

PHONEMES AND ORTHOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

EXAMPLES

/p/	p	/m/	m	/f/	f	a	lâ	sun
/b/	b	/mb/	mb	/v/	v	b	babâ	daddy
/t/	t	/mv/	mv	/s/	s	d	doli	elephant
/d/	d	/n/	n	/z/	z	e	kêkê	tree, wood
/k/	k	/nd/	nd	/l/	l	e	mvene	lie
/g/	g	/ng/	ng	/r/	r	f	fini	new
/kp/	kp	/ngb/	ngb	/h/	h	g	galâ	market
/gb/	gb	/nz/	nz	/w/	w	gb	gbakô	forest
		/ɲ/	ny	/y/	y	h	hîo	quick
						i	îta	brother
/i/	i			/u/	u	k	kêtê	small
/e/	e			/o/	o	kp	kpôka	hoe
/ɛ/	ɛ	/a/	a	/ɔ/	o	l	lele	donkey
						m	mê	ear
						mb	mbëti	paper, letter
						mv	mvene	lie
						n	nâkô	tortoise
						nd	ndo	place, square
						ng	ngû	water, year
						ngb	ngbô	snake
						ny	nyama	animal
						nz	nzapâ	God
						o	otâ	three
						p	pâta	5 francs
						r	lôrô	race
						s	sêse	earth
						t	tere	story
						u	ûse	two
						v	vi	intestine
						w	wâlî	woman
						y	yâkâ	field
						z	zeme	knife

/V̂/ Vn (except /e/ and /o/)

Tones:

high	Ŷ
mid	Ŷ̂
low	unmarked
high-low	ŶŶ
mid-low	Ŷ̂Ŷ̂
low-high	ŶŶ̂

N.B. Tone is obligatorily marked in the orthography.

ALPHABET (Phonemic)

a b d e f g gb h i k kp l m mb mv n nd ng ngb ny nz
o p r s t u v w y z

number of graphemes 3.