

Neo-Sumerian Letter-Orders in the British Museum. I*

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The publication by M. Sigrist, H.H. Figulla and C.B.F. Walker of the *Catalogue of the Babylonian Tablets in the British Museum. II*, 1996 (*CBT 2*), has provided the basic information for the tablets numbered from BM 15231 to BM 23618, a very diverse and important material for cuneiform studies. It continues the cataloguing that H.H. Figulla began in 1961 (*CBT 1*: BM 12230 to BM 15229), and will be followed by a third volume to be published by M. Sigrist, E. Leichty and C.B.F. Walker in the near future (*CBT 3*: BM 23619 to BM 30000).

An interesting group within these tablets is the one of letter-orders. It consists of 97 texts:¹ 57 of them have been already published (mostly by E. Sollberger in *TCS 1*); the remaining 40 documents are still unpublished, although those catalogued in *CBT 2* where partly or totally transliterated by M. Sigrist.

My purpose in this contribution is to offer the copy of those unpublished letter-orders. Due to space limitations, I leave for a further article the transliterations and translations of the texts, together with some collations and minor corrections to the documents already edited.

Here follows the catalogue of the letter-orders known to me kept in the British Museum in the range BM 15231-30000 (texts published here shown in bold), and the copies of the tablets (scale 1:1).

* I am grateful to the Trustees of the British Museum for their permission to publish these tablets kept in the Western Asiatic Antiquities Collection, and to C.B.F. Walker for his help and kindness during my stay at the British Museum. My gratitude goes also to M. Sigrist who identified most of the letter-orders here published and allowed me to consult the Ur III entries in *CBT 3*. Abbreviations follow those of M. Sigrist - T. Gomi, *The Comprehensive Catalogue of Published Ur III Tablets*, Bethesda 1991, pp. 7-12, with these additions: *LEM* = P. Michalowski, *Letters from Early Mesopotamia*, Winona Lake 1993; *MTBM* = M. Sigrist, *Messenger Texts from the British Museum*, Ann Arbor 1990; *SNAT* = T. Gomi - S. Sato, *Selected Neo-Sumerian Administrative Texts from the British Museum*, Chuo-Gakuin University 1990; *SAT 1* = M. Sigrist, *Texts from the British Museum*, Sumerian Archival Texts 1, Bethesda 1993; *TCS 1* = E. Sollberger, *The Business and Administrative Correspondence under the Kings of Ur*, Texts from Cuneiform Sources 1, Locust Valley 1966.

1. After BM 30000, there are to my knowledge 17 published letter-orders: BM 82754 (*TCS 1 106*); BM 85497 (*TCS 1 153 = LEM 177*); BM 85735 (*TCS 1 68*); BM 87036 (*TCS 1 254*); BM 87135 (*TCS 1 74 = LEM 128*); BM 88140 (T. Fish, *JRAS*, 1939, p. 615 = *TCS 1 23, LEM 202*); BM 100357 (*TCS 1 242*); BM 105563 (T. Fish, *JRAS*, 1939, p. 619 = *TCS 1 354*); BM 107086 (*TCS 1 60*); BM 107681 (*TCS 1 236 = LEM 98*); BM 107873 (*TCS 1 56 = LEM 233*); BM 111318 (*TCS 1 43*); BM 111374 (P. Parr, *JCS* 24 [1971-72] 135 = *LEM 103*); BM 130705 (W.W. Hallo, *BiOr* 26 [1969] 174 no. 380 = *LEM 100*); BM 134633 (*TCS 1 32 = LEM 133*); BM 134634 (*TCS 1 2 = LEM 83*); BM 134635 (*TCS 1 5*).

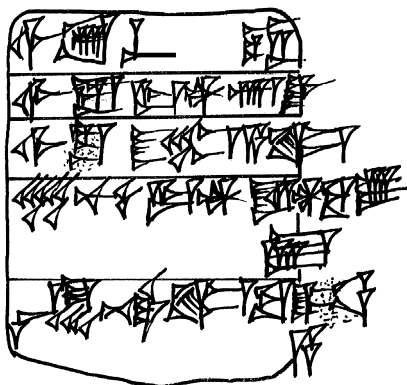
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BM 13430	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 111		—	—
BM 13441	Hallo, <i>BiOr</i> 26 (1969) 173 no. 374		—	—
BM 13733	no. 1		—	—
BM 13856	Maeda, <i>ASJ</i> 9 (1987) 328 no. 4		—	—
BM 14160	no. 2		—	—
BM 14238	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 113	Gomi - Sato, <i>SNAT</i> 222; Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 235	—	—
BM 14679	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 337	Gomi - Sato, <i>SNAT</i> 129; Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 85	ŠS3	Seal
BM 14685	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 262		—	—
BM 14745	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 165	Gomi - Sato, <i>SNAT</i> 107; Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 88	—	—
BM 14755	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 334	Gomi, <i>ASJ</i> 2 (1980) 3 no. 2	—	—
BM 14880	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 172		—	—
BM 14951	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 211	Gomi - Sato, <i>SNAT</i> 223	—	—
BM 15004	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 221		—	Seal
BM 15016	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 218	Gomi - Sato, <i>SNAT</i> 225	-/i	Seal
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BM 16056	no. 3	See <i>CBT</i> 2, p. 27	—	—
BM 16133	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 298	Gomi - Sato, <i>SNAT</i> 191; Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 149	IS3	Seal
BM 16256	no. 4	See <i>CBT</i> 2, p. 33	ŠS8/xi	—
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BM 17961	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 92	Gomi - Sato, <i>SNAT</i> 224; Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 171	—	—
BM 18544	Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 87		—	—
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BM 18583	Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 178		—	—
BM 18903	Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 179		—	—
BM 19370	no. 5	See <i>CBT</i> 2, p. 137	—	—
BM 19452	no. 6	See <i>CBT</i> 2, p. 140	—	—
BM 19697	no. 7	See <i>CBT</i> 2, p. 148	—	—
BM 20092	no. 8	See <i>CBT</i> 2, p. 159	—	—
BM 20167	Sigrist, <i>SAT</i> 1 399		—	Seal
BM 20174	Sigrist, <i>MTBM</i> 313	Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 180	—	Seal
BM 20399	Sigrist, <i>MTBM</i> 315		—	—
BM 20741	Sigrist, <i>MTBM</i> 311	Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 79	—	—
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BM 21068	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 19	Sigrist, <i>MTBM</i> 314	—	—
BM 21522	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 78	Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 169	—	—
BM 21677	no. 9	See <i>CBT</i> 2, p. 209	—	—
BM 21684	Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 181		—	Seal
BM 21700	Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 80		—	—
BM 22029	no. 10	See <i>CBT</i> 2, p. 220	—	—
BM 22030	no. 11	See <i>CBT</i> 2, p. 220	—	—
BM 22042	Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 182		—	—
BM 22821	no. 12	See <i>CBT</i> 2, p. 244	—	—
BM 23369	no. 13		—	—
BM 24103	no. 14		—	—
BM 24108	no. 15		—	—
BM 24122	no. 16		—	—
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BM 24550	no. 18		Š47/iii	—

NEO-SUMERIAN LETTER-ORDERS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM. I

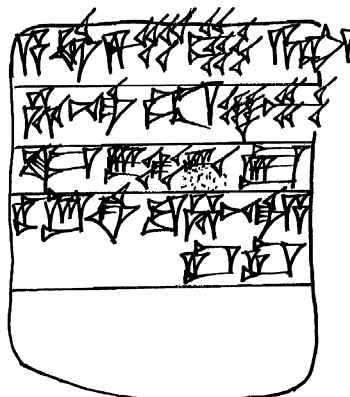
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BM 24933	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 265		—	—
BM 25140	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 361		—	—
BM 25200	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 241		—	—
BM 25205	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 49	Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 163	—	—
BM 25208	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 42		—	—
BM 25353	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 69		—	—
BM 25354	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 50	Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 95	—	—
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BM 25366	no. 20		—	—
BM 25368	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 231	Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 195	—	—
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BM 25391	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 232		—	—
BM 25404	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 207		—	—
BM 25410	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 229	Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 131	—	—
BM 25413	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 230	Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 86	—	—
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BM 25761	no. 23		—	Seal
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BM 25828	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 227	Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 147	—	—
BM 25835	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 174	Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 161	—	—
BM 25863	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 67		—	—
BM 25908	no. 24		—	—
BM 26461	no. 25		—	—
BM 27024	no. 26		—	—
BM 27087	no. 27		—	—
BM 27382	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 85		—	—
BM 27638	no. 28		Š42 / AS6	—
BM 27830	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 86		—	Seal
BM 27833	Sollberger, <i>TCS</i> 1 171	Michalowski, <i>LEM</i> 92	—	—
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BM 28041	no. 31		—	Seal
BM 28154	no. 32		—	—
BM 28437	no. 33		—	—
BM 28500	no. 34		—	—
BM 28557	no. 35		—	—
BM 28622	no. 36		—	—
BM 28647	no. 37		-/xii [?]	Seal
BM 29468	no. 38		—	—
BM 29550	no. 39		-/vi	—
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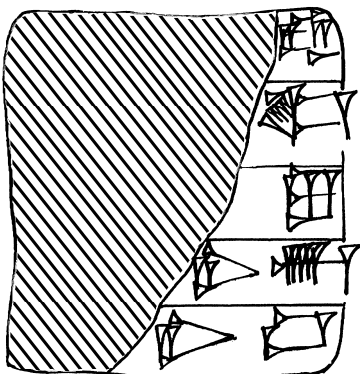


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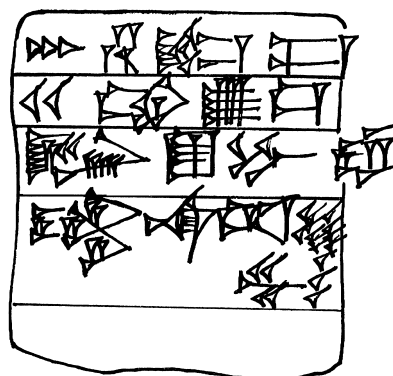


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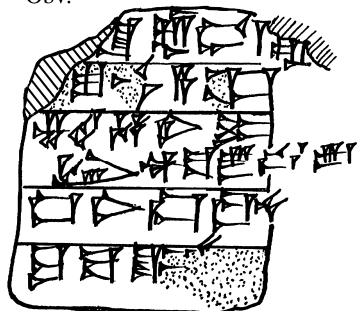


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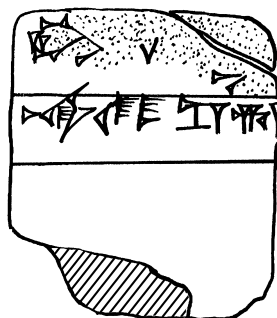


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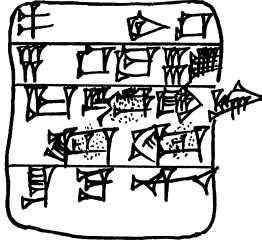


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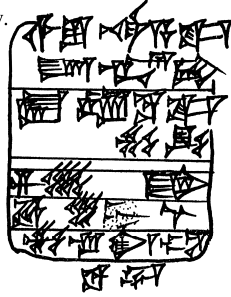


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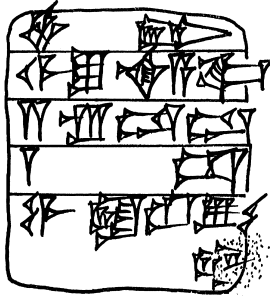
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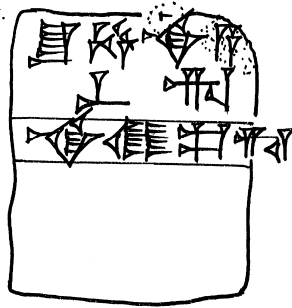


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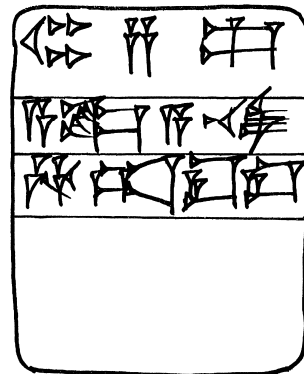
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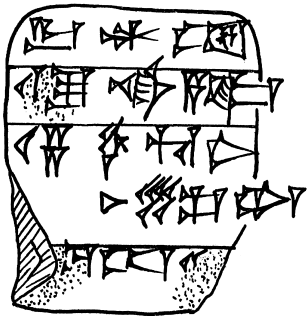


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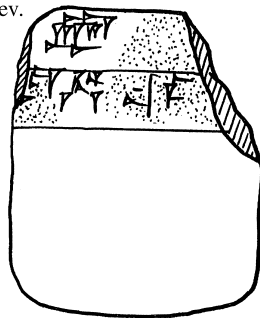


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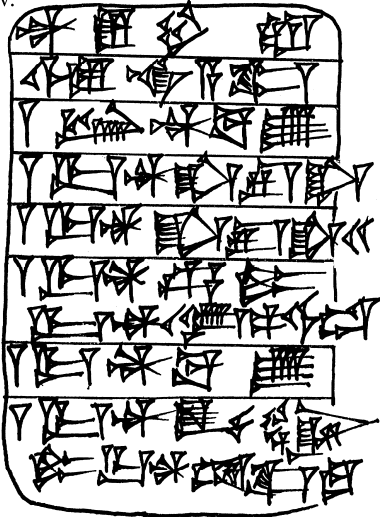


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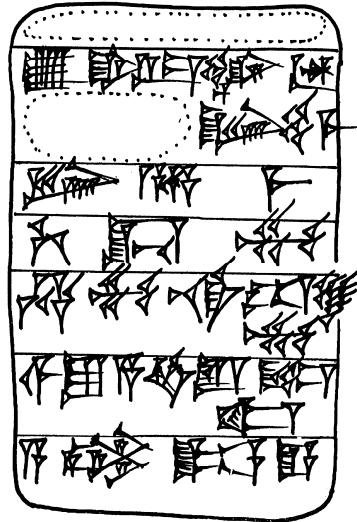


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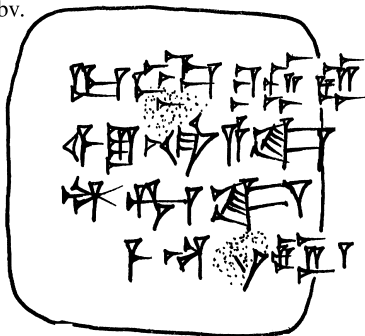


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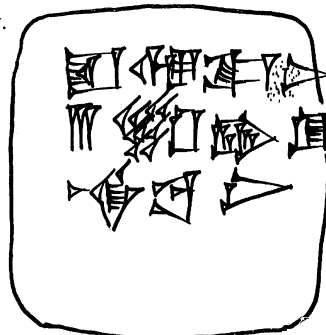


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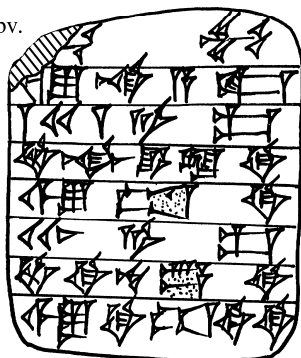


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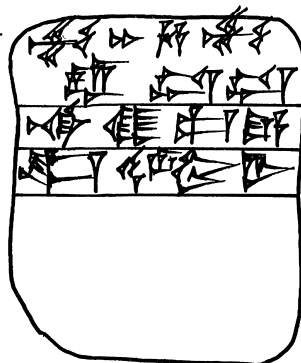


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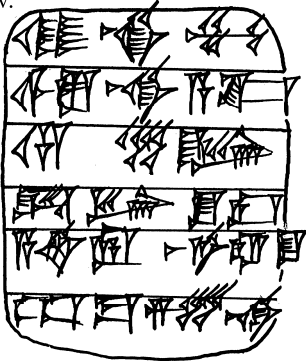


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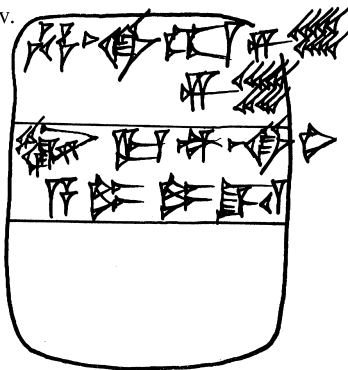


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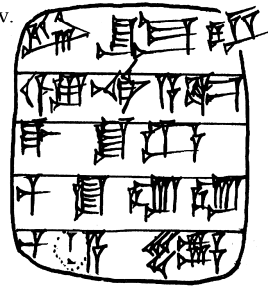


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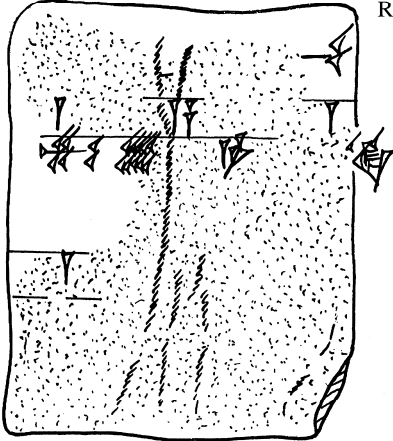
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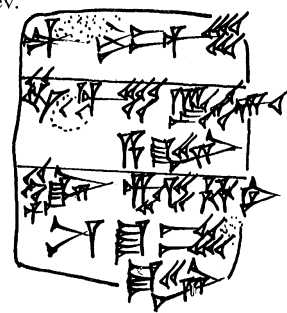
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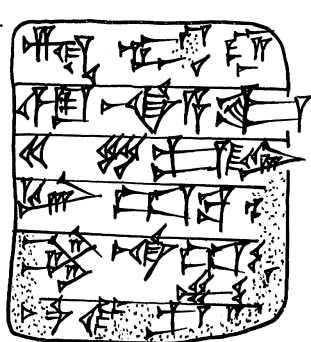


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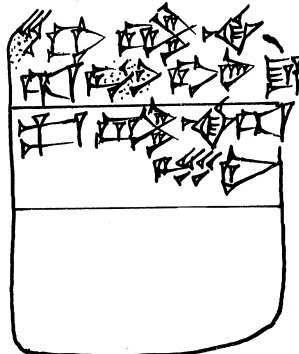


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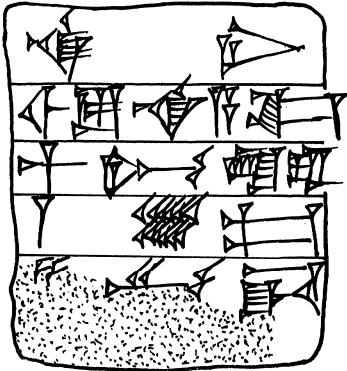


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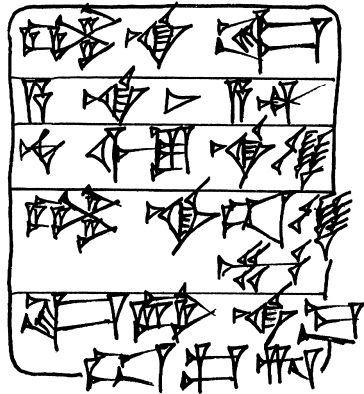


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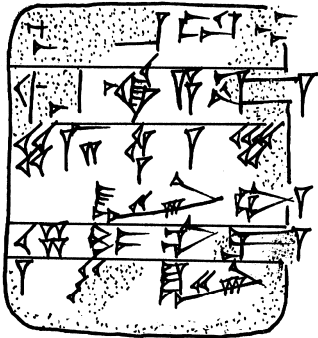


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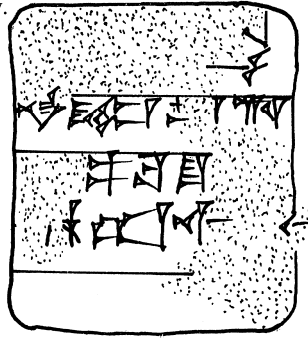


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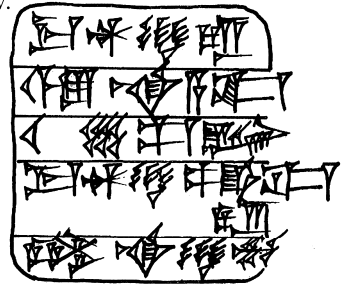


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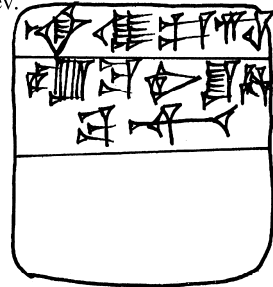


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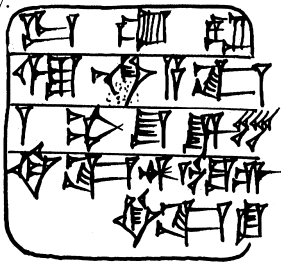


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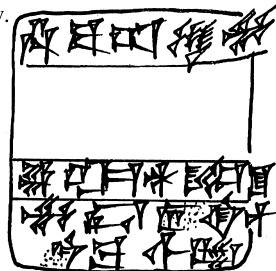


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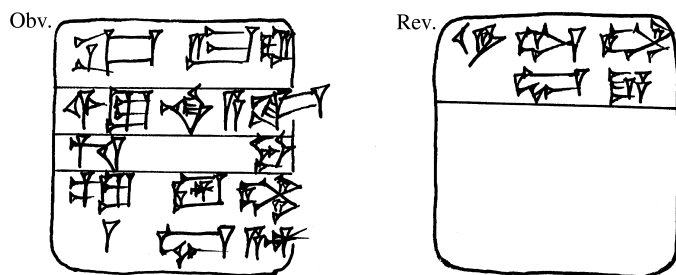
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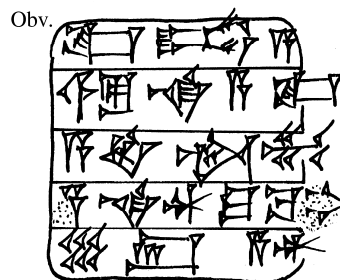
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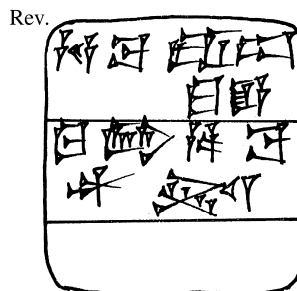
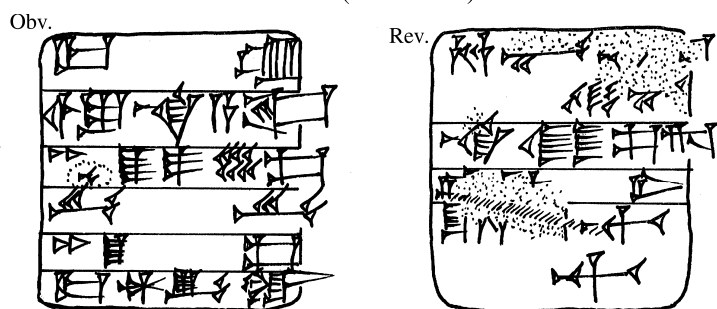
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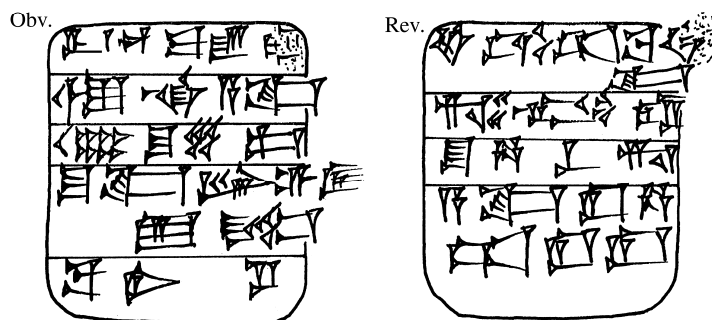
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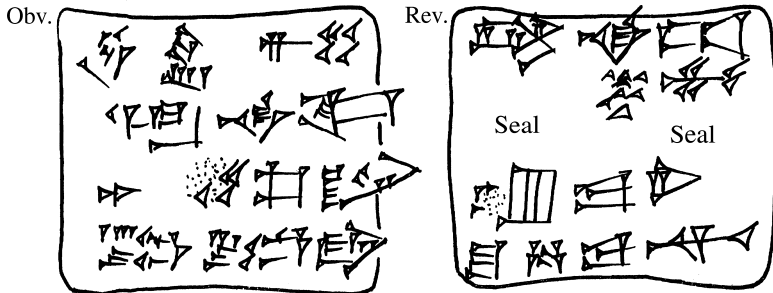
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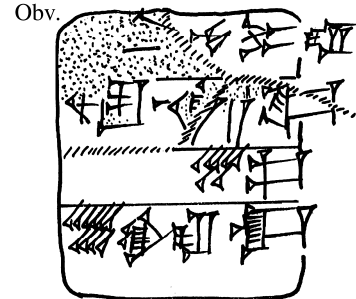


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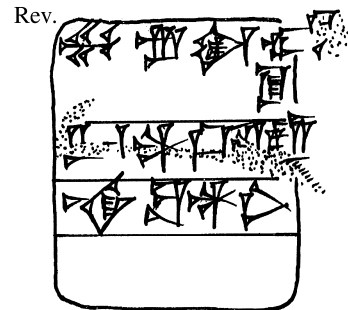
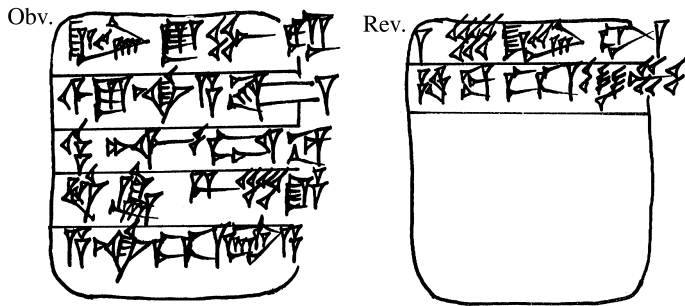


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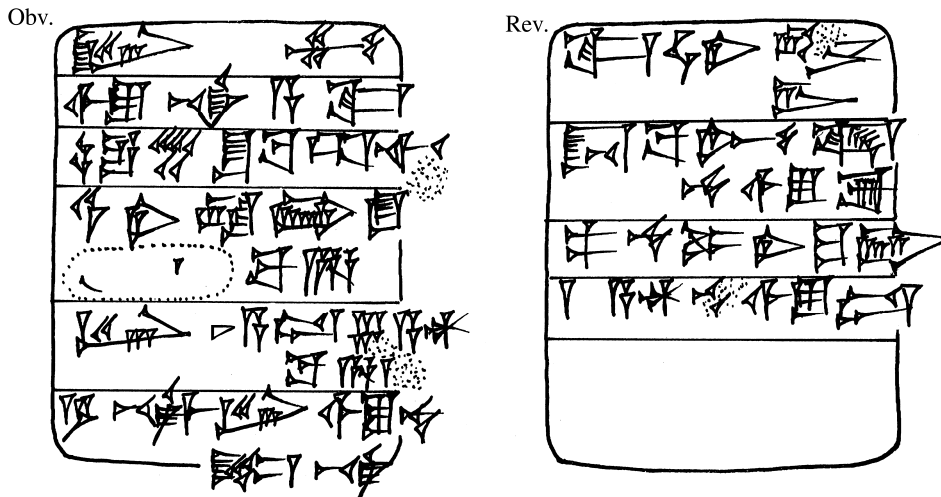
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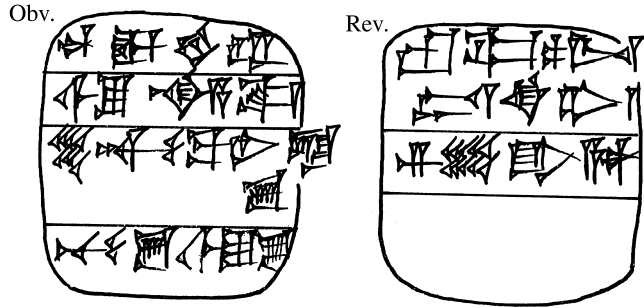
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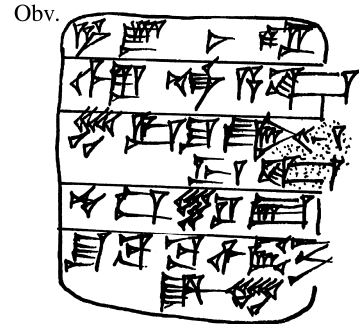
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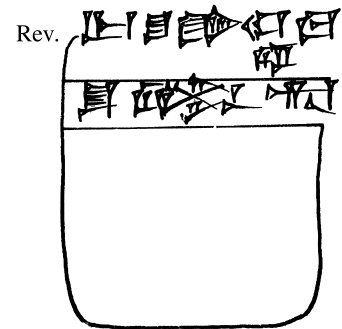
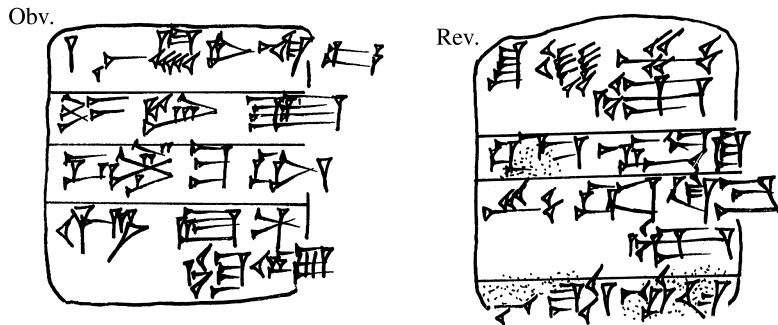
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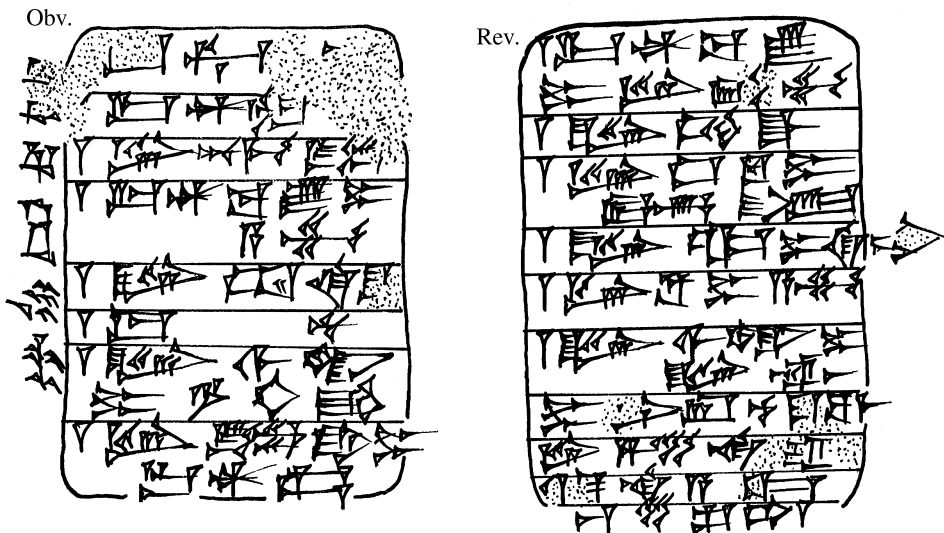
No. 29 (BM 27904)



No. 28 (BM 27638)

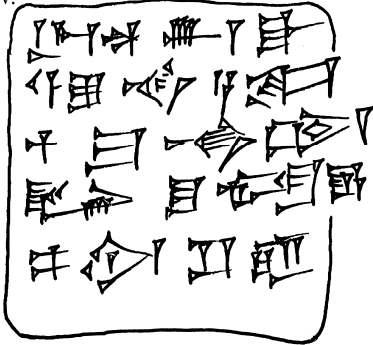


No. 30 (BM 28028)



No. 31 (BM 28041)

Obv.



Rev.

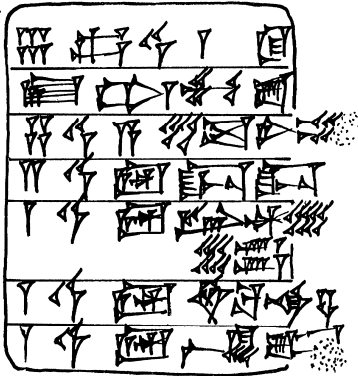


No. 31. Seal:
Ba-zi
dub-sar
dumu šeš-šeš

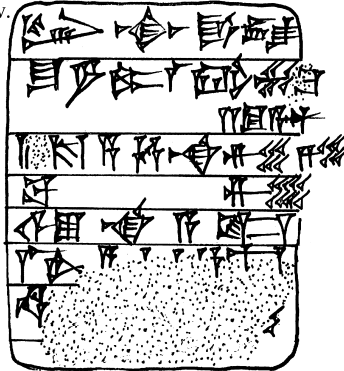
Seal

No. 32 (BM 28154)

Obv.

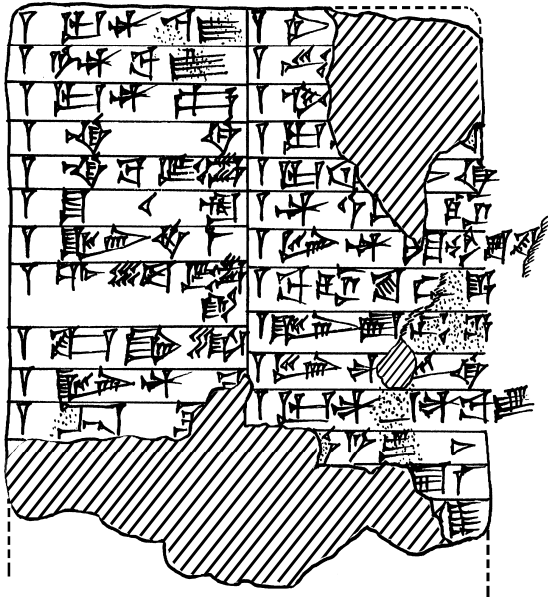


Rev.

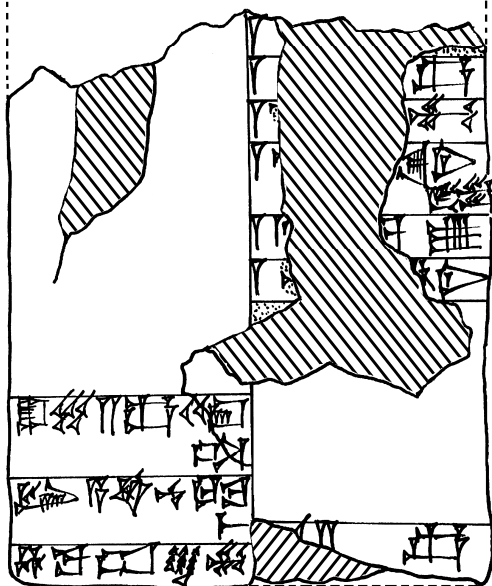


No. 33 (BM 28437)

Obv.



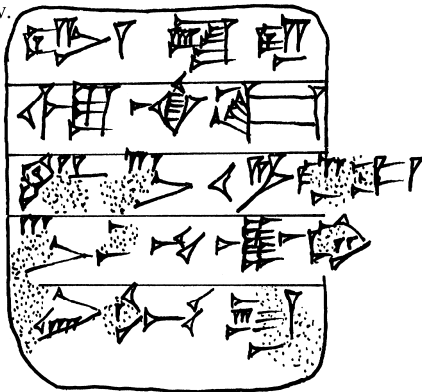
Rev.



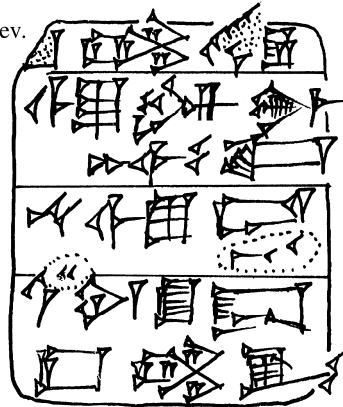
About one third of the tablet lost

No. 34 (BM 28500)

Obv.

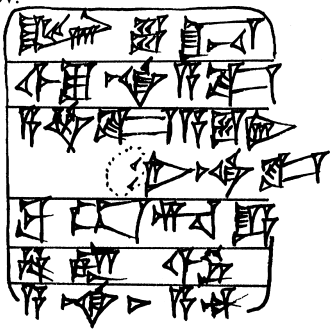


Rev.

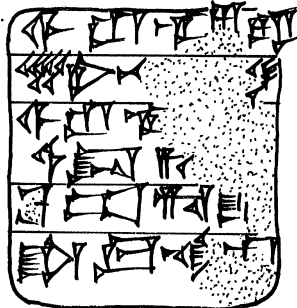


No. 35 (BM 28557)

Obv.

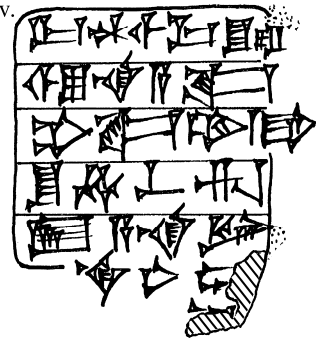


Rev.



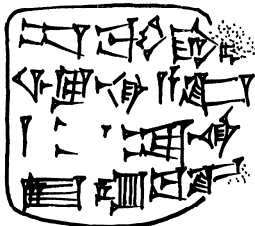
No. 36 (BM 28622)

Obv.

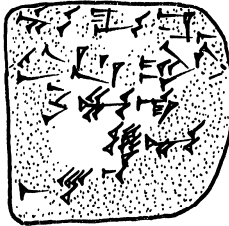


No. 37 (BM 28647)

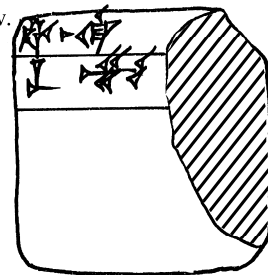
Obv.



Rev.



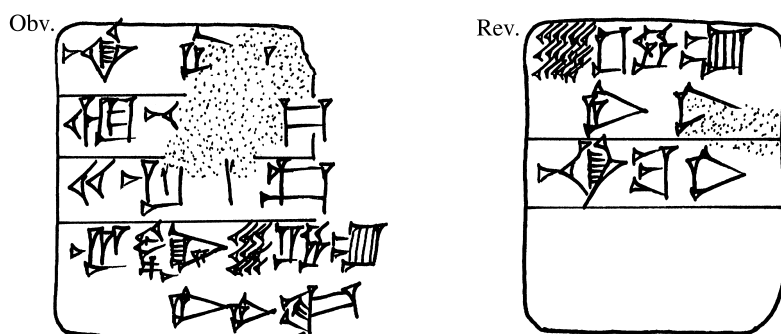
Rev.



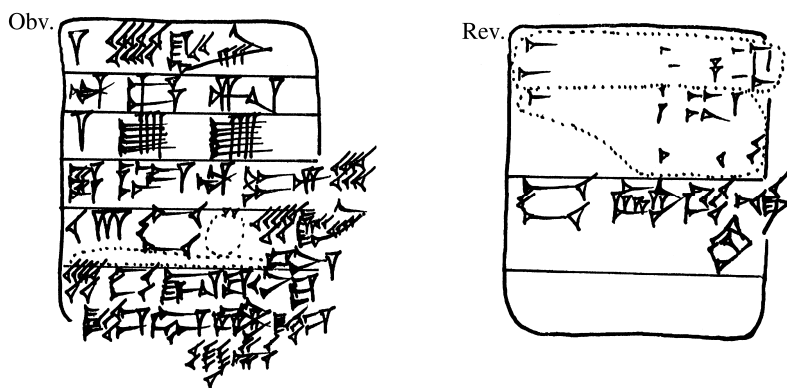
No. 37. Seal:

Šeš-kal-la
dub-sar
dumu Ur-ab-ba

No. 38 (BM 29468)



No. 39 (BM 29550)



No. 40 (BM 29745)

