

PHONEMES AND ORTHOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

EXAMPLES

/p/	p	/m/	m	/f/	f	a	'la	to call, name
/b/	b	/n/	n	/v/	v	b	bi	to encircle
/b/	bh	/ɲ/	ny	/s/	s	bh	bhu	leg
/t/	t	/ŋ/	ng	/z/	z	c	'cu	moon
/d/	d			/ʒ/	z	d	de	to buy
/c/	c			/l/	l, r	e	gbe	dog
/ʒ/	j			/w/	w	ε	le	thing
/k/	k			/j/	y	f	-fanu	fear
/g/	g					g	-go	maize
/kw/	kw					gb	gbe	dog
/gw/	gw					gw	'gwe	chimpanzee
/kp/	kp					i	'si	yam
/gb/	gb					ɪ	'nyɪ	to give
						j	ju	kind of tree
						k	'kobu	rice
						kp	'kpa	bone
						kw	'kwla	bush
						l	lu	song
						m	'mu	hunger
/i/	i			/u/	u	n	'ni	water
/ɪ/	ɪ			/ɔ̃/	ɔ̃	ng	ngaze	pizie
/e/	e			/o/	o	ny	'nyɪ	to give
/ɛ/	ɛ			/ɔ/	ɔ	o	-lo	to plant
		/a/	a			ɔ	-kɔ	to command
						p	pi	to prepare
						r	'lru	head
						s	'si	yam
						t	tu	tree
/V̄/	Vn (except /e/ or /o/)					u	tu	tree
						v	lu	song
						v	'ven	beard
						w	wlu	word
						y	yolu	viper
						z	zmi	fish

Tones:

very high	·	'M
high	·	'M
mid		unmarked
low	-	-M

ALPHABET

a b bh c d e ε f g gb gw i ɪ j k kp kw l m n ng ny o
ɔ p r s t u v w y z

number of graphemes 34

Alphabets of Africa

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