

Cuneiform Texts from the Piepkorn Collection, III

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The thirteen Ur III tablets published here constitute the third¹ and final installment of my intended publication of the texts from the collection of the late Prof. A. C. Piepkorn. The most interesting tablets are the text dealing with loom parts (no. 6) and the letter-order (no. 12).

The tablets were copied for publication with the permission of Prof. Piepkorn. After his death, his widow renewed the permission; and now that the texts are in the Oriental Institute, Prof. J. A. Brinkman has graciously concurred.

Peter Steinkeller and Robert Whiting of the Oriental Institute kindly provided collations of the tablets, and they made a number of helpful observations. Their collations or remarks are indicated by their initials. Piotr Michalowski (U. C. L. A.) and Prof. W. W. Hallo read the manuscript and made valuable suggestions. To them all, I express my thanks.

CATALOGUE

Text	Piepkorn ²	Thesis ³	Provenience	Reign ⁴	Month/Day	Contents
1	F 13	146	Puzriš-Dagan	S 42 B* (44)	5/-	Arrears in wool, ghee, cheese, and sinews carried over from a previous

¹The Neo-Assyrian Royal Inscriptions and the economic texts from the Pre-Sargonic, Old Akkadian, and Hammurabi eras are given full treatment in my unpublished dissertation (*The Cuneiform Tablets in St. Louis*; University Microfilms 75-27, 408). The Early Isin texts are to be published in *JAOS* within the year. A few largely illegible texts—one Middle Babylonian from Nuzi, two late Babylonian texts, and one badly worn Ur III (?) text—remain unpublished.

²The tablet number in Piepkorn's inventory system.

³The catalogue number of the tablet in my dissertation.

⁴The following symbols are used: S for Shulgi, AS for Amar-Sin, SS for Shu-Sin, and IS for Ibbi-Sin. The date formulae follow the listing of Schneider, *An.Or.* 13, with the Shulgi date adjusted according to present reckoning.

						account kept in storage (i n - d a - g á l) by Izin-Erra.
2	B 32	132	"	AS 5 Ba	3/-	Cattle disbursed (?)
3	F 1	111	"	AS 5 B*	2/17	Cattle delivered (m u - TÚM) by various high officials and received (ì - d a b 5) by Abba-saga.
4	F 15	114	"	AS 6 Bu	4/30	Sheep from Abba-saga received (ì - d a b 5) by Turam-Dagan.
5	F 3	143	"	AS 7 Bc	8/12	1 gazelle received (d a b 5 - b a) for the fattening shed from the <i>áb-ru-um</i> . From Abba-saga's account.
6	B 21	144	"	AS 7 B* - AS 8 Ba	-/-	Loom parts received from Ribagada and Iddin-abum.
7	B 2	127	"	SS 3 B*	6/-	Wheat from Udatum received (š u - b a - t i) by Lugal-a-zida for the <i>bala</i> -obligation.
8	B 35	104	Umma	AS 8 Bm	1/-	Jugs given out (b a - b a - a) for working materials (á - g i š - g a r - r a).
9	F 7	166	Nippur	IS 2 Bg	1-3/-	Loan of silver.
10	F 4	130	(?)	no date		Silver received (š u - b a - t i) by Ili-ishranni from Ur-nigin-gar as loan.
11	F 9	147	(?)	no date		Silver disbursed to various men.

12	B 29	171	(?)	no date	Letter order to Ur-Enlila.
13	not listed		(?)	no date	School tablet.

1

1	lá-ni l gú 16 ma-/na síg-gi	In arrears: 1 talent 16 pounds wool,
2	2 5/6 síla ì-nun-zalag	2 5/6 quarts pure ghee,
3	34 2/3 síla ga-àra	34 2/3 quarts cheese,
4	7 ma-na síg ùz	7 pounds goat wool,
5	9 5/6 ma-na sa	9 5/6 pounds sinews—
6	lá-ni-àm	they are in arrears.

rev

7	si-ì-tum níg-ka ₉ -ak	Carried over from a previous account:
8	I-zi-in-Èr-ra / na-gada	Izin-Erra the shepherd
9	in-da-gál	keeps in storage.

10	iti ezen ^d Nin-a-zu	5th month
11	mu Si-mu-ru-um ^{ki} Lu-lu-bu-um ^{ki} a-rá 9-kam ba-hul	of the year Shulgi 44 (42B*).

11 Date: not listed in Schneider, *An.Or.* 13. The closest formula there is Shulgi 42 B1, which has a - r á 9 - k a m - a š.

2

1	2 gu ₄ Dan- ^d Šul-gi	2 oxen for Dan-Shulgi
2	3 gu ₄ Ur- ^d Šul-pa-è	3 oxen for Ur-Shulpa'e,
3	1 gu ₄ Ì-sa ₆ -ga NIM	1 ox for Isaga the foreigner,
4	1 áb Šu-Ku-bu-um	1 cow for Shu-Kubum:
5	^d Nanše-kam ba-na-zi	it was charged to Nanshe-kam.
6	dub lú-bi-ne	When the tablet(s) of these men
7	tùmu-dam	are brought,

rev

8	dub ^d Nanše-kam	the tablet of Nanshe-kam
9	zi-ri-dam	is to be cancelled.

10	iti u ₅ -bí-kú ¹	3rd month
11	mu en unu ₆ -gal ^d Inanna ba-hun	of the year Amar-Sin 5 (Ba).

3 "Foreigner." This rather tepid translation of NIM (usually "Elamite" or "highlander") derives from the analysis of R. McNeil, *The "Messenger Texts" of the Third Ur*

Dynasty (unpublished dissertation, University Microfilms 71-19, 254), 64-73. Although his remarks focus on the NIM in the Girsu "messenger texts," there seems to be little reason to suppose that the same designation would be used with two different meanings in the same era in neighboring cities. "The fact that [the hometowns of the NIM in McNeil's texts] were outside of, or, at best, peripheral to Elam would seem to render the designation 'Elamite' meaningless. Perhaps . . . NIM has . . . taken on the connotation of non-native, non-Babylonian; i.e., barbarian" (p. 70). 8-9 Cf. Oppenheim, *CCTE*, pp. 131-33, note b.

3

1	3 gukkal giš-dù	3 uncastrated fat-tailed sheep,
2	1 gukkal giš-dù babbar	1 white uncastrated fat-tailed sheep,
3	1 ug-gukkal 1 sila ₄	1 fat-tailed ewe, 1 lamb
4	^d Nanna-ma-an-ba dumu lugal	from Nanna-manba the prince.
5	3 udu-niga _x 1 kir _x -niga _x	3 barley-fattened sheep, 1 barley fattened ewe
6	ensí ÚRxÚ ^{ki}	from the governor of ÚRxÚ.
7	[x] udu 1 sila ₄ A-mu-a ù-kul	x sheep, 1 lamb from Amu'a the soldier.
8	[x] sila ₄ Lú- ^d Nin-šubur	x lamb(s) from Lu-Ninshubur.
9	5 [?] máš-gal 1 máš	5 [?] full-grown goats, 1 goat
10	<i>I-ti-É-a</i>	from Iddin-Ea.
11	[x] gu ₄ 4 udu	x oxen, 4 sheep,
rev		
12	1 [?] máš-gal 1 máš	1 full-grown goat, 1 goat
13	<i>[š] a-at-i-lí ama</i> Ka-zu-ha-ra-kal	from Shat-ili the mother of Kazu-harakal.
14	[x s] ila ₄ Ur- ^d šul-gi-ra	x lambs from Ur-Shulgira.
15	[x s] ila ₄ ensí Umma ^{ki}	x lambs from the governor of Umma.
16	u[4] -17-kam	On the 17th day.
17	mu-TÚM	Delivery
18	Ab-ba-sa ₆ -ga ì-dab ₅	(which) Abba-saga has received.
19	iti šeš-da kú	2nd month
20	mu en unu ₆ -gal ^d Inanna en ^d Inanna Unug ^{ki} ba-hun	of the year Amar-Sin 5 (B*).
LeE		
21	40 +[x]	40+ (animals received).

- 4 Nanna-manba: Other mentions of a man with this name do not identify him as a prince: *An.Or.* 7, 38:6; *Or.SP* 47-49, 87:7, 139:4; Oppenheim, *CCTE*, B 10:12, C 2:8, I 1:10, L 2:4, O 1:9; Hallo, *HUCA* 29 (1958), 74, no. 3: rev. 5.
- 13 K a - z u - h a - r a - k a l. P. Steinkeller kindly sent me these references to Kazu-harakal: Salonen, *PDT* 468:2, and A 24644:6 K a z u - h a r a k a l r ' a - g a b a m a š k i m; SS 7).
- 20 Date: not in Schneider's listings for AS 5 B.

4

1	1 udu <i>a-lum</i> niga _x	1 barley-fed <i>alum</i> -sheep,
2	1 ganam ₆ nita 2 ganam ₆ mí	1 woolly ram, 2 woolly ewes
3	u ₄ -30-kam	on the 30th day
4	ki - Ab-ba-sa ₆ /ga-ta	from Abba-saga
rev		
5	<i>Tu-ra-am-d</i> /Da-gan	Turam-Dagan
6	ì-dab ₅	has received.
7	iti ki-síg ^d Nin-a-zu	4th month
8	mu ša-aš-ru/ki ^{ba-hul}	of the year Amar-Sin 6 (Bu).
LeE		
9	4	(Total:) 4 (animals).

2 g a n a m₆ is equated with Akkadian *immertu(m)*; but the frequency with which g a n a m₆ n i t a appears alone (e.g., CCTE B 6; BIN 3, 95, 102, 170) or paired with g a n a m₆ mí (e.g., Legrain, TRU 115:3-4; CCTE 0 4, R 8; Dhorme, RA 9 [1912], 45 [SA 38], 50 [SA 135 and 137]; BIN 3, 80, 86, 87, 206) precludes the mechanical use of a gender-determinant translation.

Besides the breeding of these sheep for their wool, we note their use in lustration rites (e.g., BIN 3, 170) and for dairy products (e.g., BIN 3, 148).

5

1	1 amar-maš-[d] a	1 young gazelle
2	é-uz-g[a]	for the fattening shed
3	áb-ru-um-ta dab ₅ -ba	received from the . . .
4	gìr Hu-ba-nu-du-uk	via Hubanuduk;
5	Ur- ^d Ba-ú maškim	Ur-Ba'u was the requisitioner.
rev		
6	u ₄ -12-kam	On the 12th day
7	ki- Ab-ba-sa ₆ -ga/-ta	withdrawn from
8	ba-zi	Abba-saga's account.
9	iti šu-eš ₅ -ša	In the 8th month
10	mu Hu-uh-nu-ri/ki ^{ba-hul}	of the year Amar-Sin 7 (Bc).
LeE		
11	1	1 (gazelle).

3 *áb-ru-um-ta dab₅-ba*. Still untranslatable; cf. CAD A¹, 64b. The present occurrence would tend to argue against the interpretation of von Soden, *AHw.*, 7.

6

1	6 giš-šerim TUM	6 loom heddles
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2	mu Hu-u ₄ -nu-r[^k i] / ba-h[ul]	during the year Amar-Sin 7 (B*).
3	45 giš-ga-r[íg] / é-ba-an	45 combs of the highest quality
4	ki- Ri-ba-ga-da-t[a]	from Ribagada
5	mu En-nun-e ^d [Amar] - ^d EN.ZU-ra ki-ág en Eridu ^{ki} ba-hun	during the year Amar-Sin 8 (Ba).
6	12 giš-sag-du gal	12 large warpbeams,
rev		
7	18 giš-gi-na gal	18 large cloth beams
8	ki- I-din-a-bu-um-ta	from Iddin-abum
9	mu En-nun-e ^d Am[ar]- ^d EN. ZU-ra ki-ág en Eridu ^k [ⁱ ba-hu]n	during the year Amar-Sin 8 (Ba).
10	gaba-ri dub Lú-[x x x]	Copy of the tablet of Lu—.

1 giš-šerim TUM, Akkadian *šišītu(m)* 'loom heddles'. The TUM poses a bit of a problem. On the one hand, a phonetic complement for giš-šerim to indicate a reading in Akkadian is unlikely. Yet, the alternative—to connect the TUM with *burdatu(m)* B, "(cross)beam (of a house or a chariot pole)"—is not without difficulties: (1) The heddle is by definition a crossbeam, so much so that in Akkadian one speaks of giš.TAGXTÚG-ba-r-si = (*šišītum*) *ša parsikti* (MSL 6, 31:303). (2) In none of our admittedly sparse materials do we have TUM in connection with the loom; cf. H. Waetzoldt, *Untersuchungen zur neusumerischen Textilindustrie* (Rome, 1972), 132–38. Nor do the references we have to giš-šerim elsewhere carry the TUM in tow. (3) What we would expect if the TUM is indeed the harness (heddle) shaft is giš TUM šerim.

Although the translation 'heddle' for *šišītu(m)* can be adequately supported, it may not be mere coincidence that devices for beating back the warp threads are in Arabic *šīša* (also *šīša*; G. Dalman, *Arbeit und Sitte in Palastina* [Gutersloh, 1937], 5:96,97) and *šôšia* (cf. Waetzoldt, Abb. 2), especially in the light of MSL 6, 31:303a giš.TAGXTÚG(“) -ba-r-i-gi.gal = (*šišītum*) *pugultum* and p. 32:308–11:

giš-nir-ra = <i>iš nīri</i>	(loom harness, heddle)
<i>āšītu</i>	(shuttle?)
<i>šišītu</i>	
<i>mušabbittu</i>	(tightener)

3 giš-ga-ríg. The reading of Civil, *JNES* 26 (1967), 210–11, has been used because it can be defended against the objections raised against it.

6–7 giš-sag-du, giš-gi-na. First identified by Jacobsen, *JCS* 7 (1953), 7 with n. 47 (also to be found in *Toward the Image of Tammuz*, 416). Cf. also Waetzoldt, *Textilindustrie*, 132f. Our text, though its listing is dwarfed by HSS 4, 6, is only the second economic text to list the loom parts by name.

7

1	32 (gur) 120 (sila) zíz gur lugal	32 bushels, 120 quarts wheat by royal measure
2	ki- Ú-da-tum-ta	from Udatum
3	Lugal-á-zi-d[a]	Lugal-a-zida—
4	mu-bal-a-šè	in fulfillment of the periodic obligation—
5	šū-ba-ti	has received.
rev		
6	ugula An-né-gar-ra	The overseer was Annegara.
7	iti á-ki-ti	7th month
8	mu-a šī- ^r ma ¹ -nu-um/ ^{ki} ba-hul	of the year Shu-Sin 3.

8 Date: The writing m u - a seems to be unique. Hallo, "A Sumerian Amphictyony," *JCS* 14 (1960), 100, does not list a known holder of the *bala*-obligation for Shu-Sin 3/7.

8

1	6 dug-(<i>RÉC</i> 225) 10 sila	6 10-quart . . . jugs,
2	3 dug zà-zíd-lá 2 sila	3 2-quart jugs with damaged rims,
3	7 dug-nigin ₄ 15 sila	7 15-quart . . . jugs,
4	6 dug-nigin ₄ 10 sila	6 10-quart . . . jugs,
5	8 [du]g-bur-zi	8 libation jugs,
6	1 [du]g-ku ¹ -hab ¹	1 . . . -jug
7	1 dug <i>nam-ba-ru-um</i>	1 large jug:
rev		
8	á giš-gar-ra	for working materials
9	ba-ba-a	given out.
10	iti gur _x (ŠE.KIN)-ku ₅	1st month
11	mu en Eridu ^{ki} / ba-hun	of the year Amar-Sin 8 (Bm).

1 d u g - (*RÉC* 225): Howard Wohl (personal communication) compares *RTC*, n. 214, and Reisner, *TU*, p. 18, *sub* DUK.

3 d u g - n i g i n ₄. So, upon collation (PS/BW), which precludes a reading u ₄ - g u n û ('round').

5 d u g - b u r - z i : Akkadian *pursû(m)* / *pursîtu(m)*.

6 d u g - k u - h a b : Collation shows our reading to be correct (PS/BW, with a note that the h a b might be written over an erasure). This writing, although admittedly a minor orthographical variant, may yet be of interest with regard to *MSL* 7, p. 82, note 111 and p. 112, note to 107.

9

1	[. . . k] ù-babbar	. . . silver
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2	[. . .] x (gap)
rev		
1'	[š] u-b[a] -t[i]	has received.
2'	[iti] bār-zag-gar-t[a]	From the first month
3'	iti sig ₄ -ga	to the 3rd month
4'	gi ₄ gi ₄ -dam	he shall return (it).
5'	mu en ^d Inanna	Year:
6'	Unugki máš-e	Ibbi-Sin 2 (Bg).
7'	ì-pàd	

SEAL:

1	Lú ^d Inanna	Lu-Inanna
2	dub-sar	the scribe
3	dumu Ur- x -šì-a	son of Ur—shì'a

Seal: The name of Lu-Inanna's father defies decipherment. The second sign looks like an orthographic variant for QAR.

10

1	2 gín kù-babbar	2 shekels silver
2	2 [+x] ?? še-gur-bi	the equivalent of 2 bushels of silver
3	[ki] - Ur-nigín-gar-ta	from Ur-nigin-gar
4	ì-lì-ìš-ra-ni	Ili-ishranni
5	š[u] -ba-ti	has received.
rev		
6	igi Ba-l[u] ? -[lu] ?	Witness: Balulu,
7	igi ^d En-líl-lá	witness: Enlila,
8	igi Šu-da-d[a]	witness: Shu-dada.
9	mu lugal pàd	(An oath was) sworn by the king's name.

2 2 [+x] ?? . Probably nothing is missing after the 2, as the normal rate of exchange for Ur III was 1 g u r barley for 1 g ín silver; cf. Curtis and Hallo, "Money and Merchants in Ur III," *HUCA* 30 (1959), 110.

6 B a - l [u] ? - [l u] ? . So upon collation (PS/BW).

11

1	[igi-6] -gál kù-babbar	1/6 shekel silver:
2	<i>Puzúr-É-a</i>	Puzur-Ea;
3	igi-6-gál Me-ù/-ta	1/6 (shekel): Me'uta;
4	igi-3-gál <i>Puzúr/-Es₄-dár</i>	1/3 shekel: Puzur-Ishtar;
5	igi-3-gál <i>Puzúr^d[. . .]</i>	1/3 shekel: Puzur- . . . ;
rev		
6	1 gín <i>Ba-ál-ṭú/-ša-ri</i>	1 shekel: Baltu-sharri;

7	2 gín igi-3-gál	2 1/3 shekel
8	AMAR-má-ma	Bur-Mama
9	2 gín	2 shekels:
10	<i>En-um-ì-lí</i> / sipa	Ennum-ili the shepherd;
11	igi-3-gál <i>Qar-ì-lí</i>	1/3 shekel: Qar-ili.
12	[6 2/3] gín kù-babbar	(Total:) 6 2/3 shekels silver.
6	<i>Ba-al-tù-ša-ri</i> . An unusual spelling for an Ur III tablet; but the tablet is Ur III, not Sargonic (PS/BW).	

12

Since this letter is so difficult to understand, I thought it best to offer the copy only and to append a few notes.

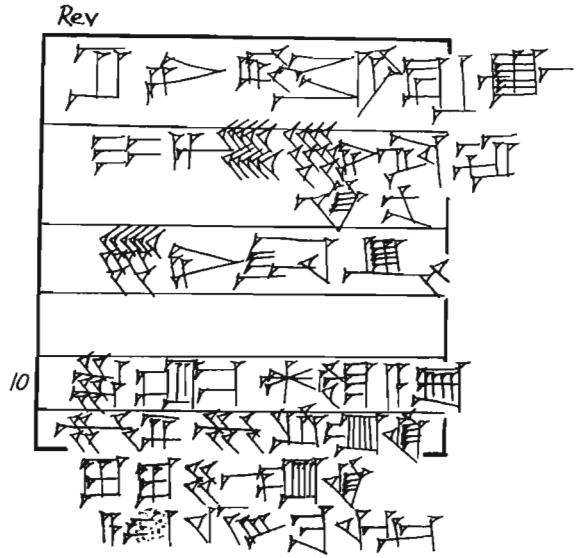
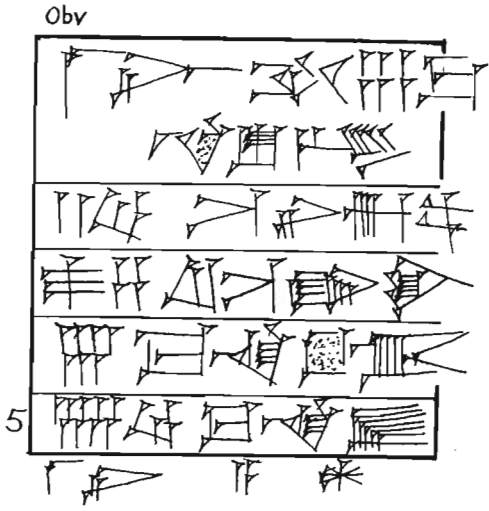
- 9 d i 4 - d i 4 - l a - a . With regard to the - l a -, Howard Wohl (personal communication) points out that "the same sign form is found in Reisner *TU* 82, r23, *CT* 5, 35 vi 11, cf. *RTC* 414 r. 3, *AT* 42, 2.16 [all texts are Shulgi]."
- Perhaps this information will be helpful for dating the letter.
- 12 BU B[U]. Collation (PS/BW) does not show a verticle stroke in either that would support a reading b í / - s ù - s ù with ease.
- 13 h é - i b - [t ù m] . Collation (PS/BW) confirms Prof. Hallo's suggestion for this reading.
- 14 DA HA KI. Hallo notes the geographic name DA.HA.KI near Lagash(?).
- 15, 16 SU²/ZU². It is difficult to tell which of these signs is intended.

13

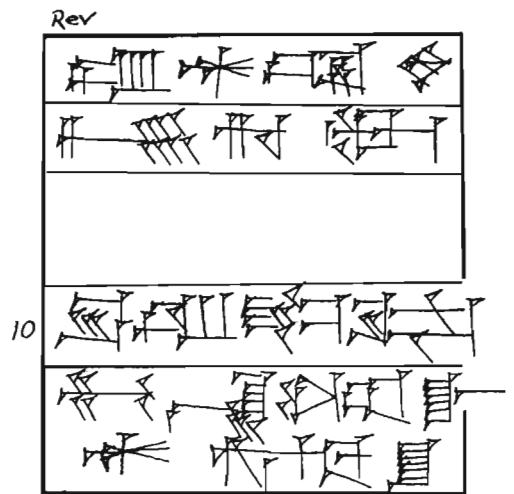
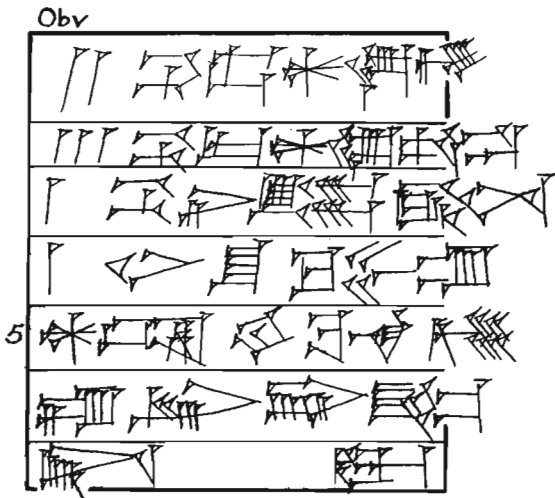
1	23	23
2	Ì-ta-[è]	Ita'e
3	<i>Nu-úr-dEN</i> . [ZU]	Nur-Sin.

The reverse of this little practice tablet is identical to the obverse. One side would be the teacher's work, and the other would be the student's attempt to copy it.

1

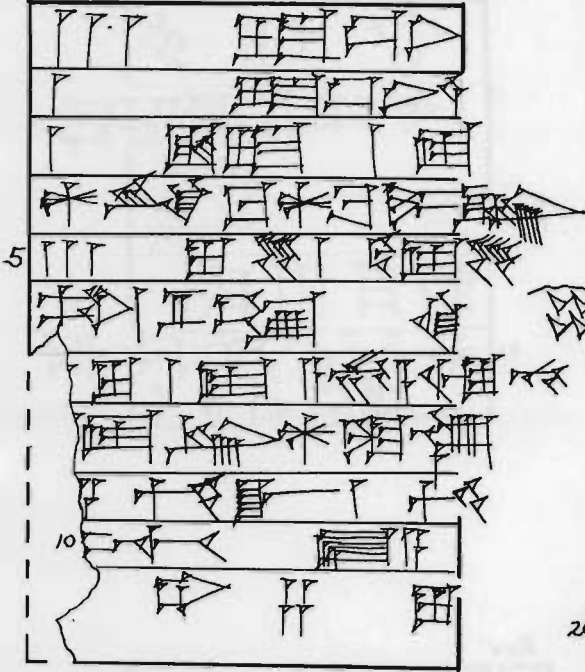


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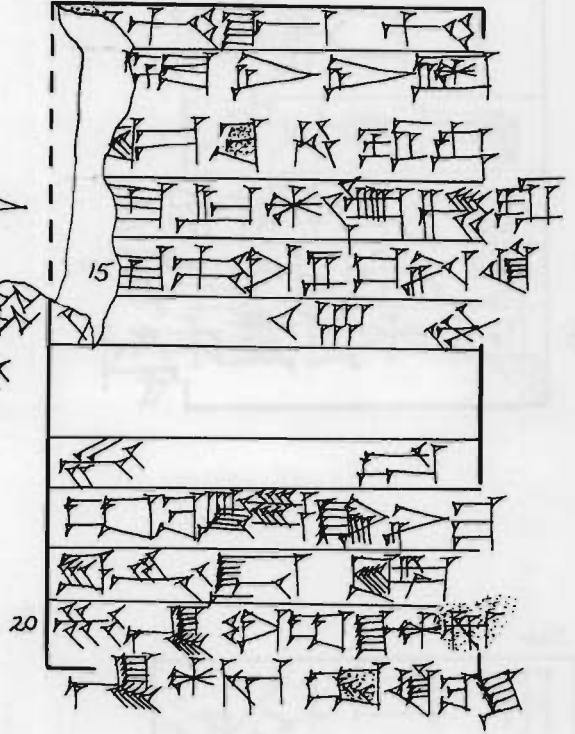


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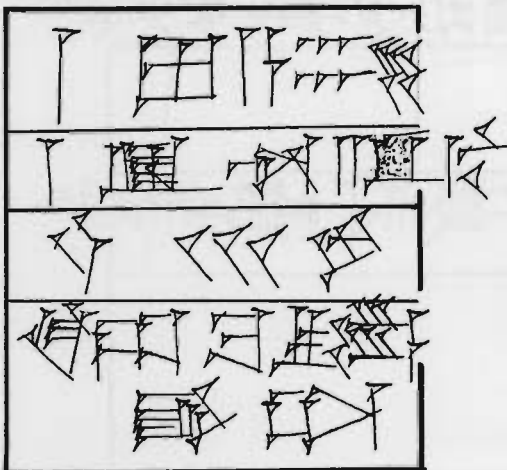


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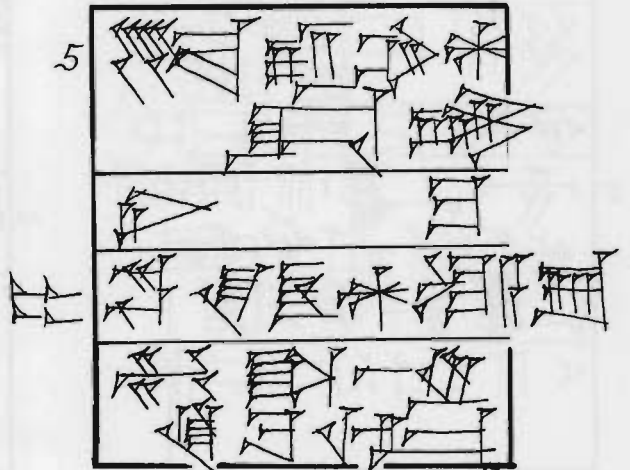


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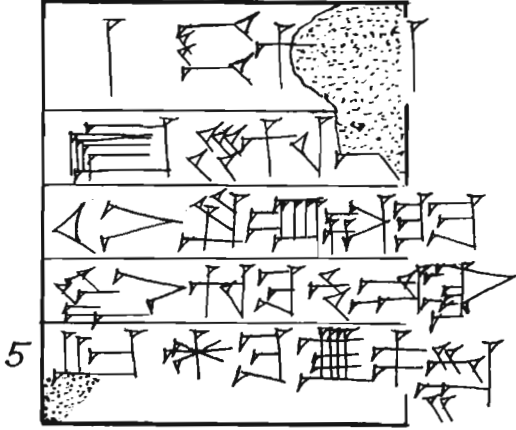


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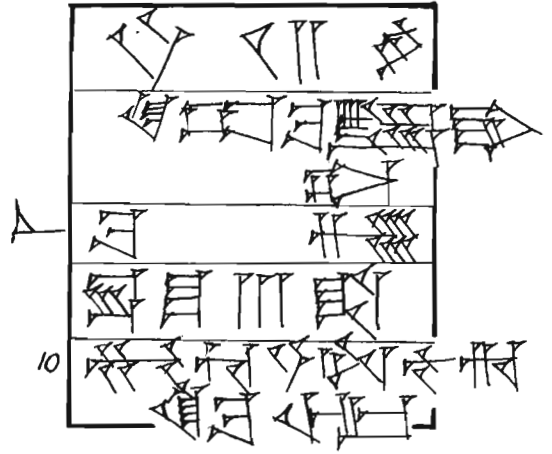


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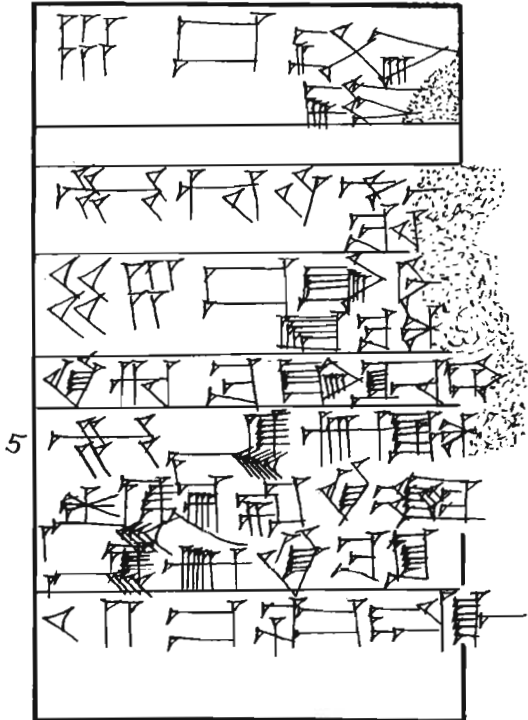
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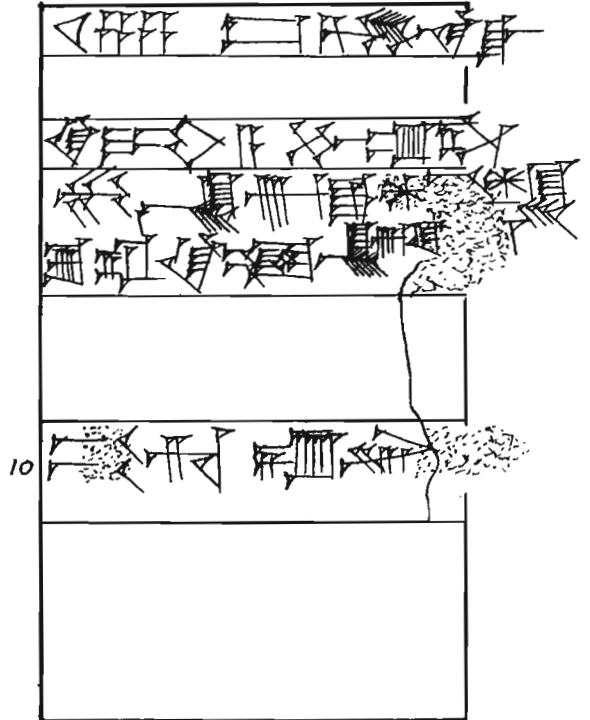


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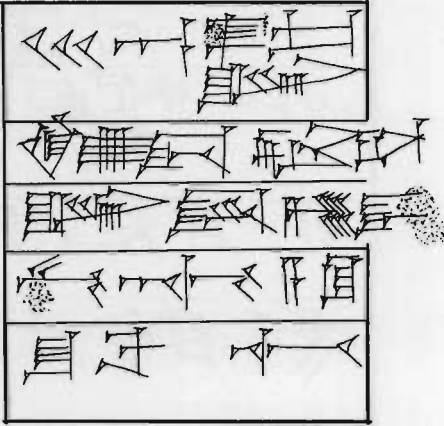


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Rev

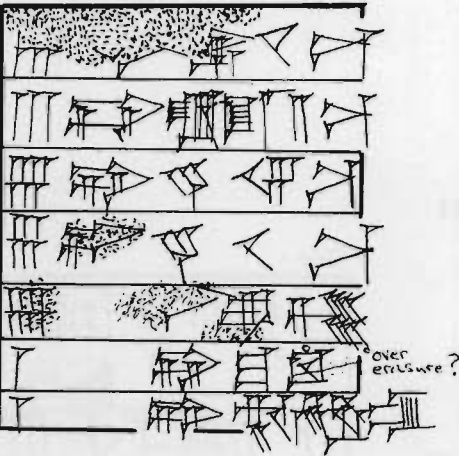
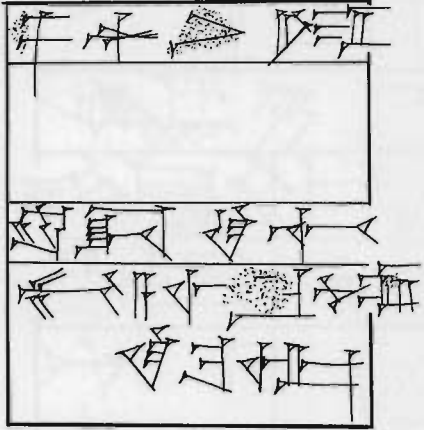


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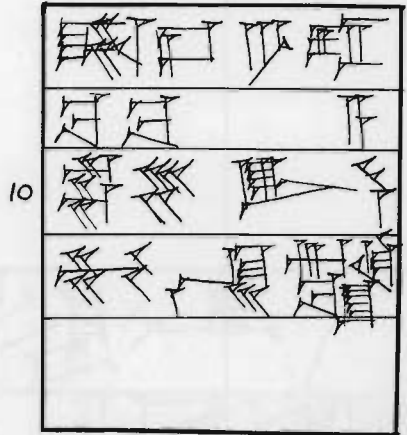


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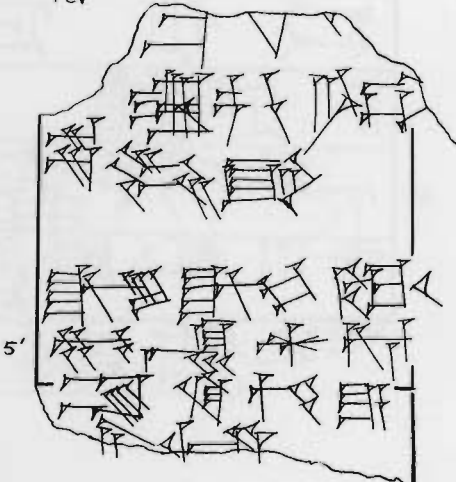
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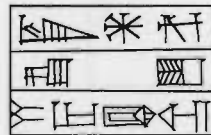
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rev



obv

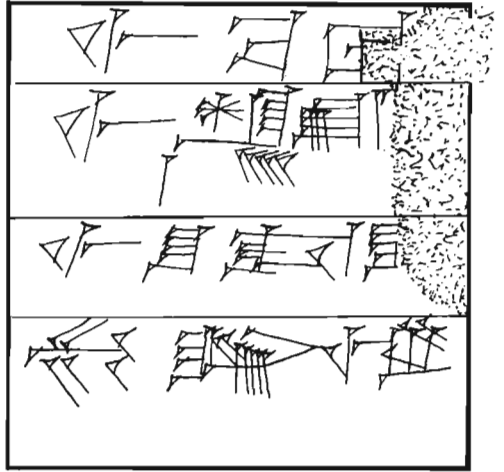
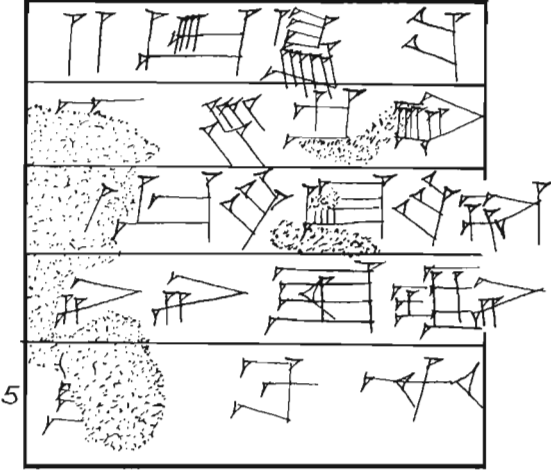


9

Obv

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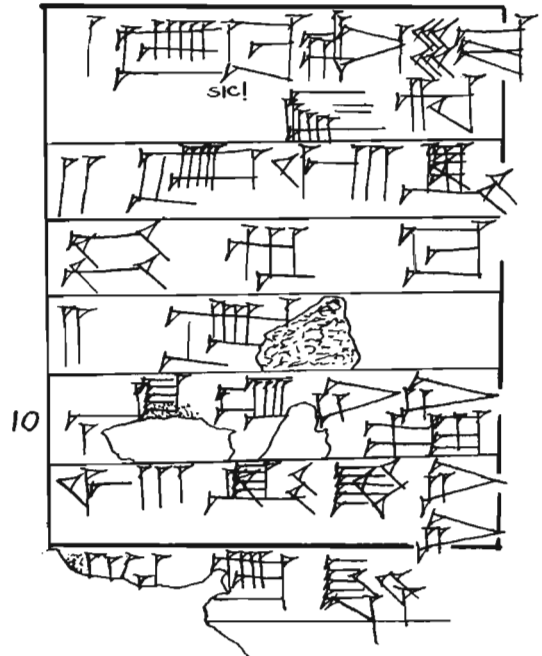
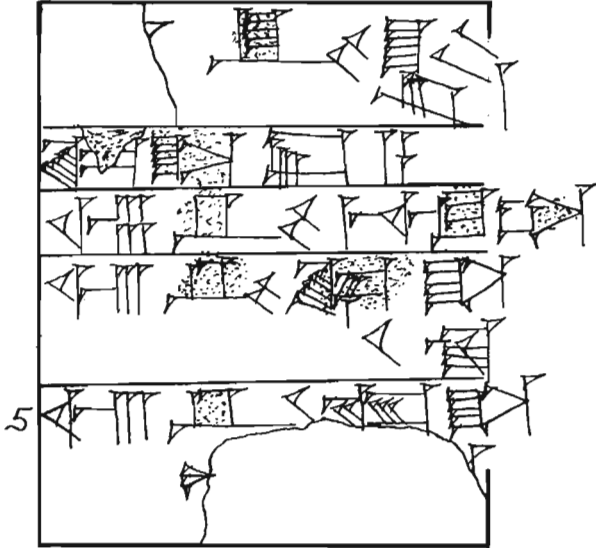
Rev



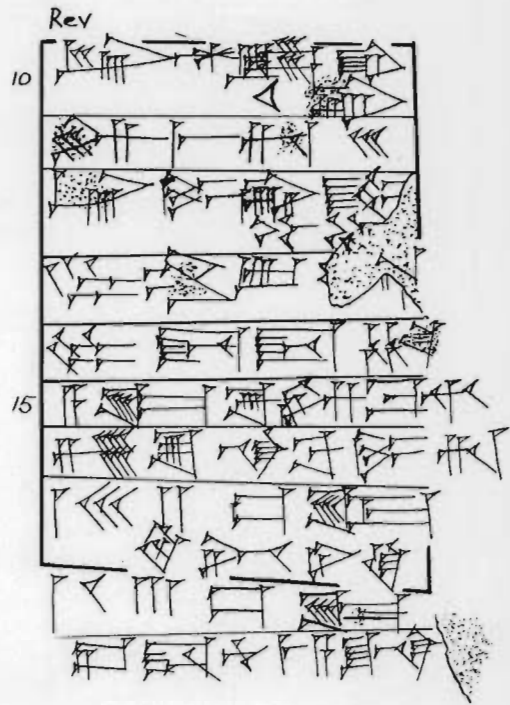
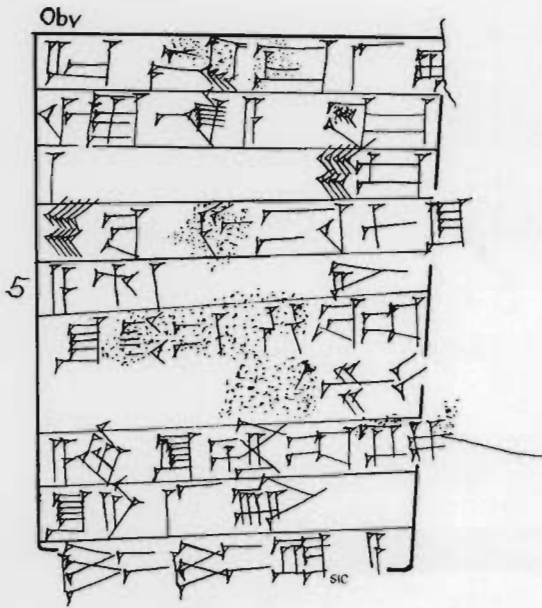
11

Obv

Rev



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