

PHONEMES AND ORTHOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

EXAMPLES

/p/	p	/m/	m	/f/	f	a	Ali	man's name
/b/	b	/n/	n	/s/	s	b	bala	porcupine
/t/	t	/ɲ/	ny	/z/	z	c	ci	to break
/d/	d	/ŋ/	ŋ	/l/	l	d	di	to give
/tʃ/	c			/r/	r	e	bere	stick
/dʒ/	j			/h/	h	è	nègè	iron
/k/	k			/x/	x	f	fali	donkey
/g/	g			/w/	w	g	gala	indigo
				/y/	y	h	hali	even if
/i/	i					i	dimi	to be angry
/e/	e			/u/	u	j	jègè	fish
/ɛ/	è			/o/	o	k	kèlè	quarrel
		/a/	a	/ɔ/	ò	l	lamò	to lift up
/ŋ̄/	Vn					m	misi	bovine
						n	na	to come
						n	nyuman	good
						ɲ	ɲunu	hive
						o	gogoro	lock
						ò	kònò	abdomen
						p	pan	to jump
						r	rò	in
						s	sà	snake
						t	ta	to take
						u	wulu	dog
						w	woro	thigh
						y	yan	here
						z	zan	man's name

Tones:

high
low
glide

ALPHABET

a b d c e è f g h i j k l m n ny ŋ o ò p r s t u w
x y z

number of graphemes 2

Alphabets of Africa

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SCRIPT

In the 1960s a standardized script was adopted; this uses the Roman alphabet plus è = /ɛ/ and ò = /ɔ/.

Numerals

1–10: *kele(n), fila, saba, naani, duuru, wòoro, wolonfla, segi, kònontò, tan*; 20 *mugan*; 30 *bi saba*; 40 *bi naani*; 100 *kèmè*.