan andar zabān āfarīd* is split into syllables as *so/xan/gof/ta/nan/dar/za/bā/nā/fa/rīd*. There are three possible syllable lengths. (In the following, C denotes a consonant, V a short vowel, VV a long vowel):

- Short (u): CV
- Long (-): CVV, CVC
- Overlong: CVVC**, CVCC, CVVCC***

The metre is determined by a scheme of alternative short and long syllables. Overlong syllables behave as a long syllable followed by a short one (- u), apart from a verse's end, where they behave as a long syllable. The metres used in the problem are, in order:

u -- u -- u -- u --
u --- u --- u --
-- u u - u - u --

*Persian allows for syllables that begin with a vowel; those do not appear in the problem

**Syllables ending in ān, īn, ūn are usually counted as long; this does not affect the solution

***These do not appear in the problem

The main source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Persian_metres