

Linguistics Challenge

Tajik

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There are
3,344,720
speakers
of Tajik
in
Tajikistan
(one of
the
Central
Asian



republics of the former Soviet Union) and another million speakers in surrounding countries. Tajik is an Indo-European language related most closely to Farsi (or Persian), the major language of Iran. Most literature in Tajik uses a version of the Cyrillic writing system. This is the system used in Russian, Ukrainian, Bulgarian and some other languages of Eastern Europe and Central Asia. You don't need to know how to read Cyrillic writing to solve this puzzle -- just use your common sense! One thing you will quickly realize is that words in Tajik are not arranged in the same order as they are in English.

Below are three phrases from the Tajik language with their English translations.

дуусти хуби ҳамсоай сумо	a good friend of your neighbor
ҳамсоай дуусти хуби сумо	a neighbor of your good friend
ҳамсоай хуби дуусти сумо	a good neighbor of your friend

Your task is to give the English translations of all four Tajik words. The possibilities are simply "good," "friend," "neighbor," and "your." The order of the words does the rest of the communicative work!:

дуусти		Type your translations in the boxes to the left.
хуби		Your score.

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ҳамсоай		
сумо		<input type="button" value="Reset"/>

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