# TASK 2

The final output of Task 2 is a descriptive chapter. The **deadline** for the submission of the first draft is **May 31, 2022**. The word count of the chapter is **4000 – 5000** words. The chapter should consist of the following subchapters – please, do not change the subchapter titles in your final text.

**INTRODUCTION**

A brief introduction, containing the following information:

* language family and genus
* language area; Sprachbund (if applicable)
* morphological type of the language;
* status of the language (national, endangered ….)

**POSITION OF ONOMATOPOEIAS IN THE LANGUAGE SYSTEM**

This description should be mainly based on the following questions. You can also use the information you provided in Data sheet 1:

* What label is used in your language (grammar) for the words that imitate sounds of the environment? Please provide the name of these words in your own language and give its English translation. If there is no official translation in English, please, give us a literal translation.
* As mentioned in Task 1 description above, a few of our language experts indicated that the differentiation between primary and secondary onomatopoeias is not applicable to their language. If it is your case, describe it here.
* Are onomatopoeias in your language treated as an independent word-class (part of speech)?
* What is the state-of-the-art in the onomatopoeia description in your language? Are they covered by descriptive grammars? How well are they described? At what level of the language system?
* Are onomatopoeias identified as such in corpora and dictionaries of your language?
* Are onomatopoeias an open class, i.e. is the process of coining new words by imitation of sounds productive in your language?
* Are there any other sound symbolic phenomena in your language? (ideophones, phonosthemes phonetic iconicity etc.)
* Does your language employ borrowed onomatopoeias?

**DESCRIPTION OF ONOMATOPOEIAS**

In the following subchapters you should use the list of onomatopoeias you prepared within Task 1 (based on your Data sheet 2). The list of onomatopoeias serves as a comparative basis for all languages. Of course, feel free to complete the description also by other examples from your language.

The aim of the following subchapters is to contrast the general situation in your language with onomatopoeias. Logically, each point should start with a brief description of the general situation. This is followed by a description of onomatopoeias. By implication, the list of onomatopoeias prepared in Task 1 will be analyzed from various perspectives.

You might find some of the discussion points below irrelevant. Please, do not ignore these points, just briefly comment on them. We need this information for the sake of comparison of your language with other languages.

**PHONOLOGY**

1. **Vowel and consonant inventory**

How many consonants/vowels are there in language?

What are their frequencies? (If this kind of information is provided for your language.)

Do onomatopoeia exploit any unusual consonants/vowels that do not occur in the phonological system of your language? Are there any sounds used in onomatopoeias that feature substantially higher frequency than in the main wordstock (sounds that are typical of individual sound types)?

Do some of the onomatopoeic words employ sounds that do not occur in the system of your language?

Do some of the onomatopoeic words employ combinations of sounds that do not exist in your language, i.e., do they violate the phonotactic principles of your language?

1. **Syllabic structure**

What are the most typical syllabic structures in your language? Is your language a mora-based language?

Does the syllabic structure of onomatopoeias differ from the syllabic structure of other words in the language?

What are the most common syllables in onomatopoeias?

Are there any onomatopoeic syllables containing exclusively vowels, or exclusively consonants?

1. **Stress**

Is stress fixed in your language?

Can you observe any specific behavior of stress in onomatopoeias? For example, if stress is fixed in your language, can you also observe this feature in onomatopoeia? In general, does the stress pattern differ from that prevailing in the main word-stock? Do all onomatopoeias have the same stress pattern?

1. **Tone**

Is your language tonal?

If your language is tonal, can you observe any association between the existence of this feature and onomatopoeias?

**MORPHOLOGY and SYNTAX**

1. **Word-formation**

What are most productive word-formation processes in your language?

Can onomatopoeias be reduplicated in your language? Is it a partial or a full (or both) reduplication/repetition of syllables?

Onomatopoeias in their basic essence are underived, monomorphemic words that are not coined by means of word-formation. Does it apply to your language? Or, is there an element that is present in each onomatopoeia and ‘signals’ the onomatopoeic nature of the word?

Do onomatopoeias derive new words, i.e., can they serve as word-formation bases? If yes, what words (word-classes) do they derive?

1. **Word-classes**

What word-classes are there in your language?

Are onomatopoeias treated as a separate word-class? If not, do they range over several word-classes? Do they take inflectional markers?

**3**. **Syntax**

How do onomatopoeias behave in a sentence? Can you observe any idiosyncrasies in their syntactic behavior, for example, a fixed position in a sentence; introduction of an onomatopoeia by a special sort of words, etc.?

**SEMANTICS**

1. **General**

Describe the semantics of onomatopoeias based on Data sheet 2. Which sound types are richly represented? Which sound types have no representation? Can you give reasons why? Are these gaps in the sound type system filled by other words – are the missing sound type meanings expressed somehow in your language?

**2. Semantic relations**

Is synonymy, antonymy and polysemy of lexemes (words) common in your language?

What semantic relations can you observe in your onomatopoeia sample?

If onomatopoeias derive new words, what semantic shifts accompany the process of derivation?

Can you observe any semantic changes in onomatopoeia derivation? For example, a typical case of the English onomatopoeic derivatives is the loss of the sound element (e.g. *boomO* vs. *boomn* – ‘a period of great prosperity or rapid economic growth’). In the noun derived by means of conversion, there is no sound of explosion. The sound in this onomatopoeia becomes an action. The quality of this sound, its intensity is mapped onto the manner of action - rapidity and size.

**CONCLUSION**

Briefly summarize your findings and try to answer, among others, the following questions:

* Do onomatopoeias differ from the general wordstock at any of the described levels? In other words, are onomatopoeias in your language extra-systemic? If yes, summarize the idiosyncrasies.
* If applicable, is there an explanation for the absence of sound imitations in your language?
* If applicable, is the absence of onomatopoeias occupied by different linguistic means?