The North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad at UC Irvine

What?
- A competition for high school students interested in linguistics, languages, and computer science
- Paper and pencil contest
- No prerequisites needed, only logic and analytical skills! (see samples online)
- Easier problems in the Open Round
- Harder problems in the Invitational Round – national selection of the US team for the international olympiad

When?
- Open Round – January 26, 2017
- Invitational Round – March 9, 2017

Where?
- On the UC Irvine campus, along with 200 other sites in US and Canada
- Details at the site below: http://sites.uci.edu/naclo

What is Linguistics?
- The study of human language
- Phonetics: how spoken sounds are produced and heard
- Syntax: how sentences are structured
- Semantics: meaning of words and sentences
- Sociolinguistics: how language use varies

Did you know?
- More than 7,000 languages are spoken in the world
- Human language is central to human communication and social interaction
- Human languages exhibit interesting patterns and structure
- You can practice scientific reasoning (forming hypotheses and using data to support them)

What is Computational Linguistics?
- Computational Linguistics is about teaching computers to understand human language (basis of Artificial Intelligence)
- It is fundamental to search engines such as Google, Yahoo!, and Bing
- Apple’s Siri, Amazon Echo, and IBM’s Watson are also built using computational linguistics technology
- Automatic translation programs such as Google Translate use it as well

International Linguistics Olympiad
- http://www.ioling.org
- More than 30 countries participate
- US teams have won most gold medals
- ILO 2017 will be held in Dublin, Ireland

http://sites.uci.edu/naclo