

PHONEMES AND ORTHOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

EXAMPLES

/p/	p	/m/	n	/f/	f	a	sáá	animal
/b/	b	/n/	n	/v/	v	b	búí	trap
/ɓ/	ɓ	/ɲ/	ny	/s/	s	ɓ	bí	hole
/t/	t			/z/	z	č	čáná	oil
/d/	d			/ʒ/	z	d	dú	head
/ɖ/	ɖ			/h/	h	ɖ	dí	spear
/tʃ/	č			/w/	w	e	sé	bamboo
/dʒ/	j					ε	wédjé	song
/k/	k					f	fó	flesh
/g/	g					g	gáá	man
/kp/	kp					gb	gbè	bed
/gb/	gb					h	hwò	canoe
						i	ní	water
/i/	i			/u/	u	j	j`e	lizard
/e/	e			/o/	o	k	kó-dù	knee
/ɛ/	ɛ	/a/	a	/ɔ/	ɔ	kp	kpá	bone
						m	máná	nose
						n	nó	here
						ny	nyó	animal
						o	gbò	house
						ɔ	sóó	stone
						p	pú	just
						s	sáá	sacrifice
						t	tá	tree
						u	dúú	rope
						v	vènè	big
						w	wùdù	language
						z	zàsè	witness

Tones:

high	ˊ	ŷ
mid	ˋ	ŷ
low	ˋ	ŷ
high-low	ˊˋ	ŷ
mid-low	ˋˋ	ŷ
low-high	ˋˊ	ŷ
low-mid	ˋˋ	ŷ

ALPHABET

a b ɓ č d ɖ e ε f g gb h i j k kp m n ny o ɔ p s t
u v w z

number of graphemes 28

Alphabets of Africa

edited by

Published by UNESCO Regional Office in Dakar (BREDA)
12, Avenue Roume, B.P. 3311, Dakar, Senegal

Rhonda L. Hartell ISBN: 92-9091-020-3

© UNESCO, 1993

Printed by BREDA Press