

Homework 8: Creoles

Ling 101 (Bruening)

November 16, 2006; due November 21

1 “The Prodigal Son” in Krio

Krio is an English-lexifier creole spoken in Sierra Leone. Look at the translation of the story of the Prodigal Son into Krio, and answer the questions below. For each example that you give, provide a morpheme-by-morpheme translation. The first one is done for you.

1. How is past tense (anterior) marked? Give an example.

with the preverbal particle *bin* or *dɔn*

i bin lɔs, bɔt wi dɔn fɛn am (32)

he Past lost but we Past find him

2. How is future marked (irrealis)? Give an example.

3. How is the progressive (or nonpunctual) marked? Give an example.

4. How is negation marked? Give an example.

5. Give an example of double negation.

6. How is plural marked on nouns? Give an example.

7. How are relative clauses marked? Give an example.

8. List the pronouns of Krio with their English translations.

9. **Extra Credit:** What do you think a *serial verb construction* is? Explain, and then give two examples.
