

PHONEMES AND ORTHOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

EXAMPLES

/p/	p	/m/	m	/f/	f
/b/	b	/n/	n	/s/	s
/t/	t	/ɲ/	ɲ (or ñ)	/l/	l
/d/	d	/ŋ/	ŋ (or ñ)	/r/	r
/c/	c			/x/	x
/j/	j			/j/	y
/k/	k			/w/	w
/g/	g				
/q/	q*				

*In Wolof, the letter q is equivalent to x after a nasal (xonx = xonq) or at a geminate xx (ñaxx -ñaq)

/i/	i	/u/	u
/e/	é	/ə/	ë
/ɛ/	e	/a/	a
		/ã/	à

/V:/ VV (ó = óo; é = ée; ë = ee)

Prenasalization: mp, mb, nt, nd, ɲj, nc, nq, nk, ng

a	lal	bed
à	làkk	to speak
		a language
b	bakkan	nose
c	caabi	key
d	daw	to run
e	set	clean
é	sér	skirt cloth
ë	bët	eye
f	for	to gather
g	garab	medicine
i	cin	pot, pan
j	jabar	wife, spouse
k	kër	house
l	lam	bracelet
m	mar	to be thirsty
n	nelaw	to sleep
ñ	ñaw	to sew
ɲ	ɲaam	jaw
o	xonq	to be red
	(xonx)	
ó	jóg	to get up
p	paaka	knife
q	ñaq	perspiration
	(ñaxx)	
r	rafet	pretty
s	suuf	ground
t	taw	rain
u	bukki	hyena
w	woo	to call
x	xalam	guitar
y	yem	to be equal

ALPHABET

a à b c d e é ë f g i j k l m n ñ ŋ o ó p q r s t
u w x y

number of graphemes 29

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