

PHONEMES AND ORTHOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

EXAMPLES

/p/ p, b
/t/ t
/ts/ ts
/c/ c
/j/ j
/k/ k
/g/ g
/ʔ/ ʔ

/m/ m
/n/ n
/ŋ/ ŋ

/pf/ pf
/f/ f
/v/ v
/s/ s
/ʃ/ sh
/z/ z
/l/ l, d
/h/ h
/w/ w
/y/ y

a apa sack, bag
b mbɪŋ forest
c lecun knot
d ndu swamp
e efɔŋ ox
ɛ ntɛ whip
f fok co-wife
g gégá butterfly
h hak brandy
i ŋkiŋ granary
j ajyɔk broom
k kaŋ squirrel
l lela to cry
m méŋ child
n nu sun
ŋ paŋ red
o ñzó to buy
ɔ ñzóp to sing
p lepap wing
pf lepfo anthill
s séŋ bird
sh ashū hoe
t tɔ stone
ts tsoʔ partridge
u tuŋ basket
u agu calabash scraper
v vok bird
w mewɛ hail
y ayiŋ termite
z azi shelf
' pu' knife

/i/ i
/e/ e
/ɛ/ ɛ
/a/ a

/u/ u
/o/ o
/ɔ/ ɔ

Labialization: e.g. kw, fw, sw

Palatalization: e.g. ky, gy, sy

Aspiration: e.g. dh, fh, sh

Tones:

high	ˊ	Ú
low-high	ˊˋ	ŨÚ
mid	ˋ	Ũ
high-low	ˋˊ	Ú
falling (mid-low)	ˋˋˊ	ŨÚ
low	ˋˋˋ	unmarked
		unmarked

ALPHABET

a b c d e ɛ f g h i j k l m n ŋ o ɔ p pf s sh t ts u
v w y z ʔ

number of graphemes 31

Alphabets of Africa

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