

1. Phonology and Pronunciation

1.1 The consonants

Tagalog has the following contrastive consonant sounds (shown in the table by their orthographic symbols). Stops in Tagalog are unaspirated, and unreleased in final position. The voiceless velar stop (k) often slightly fricates before vowels. The alveolar trill (r) has various pronunciations from a simple flap to a trill, closely resembling its Spanish counterpart. The orthographic sequences /ts/ and /dy/ represent the English sounds [ch] and [j], respectively. In the table below, Alibata (native syllabary) equivalents are given after each phoneme.

	Voicing	Bilabial	Dental/ Alveolar	Alveo-palatal	Velar	Glottal
Stops	- +	p 𑄎 b 𑄏	t 𑄑 d 𑄒	(ts, t(i)y) [tʃ] (dy) [dʒ]	k 𑄃 g 𑄄	' (-) [ʔ]
Fricatives	-		s 𑄑			h 𑄑
Nasals	+	m 𑄑	n 𑄑	(ny)	ng [ŋ] 𑄑	
Laterals	+		l 𑄑			
Trill/Flap	+		(r)			
Glides	+	w 𑄑	y 𑄑			

1.1.1 Consonant Morphophonemics

Glottal stop. The glottal stop [ʔ] is not represented in modern orthography, other than word-medially following a consonant with a hyphen (-) → *pag-asa* 'hope' [pag. 'á:.sa], *mag-amóy* 'to smell' [mag. 'a.móy]. Vowel-initial words are pronounced with an initial glottal stop → *aso* 'dog' ['á:.so]. Glottal stop may also occur word finally (in conversation, phrase- finally). This dictionary follows the

orthography of the *balarilà* (Tagalog official grammar) in which a final glottal stop is represented two ways: 1. with words with final stress, with a circumflex accent (^) → *mukhá* ‘face’ [muk.há’], *sirá* ‘broken; bad’ [si.rá’], and 2. with words with penultimate stress, with a grave accent → *silò* ‘noose’ [sí:.lo’], *bahalà* ‘responsibility’ [ba.há:.la’].

Word final h. Tagalog words are not written with the glottal fricative [h] word finally. An *h* is inserted to the end of a root, however, when a suffix *-in* or *-an* attaches to a root ending in a vowel (non-glottal stop). Notice the *h* insertion with the following suffixed roots:

<u>Root</u>	<u>Root with suffix -in or -an</u>
<i>linis</i> ‘clean’	<i>linisin</i> ‘to clean’
<i>sama</i> ‘accompany’	<i>samahan</i> ‘to accompany’
<i>guló</i> ‘confusion’	<i>guluhín</i> ‘to confuse’
<i>tagò</i> ‘hide’ [tá:.go’]	<i>taguán</i> ‘hide and seek’
<i>mukhá</i> ‘face’ [muk.há’]	<i>mukhaán</i> ‘recognize by the face’

D and R. The consonants [d] and [r] often appear in native words as variants of the same underlying consonant. The consonant [d] may become [r] in vowel medial environments → *daratíng* ‘will come’ comes from *da-dating*, *makiramáy* ‘to sympathize’ comes from *maki-damay*, *karapatán* ‘right’ comes from *ka-dapat-an*, *hubarán* ‘to undress someone’ comes from *hubád-an*.

Palatalization. The dental obstruents [t], [d], and [s] palatalize to [ch], [j] and [sh], respectively, before a palatal glide [y] or its orthographic equivalent [the unstressed vowel *i* followed by the glide *y*] → *tiyán* ‘stomach’ [chan], *siyá* ‘s/he’ [sha], *dyús* ‘juice’ [jus], *diyós* ‘god’ [jos], *diyeta* ‘diet’ [jé:.ta], *diyán* ‘there’ [jan]. They do not palatalize before a stressed vowel [i] → *tíya* ‘aunt’ [tí:.ya].

Nasal assimilation. The velar nasal [ng or (N)] in the prefixes *kasing-* (*kasiN-*), *mang-* (*maN-*), *nang-* (*naN-*) and *pang-* (*paN-*) assimilates to the place of articulation of the first consonant of the root to which they attach. Before the labial consonants *m*, *p*, and *b*, the nasal is labial [m] and before the dental consonants *t*, *d*, *l*, and *s*, the nasal is dental [n], with the velar consonants, before vowels (underlying glottal stop), and in all other environments, i.e. before velar or glottal stops, and glides, the nasal is velar [ng].

<i>pang-</i> + <i>sindi</i>	<i>panindi</i>	lighter
<i>mang-</i> + <i>buhay</i>	<i>mamuhay</i>	to live; manage
<i>mang-</i> + <i>pili</i>	<i>mamili</i>	to choose
<i>mang-</i> + <i>palò</i>	<i>mamalò</i>	to beat; spank
<i>pang-</i> + <i>tali</i>	<i>panali</i>	string
<i>pang-</i> + <i>kontra</i>	<i>pangontra</i>	proof; preventative
<i>mang-</i> + <i>aso</i>	<i>mangaso</i>	to hunt with dogs

Metathesis. The infix *-in-* metathesizes to *ni-* before the lateral [l] → *niluto* = //l{in}uto/, *nilabaán* = //l{in}aba-an/. In the root *taním* ‘plant,’ the [n] and [m] metathesize before the suffix *-(h)an* → *tamnán* ‘to plant.’

N insertion. With the suffixation of *-(h)in* or *-(h)an*, an [n] is inserted before the suffix in a few vowel-final roots, sometimes accompanied by vowel loss → *kasarinlán* ‘independence, individuality’ = *ka-sarili-(h)an*, *sarilinin* ‘to monopolize, appropriate’ = *sarili* + *-(h)in*, *kunin* ‘to get’ = *kuha* + *-(h)in*, *halinhán* ‘to replace; relieve’ = *halili* + *-(h)an*, and *pagtawanin* ‘to amuse’ = *pag-tawa* + *-(h)in*.

1.2 Vowels and stress

Tagalog has five vowels in the native orthography often compared phonetically to the vowels of Spanish or Italian, /a/ a low, central vowel, /e/ a front mid vowel, /i/ a high front vowel, /o/ a mid back vowel, and /u/ a high back vowel. Before the arrival of the Spanish and Spanish loanwords, Tagalog was essentially a three-vowel language, [i] and [e], as [o] and [u] were alternative pronunciations of the same phoneme (contrastive vowel). The high variants /i/ and /u/ occurred in all places except word finally, where they dropped considerably to /e/ or lax i/ and /o/ respectively. As a language with a borrowed orthographic system, this phenomenon is represented in the orthography. This can be seen with the following derivations of the root *guló* ‘confusion; commotion; trouble’ → *gumuló* ‘to trouble, molest’ /*g{um}ulól*/, *guluhín* ‘to trouble, molest something’ /*gulo-(h)ín*/.

Two adjacent vowels will each comprise their own syllable. A glottal stop is usually inserted in careful speech between the vowels to separate the syllables, careful speech will reveal that there are no vowel-initial syllables in the language → *saán* ‘where’ [*sa.ʼán*], *buó* ‘whole’ [*bu.ʼó*], *maamò* ‘tame’ [*ma.ʼá:mo*].

Stress. Stress (syllable prominence) is contrastive in Tagalog → *bagà* ‘lung’ [*bá:ga*] ≠ *bagá* [*ba.gá*] ‘tumor,’ *gábi* ‘taro’ [*gá:bi*] ≠ *gabi* ‘night’ [*ga.bi*]. Words in this dictionary will bear an accent mark on the final vowel for words with final stress. Words without an accent mark bear stress on the penultimate syllable. Words ending in a glottal stop show stress by the circumflex (â) accent for final stress and grave accent (à) for penultimate stress. When stress falls on an open syllable (syllable not closed with a consonant), the stressed vowel is lengthened (v:) → *kalakal* ‘merchandise’ [*ka.lá:kal*], *halaman* ‘plant’ [*ha.lá:man*].

In addition to final and penultimate stress, Tagalog has what is called antepenultimate accompanying stress. Words with this stress type bear stress on the final or penultimate syllable, but also have an additional prominent syllable (marked by pitch prominence or vowel length) → *íisá* ‘only one,’ *áanim* ‘only six,’ *úpuan* ‘seat,’ *táhanan* ‘home,’ *kútuhin* ‘one affected with lice,’ *máalaman* ‘to understand,’ *mápaluhód* ‘fall on one’s knees.’ The following minimal pairs will acquaint the reader with the various stress patterns in Tagalog:

<i>kaibigan</i> [<i>ka.ʼi.bi:gan</i>]	‘friend’ (penultimate)
<i>kaibigán</i> [<i>ka.ʼi.bi.gán</i>]	‘desire; preference’ (final)
<i>káibigán</i> [<i>ká:ʼi.bi.gán</i>]	‘mutual consent’ (final + antepenultimate)
<i>kaibigan</i> [<i>ka.ʼí:bi:gan</i>]	‘sweetheart’ (penultimate + antepenultimate)
<i>baga</i> [<i>bá:ga</i>]	‘glowing ember’ (penultimate)
<i>bagá</i> [<i>ba.gá</i>]	‘interrogative particle’ (final)
<i>bagà</i> [<i>bá:ga</i>]	‘lung’ (penultimate glottal)
<i>bagá</i> [<i>ba.gá</i>]	‘breast tumor’ (final glottal)

Stress shift. Stress may shift due to grammatical factors or with the addition of a suffix *-(h)an*, or *-(h)in* → *súkat* ‘measure, root’ [*sú:kat*] vs. *sukát* ‘measured, adjective’ [*su.kát*]; *tagpi* ‘patch, noun’ [*tag.pí*] vs. *tagpián* ‘to patch, verb’ [*tag.pi.ʼán*], *kuyóm* ‘clenched, adjective’ [*kuy.óm*] vs. *kuyumín* ‘to clench, verb’ [*ku.yu.mín*].

Vowel loss. With the addition of the suffixes *-(h)in* and *-(h)an*, final root vowels are lost in a few common cases, i.e. *dalá* + *-(h)an* = *dalhán* ‘to carry,’ *sakáy* + *-(h)an* = *sakyán* ‘to ride,’ *tirá* + *-(h)an* = *tirhán* ‘to spare,’ *tingín* + *-(h)an* = *tingnán* ‘to look at, examine,’ *bigáy* + *-(h)an* = *bigyán* ‘to give,’ *gawá* + *-(h)in* = *gawín* ‘to do,’ *bilí* + *-(h)in* = *bilhín* ‘to buy,’ *kain* + *-(h)in* = *kanin* ‘to eat,’ *tikím* + *-(h)an* = *tikmán* ‘to taste,’ *bukás* + *-(h)an* = *buksán* ‘to open.’

Syllabification. Syllabification in Tagalog is relatively simple. The basic syllable shape is CV(C). Syllables consist minimally of a vowel and consonantal onset (consonant before the vowel), two vowels cannot share a syllable. In orthographic vowel-initial syllables, a glottal stop (‘) is pronounced to provide the syllable with an onset. Consonant clusters are broken between syllables, but remember that the velar nasal [ng] is one consonantal segment which cannot be broken. → *aandáp-andáp* ‘flickering’ [*a. ’an.dáp. ’an.dáp*], *dagildilín* ‘shove with the elbow’ [*da.gil.di.lín*], *maglambingan* ‘to caress each other’ [*mag.lam.bí.ngan*], *naráaraan* ‘passable’ [*ná.rá.ra. ’á.nan*], *makapág-aral* ‘be able to study’ [*ma.ka.pág. ’á.ral*].

Reduplication. Reduplication (repetition of a word or word segment) is a common morphological device in Tagalog. Tagalog has both full reduplication (reduplication of the entire root word) and partial reduplication. Words with full reduplication include *mahiyá-hiyá* ‘to be a little ashamed’ from *hiyá* ‘shame,’ *bahid-bahid* ‘full of stains’ from *bahid* ‘stain, smear,’ *baháy-baháy* ‘from house to house’ from *bahay* ‘house,’ *bahay-bahayan* ‘toy house,’ from *bahay* ‘house,’ *hati-hati* ‘divided into equal parts,’ from *hati* ‘divide’ and *araw-araw* ‘every day’ from *araw* ‘day.’

Words with partial reduplication only reduplicate the first segment of the stem. There are no reduplicative suffixes in the language. Initial CV (consonant vowel) reduplication is the most common, but there is also disyllabic reduplication (CVCV). Examples of CV reduplication include → *iitlóg* ‘will lay an egg’ [*’i. ’it.lóg*] from *itlóg* ‘egg,’ *kakantá* ‘will sing’ from *kantá* ‘sing,’ *nagbibigáy* ‘is giving’ from *bigáy* ‘give,’ and *pagbabago* ‘change’ from *bago* ‘new.’ Examples of disyllabic partial reduplication (CVCV) include → *pa-Singa-Singapore* ‘keep going to Singapore,’ *magkahiwa-hiwaláy* ‘to get thoroughly separated,’ and *magpakatahi-tahimik* ‘try to be very quiet.’