

PHONEMES AND ORTHOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

EXAMPLES

/p/	p	/m	m
/b/	b	/n/	n
/t/	t	/ɲ/	ny
/d/	d	/ɲ/	ɲ
/c/	c	/ɲm/	ɲm
/j/	j		
/k/	k		
/g/	g		
/kp/	kp		
/gb/	gb		

N.B. /h/ is found only in words of expression.

/i/	i		
/e/	e		
/ɛ/	ɛ	/a/	a

/V:/	VV
/V̄/	Vn (except /e/ or /o/)

Tones:

high	ˊ	Ṳ
mid	ˋ	unmarked
low	ˋ	Ṳ
high-low	ˊˋ	Ṳ
low-high	ˋˊ	Ṳ
mid-low	-	Ṳ

/f/	f	a	bábá	sheep
/v/	v	b	bléǰ	chair
/s/	s	c	céǰ	fur
/z/	z	d	dòwɛɲ	okra
/l/	l	e	gbéné	manioc
/r/	r	ɛ	klé	sack
/w/	w	f	fitrán	lamp
/j/	y	g	glò	canoe
		gb	gbèǰ	chin
		i	ziǰ	fish
		j	jeɲ	dog
		k	kòkò	cola nut
		kp	kpálé	indigenous hoe
		l	la	rain
		m	mɔn	month, moon
		n	láná	leaf
		ny	drònyí	clothing
		ɲ	ɲrun	head
		ɲm	ànɲmò	hyena
		o	lòlo	clay pot
		ɔ	wɔ	arm
		p	péǰ	mortar
		r	yí	tree
		s	siéǰ	bird
		t	tróǰ	ear
		u	dú	knife
		w	wáíé	yam
		v	vɔnɲ	mound
		y	yí	water
		z	zò	ox

ALPHABET

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

number of graphemes 31

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