

LINGUISTICS 321
Phonology

EXERCISE #2

ICELANDIC:

Consider the data appearing below from Icelandic. There are two possible ways to account for the variation in the Nominative Singular forms.

- What are the two possible underlying representations of the Nominative Singular?
- Which solution is more plausible? Why?
- Give the derivation of *byls*, *bylur*, *hattur* and *höttum*.
- Is rule ordering relevant in these derivations? Explain.

nom.sg.	dagur	hestur	bær	lyfur	bylur	söngur	hattur	dalur
acc.sg.	dag	hest	bæ	lyf	byl	söng	hatt	dal
gen.sg				lyfs	byls	söngs		
dat.pl.				lyfjum	byljum	söngvum	höttum	dölum
genpl.				lyfja	bylja	söngva		
	<i>day</i>	<i>horse</i>	<i>farm- house</i>	<i>medicine</i>	<i>storm</i>	<i>song</i>	<i>hat</i>	<i>valley</i>
1sg	kalla							
1pl	köllum							
	<i>call</i>							

PHONETIC NOTES:

- /j/ and /v/ represent the glides [j] and [w] respectively.
- /y/ represents the high front rounded vowel [y]
- /ö/ represents the mid front rounded vowel [ø].

