

PHONEMES AND ORTHOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

EXAMPLES

/p/	p	/m/	m	/f/	f
/b/	b	/n/	n	/v/	v
/t/	t	/ɲ/	ny	/s/	s
/d/	d	/ɣ/	ɣ	/z/	z
/tʃ/	ch	/ŋm/	ŋm	/ʃ/	sh
/dʒ/	j			/l/	l
/k/	k			/r/	r
/g/	g			/h/	h
/kp/	kp			/w/	w
/gb/	gb			/y/	y
/i/	i			/u/	u
/e/	e			/o/	o
/ɛ/	ɛ			/ɔ/	ɔ
		/a/	a		

/V:/ VV

/Ū/ Vn (except /e/ and /o/)

Nasalization is marked by its presence to a contiguous nasal, e.g. in /nu/ the vowel is nasalized. Where necessary, /n/ at the end of the syllable also marks nasalization, e.g. *kaa* 'chew', *kaan* 'stick'. When nasalization of a vowel already contiguous to a nasal is not wanted, a stop is inserted after the nasal, as in:

ndɔɔ owl

ŋga this

mba I won't

nyjire cloth pad for head load

a	katoɔ	compound
b	bɔŋgre	groundnut
ch	chɔ	pot
d	duŋu	yam
e	sepe	spider
ɛ	ŋgobeele	baby chicks
f	fuɫa	hawk
g	genifun	man (strutting)
gb	gbolo	large calabash
h	hanyini	bird (small)
i	chire	small calabash
j	jese	thread
k	kojua	squirrel
kp	kpawre	shoe
l	lete	line street
m	fɔm	yam mound
n	naa	scorpion
ny	nyjire	cloth headpad
ŋ	duŋu	termite
ŋm	ŋmaa	nail
o	ofa	uncle
ɔ	ndɔɔ	owl
p	pɔɔ	sweep
r	vavaara	spider web
s	see	farm
sh	shunshun	fly
t	taya	catapult
u	fufu	pounded yam
v	vavaara	spider web
w	waggra	world
y	Yaa	woman's name
z	zeere	scrubber for kitchen or bath use

ALPHABET

a b ch d e ɛ f g gb h i j k kp l m n ny ŋ ŋm o ɔ p
r s sh t u v w y z

number of graphemes 32

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