

PHONEMES AND ORTHOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

EXAMPLES

/p/	p	/f/	f	a	ba	field
/b/	b	/v/	v	b	ba	field
/ʙh/	ʙh, m	/s/	s	ʙh	'bholi-	goat kid
/t/	t	/z/	z	c	'cen	foot
/d/	d	/l/	l, n, r	d	di	ox
/c/	c	/w/	w	e	le	woman
/ʃ/	j	/j/	y	ε	bale	rope
/k/	k			f	fɛŋ'	millet
/g/	g			g	-gu	famine
/kp/	kp			gb	gbo	pot, pan
/gb/	gb			gw	-gwaan	calabash
/kw/	kw			i	'yi	water
/gw/	gw			j	-jo	buffalo
				k	koli	cola nut
				kp	'kpo	fish
				kw	'kwekwe-	chimpanzee
				l	lu	hunger
				m	-maj	rice
				n	-no	wife
/i/	i	/u/	u	ŋ	laŋ	leaf
/e/	e	/o/	o	o	-loŋ	hare
/ɛ/	ɛ	/ɔ/	ɔ	ɔ	'ɔ	salt
	/a/	a		p	'poli-	eggplant
	/ŋ/	ŋ		r	yre	work
				s	so	skirt cloth
				t	'te	fire
				u	'u	wine
				v	-vie	deer
				w	'wei-	monkey
				y	-yole	agouti
				z	zi	path

/V̄/ Vn (except /e/ or /o/)

Tones:

high	'	M
mid	unmarked	
low	-	-M
2d tone lower	-	M-
2d tone higher	'	M'

ALPHABET

a b ʙh c d e ɛ f g gb gw i j k kp kw l m n ŋ o ɔ p
r s t u v w y z

number of graphemes 31

Alphabets of Africa

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