

PHONEMES AND ORTHOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

EXAMPLES

/p/	p	/m/	m	/f/	f
/b/	b	/n/	n	/v/	v
/t/	t	/ŋ/	ŋ	/s/	s
/d/	d			/z/	z
/tʃ/	c			/ʃ/	sh
/dʒ/	j			/ʒ/	zh
/k/	k			/l/	l
/g/	g			/h/	h
/x/	gh			/w/	w
/ʔ/	'			/y/	y
/i/	i	/ə/	ə	/u/	u, (oo)
/e/	e	/ə/	ə	/o/	o, ɔ
/a/	a	/ɑ/	ɑ		

/V:/ VV

Prenasalization: mb, nd, ng

Tones:

high	ˊ	
mid	-	
low/central	ˋ	unmarked
low-high	ˊˋ	
high-low	ˋˊ	

a	a	he
a	mbawala	whoever
b	mba'	type of palm tree
c	ca'si	greeting
d	ndu'	wine
e	pe'	house
ə	pəpə'	the good
f	fə	chief
g	ngoo	girl
gh	ghə	word
h	hu	remedy
i	nini	shadow, photo
j	njam	behind
k	ko	field, bush
l	lɛa	bridge
m	mɛ	me
n	nam	sun
ŋ	ŋāmsi	felicitation
o	o	you (sg)
ɔ	yɔnshi	song
p	pom	egg
s	sisi	crane
sh	shimānko'	turtle
t	tam	forest
u	nu	situation
v	tuū	palm tree
w	vam	stomach
y	wenok	human being
z	yaa	oil press
zh	zēn	name
'	zhāā	close it!
	po'	mushroom

ALPHABET

a a b c d e ə f g gh h i j k l m n ŋ o ɔ p s sh t u
 u v w y z zh ' ,

number of graphemes 32

Alphabets of Africa

edited by

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

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ISBN : 92-9091-020-3

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Printed by BREDIA Press