

PHONEMES AND ORTHOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

EXAMPLES

/p/	p	/m/	m	/f/	f	a	yà	to go
/b/	b	/n/	n	/v/	v	b	bà	to beg
/t/	t	/ɲ/	ny	/s/	s	d	dà	to lure
/d/	d	/ŋ/	ŋ	/z/	z	e	tè	to fly
/tʃ/	ts	/ŋm/	ŋm	/l/	l	ɛ	bé	broom
/dʒ/	j			/h/	h	f	fàa	freely
/k/	k			/w/	w	g	gà	ring
/g/	g			/y/	y	gb	gbà	to prophesy
/kp/	kp					h	hà	kind of plant
/gb/	gb					i	sí	to pound
						j	jà	to strip
						k	kà	to try
						kp	kpà	to roam
						l	lá	to sing
						m	mà	to be in motion
/i/	i			/u/	u	n	nà	man's name
/e/	e			/o/	o	ny	nyumu	man
/ɛ/	ɛ			/ɔ/	ɔ	ŋ	ŋà	weaver bird
		/a/	a			ŋ,m	ŋmɔŋmɔ	side of the ribs
						o	sò	Thursday
						ɔ	ŋɔ	to be sweet
/ĩ/	ĩ (except /e/ or /o/)					p	pà	to drink soup
						s	só	seed
						t	tà	to chew
						ts	tsà	to heal
						u	mú	dirt
						v	vàá	a river grass
						w	wà	our
						y	yà	to go
						z	zàmi	urine

Tones:

high	ˊ
mid	-
low	ˋ
downstep	!

Tone is not written.

ALPHABET

a b d e ɛ f g gb h i j k kp l m n ny ŋ ŋm o ɔ p s t
ts u v w y z

number of graphemes 30

Alphabets of Africa

edited by

Rhonda L. Hartell

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