The indigenous language of Hawaii is Hawaiian, a Polynesian language belonging to the Austronesian language family. In the following examples, you will find seven English sentences with their Hawaiian translation:

1. He has seven older brothers.  
   *Ehiku ona kaikuaana.*
2. Mary has one brother.  
   *Ekahi o Mele kaikunane.*
3. He has one younger brother.  
   *Ekahi ona kaikainia.*
4. Mary has no older sisters.  
   *Aohe o Mele kaikuaana.*
5. John has one sister.  
   *Ekahi o Keone kaikuahine.*
6. I have one canoe.  
   *Ekahi ou waa.*
7. She has seven younger sisters.  
   *Ehiku ona kaikaina.*

**Tasks**

1. Assess what each of the Hawaiian words means.
2. On the basis of what you can see, how would you characterise the main differences between English and Hawaiian?
3. What do the following Hawaiian sentences mean?
   a) *Aohe ou kaikuaana.*
   b) *Aohe ou kaikuahine.*

4. A lady from Oxford had a look at the task and then tried to translate three more English sentences into Hawaiian:

   a) I have no sisters.  
      *Aohe ou kaikuahine.*
   b) John has one brother.  
      *Ekahi o Keone kaikunane.*
   c) She has seven older brothers.  
      *Ehiku ona kaikuaana.*

In each of these, the lady made a mistake: in one sentence there is a grammatical mistake while the other two are correct Hawaiian but not good translations of the English. Correct the mistake and say what the two correct Hawaiian sentences really mean.