

Bongo

Consonant and Vowel Book

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This book is used to teach how to better read and write Bongo by learning the consonant and vowel sounds of the language.

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Introduction

This book shows how to write words so that readers can more easily know the correct meaning. We will learn three spelling rules that help reading and writing, as well as all the sounds that join together to make words. This book is for Bongo readers and writers. It is especially important for those writing books and translating Scripture to understand the lessons of this book.

Each of the Bongo words in this book is listed in the Bongo Word List at the end of the book. If you need to check the correct spelling of a word, you can look for the word at the end of this book.

There are English words in this book that may be new to you. Each new word is underlined and explained when it is first used. If you later see the word and forget what it means, you can also find it explained in the Glossary at the back of the book.

This book can be taught to participants in a workshop. A person can also use this book to teach himself/herself without a workshop or instructor. You should read each lesson and then immediately do the exercise following the lesson. The exercise will help you test your understanding of the lesson. The answers to the exercises are in the back of the book. After completing an exercise, immediately check your answers to see how well you have understood. For each of your incorrect answers, try to understand the correct answer. Ask other Bongo if you need help.

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Bongo Alphabet

The first step in learning to read and write Bongo is learning the alphabet. The Bongo language has 38 letters, as shown in the following list of words.

Bongo Alphabet

A a	[a]	abeli	<i>maize</i>
Ä ä	[ə]	äwü	<i>carry</i>
B b	[b]	bu'du	<i>man</i>
'B 'b	[b]	'bata	<i>hare</i>
C c	[c, s]	caki	<i>ladder</i>
D d	[d]	do	<i>head</i>
'D 'd	[d]	'duu	<i>thigh</i>
E e	[ε]	kete	<i>pot</i>
Ë ë	[e]	'bëë	<i>home</i>
F f	[f]	fira	<i>axe</i>
G g	[g]	ganja	<i>money</i>
Gb gb	[gb]	gbaja	<i>comb</i>
H h	[h]	hinyi	<i>scorpion</i>
I i	[ɪ]	kinji	<i>fish</i>
Ï ï	[i]	bihi	<i>dog</i>
J j	[ʃ]	ji	<i>arm, hand</i>
'J 'j	[f]	'joko	<i>tooth</i>
K k	[k]	kada	<i>sun</i>
Kp kp	[kp]	kpüli	<i>lion</i>
L l	[l]	lanyi	<i>gun</i>
M m	[m]	maca	<i>rhino</i>
Mb mb	[^m b]	mbiyöngö	<i>pen, colour</i>
N n	[n]	noko	<i>mother's brother</i>
Nd nd	[ⁿ d]	ndira	<i>pencil</i>
Ng ng	[^ŋ g]	ngono	<i>chicken</i>
Ngb ngb	[^ŋ gb]	ngbangu	<i>okra</i>
Nj nj	[^ŋ ʃ]	njolo	<i>frog</i>
Ny ny	[ɲ]	nyere	<i>chief</i>
'Ng 'ng	[ŋ]	'ngoo	<i>termite</i>
O o	[ɔ]	kogo	<i>leopard</i>
Ö ö	[o]	köbi	<i>buffalo</i>
P p	[p]	pirapa	<i>mud wall</i>
R r	[r]	reme	<i>squirrel</i>
T t	[t]	tīngöli	<i>mortar</i>
U u	[u]	tutu	<i>grinding stone</i>
Ü ü	[u]	küngü	<i>baboon</i>
W w	[w]	waru	<i>fish type</i>
Y y	[j]	yöngölö	<i>bell</i>

The Bongo word list at the end of this book has the same order as the list above.

Exercise 1

Write each of the words in the list above next to the letters below. Say each word as you write them. Listen to the sound each letter makes.

a	_____	i	_____	nj	_____
ä	_____	ï	_____	ny	_____
b	_____	j	_____	'ng	_____
'b	_____	'j	_____	o	_____
c	_____	k	_____	ö	_____
d	_____	kp	_____	p	_____
'd	_____	l	_____	r	_____
e	_____	m	_____	t	_____
ë	_____	mb	_____	u	_____
f	_____	n	_____	ü	_____
g	_____	nd	_____	w	_____
gb	_____	ng	_____	y	_____
h	_____	ngb	_____		

Syllables

Now we learn how Bongo letters are joined together in words. Words can be divided into syllables, or beats. Each of the words below has *three* syllables. They can be divided into three separate beats as shown.

Three-syllable words

cumari	cu ma ri	<i>loin cloth</i>
domaga	do ma ga	<i>boundary</i>
faranga	fa ra nga	<i>young man</i>
hi'bana	hi 'ba na	<i>skin</i>
'jolanda	'jo la nda	<i>hail, ice</i>
kariya	ka ri ya	<i>antelope</i>
kiranya	ki ra nya	<i>snake</i>
kürö'bö	kü rö 'bö	<i>mud</i>
kpärikpö	kpä ri kpö	<i>tortoise</i>
ndaliko	nda li ko	<i>chameleon, lizard</i>
tingöli	ti ngö li	<i>mortar, bowl for pounding</i>

Each of the words below has *two* syllables. They can be divided into two separate beats as shown.

<u>Two-syllable words</u>		
bütü	bü tü	<i>dura, sorghum</i>
döhī	dö hī	<i>funeral</i>
gala	ga la	<i>wild dog, jackal</i>
ganja	ga nja	<i>metal, money</i>
guungil	guu ngil	<i>pit, hole</i>
gbiti	gbi ti	<i>shield</i>
kanga	ka nga	<i>ostrich</i>
kībī	kī bī	<i>drum</i>
kongbo	ko ngbo	<i>bird type</i>
kpo'do	kpo 'do	<i>hat</i>
maya	ma ya	<i>milk</i>
möönyü	möö nyü	<i>dura, sorghum</i>
mbira	mbi ra	<i>net</i>
ndere	nde re	<i>walk</i>
ngaja	nga ja	<i>girl</i>
ngbangu	ngba ngu	<i>okra</i>
njolo	njo lo	<i>frog</i>
al'ji	a 'ji	<i>thing</i>

Each of the words below has *one* syllable. They cannot be divided into more than one beat.

<u>One-syllable words</u>	
rọ	<i>body</i>
ko	<i>opening, edge</i>
bīī	<i>hair</i>
'bēē	<i>home, compound</i>
hoo	<i>stream, pool</i>
ngoo	<i>in-law</i>
rūū	<i>house, hut</i>

tii		<i>peanut</i>
lii		<i>co-wife</i>
’jii		<i>person</i>

Exercise 2

Say each word below and listen to the number of beats in each word. Write the number of syllables (1, 2, or 3) in the blank ___ to the left of each word. Then divide the word into syllables in the blanks to the right of each word. Write one syllable on each blank. Do not fill more blanks than the number of syllables. The first one has been done as an example.

number of syllables		divided into syllables			
<u>2</u>	lo'ngo	<u>lo</u>	<u>'ngo</u>	___	<i>friendship</i>
___	külüyi	___	___	___	<i>python</i>
___	'ngoo	___	___	___	<i>termite</i>
___	nduma	___	___	___	<i>grass</i>
___	gbügürü	___	___	___	<i>bag type</i>
___	ngbala	___	___	___	<i>whip</i>
___	njii	___	___	___	<i>leaf</i>
___	marundu	___	___	___	<i>spider</i>
___	mbele	___	___	___	<i>catfish</i>
___	dangara	___	___	___	<i>distance</i>
___	nga'ba	___	___	___	<i>cheek</i>
___	candu	___	___	___	<i>leech, insect</i>
___	kpökpö	___	___	___	<i>throat</i>
___	bayongo	___	___	___	<i>artist, musician</i>
___	binya	___	___	___	<i>goat</i>
___	ünyi	___	___	___	<i>good, sweet</i>

Consonants

Some letters are consonants and some letters are vowels. In the word **mbira** ‘net’, the letters **mb** and **r** are consonants and **i** and **a** are vowels.

Consonants usually begin syllables and occasionally end syllables. Vowels end syllables. In the syllable **mbi**, the consonant **mb** begins the syllable, and the vowel **i** ends the syllable. In the syllable **ra**, the consonant **r** begins the syllable and the vowel **a** ends the syllable.

In a few words such as **aji** ‘thing’, the first vowel **a** is a syllable by itself. A vowel can be a syllable by itself, but a consonant cannot be a syllable by itself. In a few words, there is a final consonant, such as **m** in **ndumu** ‘tomorrow’.

The following 28 letters are Bongo consonants:

Bongo consonants

B b	Gb gb	M m	Ny ny
'B 'b	H h	Mb mb	'Ng 'ng
C c	J j	N n	P p
D d	'J 'j	Nd nd	R r
'D 'd	K k	Ng ng	T t
F f	Kp kp	Ngb ngb	W w
G g	L l	Nj nj	Y y

The following 10 letters are Bongo vowels:

Bongo vowels

A a Ä ä E e Ę ę I i Ī ī O o Ö ö U u Ü ü

In this lesson, we learn about Bongo consonants. In a later lesson, we learn about Bongo vowels.

The list below has Bongo words with each of the consonants. All consonants can be at the *beginning* and *middle* of words. There are no consonants at the end of words¹.

	Word beginning		Word middle	
B b	baa	<i>river</i>	ngäbü	<i>cobra, snake</i>
	biï	<i>hair</i>	lobi	<i>poem</i>
'B b	'bara	<i>rib</i>	tö'bö	<i>fat</i>
	'boko	<i>rat type</i>	ta'ba	<i>tobacco</i>
C c	caa	<i>cow</i>	mici	<i>potato</i>
	cii	<i>feces</i>	kpico	<i>talon, claw</i>
D d	daa	<i>water well</i>	kuda	<i>thirst</i>
	dudu	<i>grave</i>	kidi	<i>elephant</i>
'D 'd	'dice	<i>message</i>	ti'do	<i>weed</i>
	'duu	<i>thigh</i>	ngü'dü	<i>hump</i>
F f	firi	<i>word, matter</i>	ayufu	<i>maize cleaning</i>

¹ All words are vowel-final so as to take a lengthen vowel for negation.

	foli	<i>cloud</i>	firafa	<i>mud wall</i>
G g	gewu guu	<i>town</i> <i>hole</i>	ndugu mbaga	<i>price</i> <i>mother</i>
Gb gb	gbiti gboo	<i>shield</i> <i>fence</i>	higba gbugbu	<i>stool</i> <i>hole</i>
H h	haya hii	<i>sand</i> <i>soil</i>	kuhu mēhi	<i>seed, tribe</i> <i>meat</i>
J j	jumu jölö	<i>dish</i> <i>cock</i>	mbäjä ngaja	<i>scab of wound</i> <i>girl</i>
'J 'j	'jolo 'jii	<i>antelope type</i> <i>person</i>	lè'ji lu'ju	<i>beer</i> <i>sap (of tree)</i>
K k	kada kībī	<i>day</i> <i>drum</i>	riko ngökü	<i>bed</i> <i>rubbish, garbage</i>
Kp kp	kpico kpo'do	<i>talon, claw</i> <i>hat</i>	kpökpö kpärikpö	<i>throat</i> <i>tortoise</i>
L l	lawu lee	<i>clothing item</i> <i>father's sister</i>	wäli tolo	<i>wild dog</i> <i>juice, dew</i>
M m	maa mu'du	<i>child</i> <i>illness</i>	reme mömü	<i>squirrel</i> <i>wife</i>
Mb mb	mbēli mbötü	<i>wing</i> <i>door</i>	rembo mumbu	<i>sheep</i> <i>corpse</i>
N n	noko nini	<i>mother's brother</i> <i>mother's sister</i>	ngono mini	<i>chicken</i> <i>water</i>
Nd nd	ndikä ndobo	<i>law</i> <i>work</i>	tondi mindī	<i>leech, insect</i> <i>dirt, soil</i>
Ng ng	nga'ba ngoo	<i>cheek</i> <i>in-law</i>	manga küngü	<i>stream</i> <i>baboon, monkey</i>
Ngb ngb	ngbala ngbangu	<i>whip, arm</i> <i>okra</i>	yungba langba	<i>hatred</i> <i>drying platform</i>
Nj nj	njii njuru	<i>leaf, book</i> <i>poverty</i>	tanja ngonjo	<i>guinea fowl</i> <i>shin</i>
Ny ny	nyaka nyihi	<i>field, garden</i> <i>moon, month</i>	munya minyi	<i>ugliness</i> <i>odour, smell</i>
'Ng 'ng	'ngoo 'ngäcä	<i>termite</i> <i>slave</i>	tä'ngä ngo'ngo	<i>antelope type</i> <i>housefly</i>
P p	pira pito	<i>axe</i> <i>walking stick</i>	ayupu pirapa	<i>maize cleaning</i> <i>mud wall</i>
R r	ro rūjū	<i>name</i> <i>flour</i>	türü nyoro	<i>government</i> <i>tumor</i>
T t	tara tutu	<i>lip</i> <i>shell</i>	kuta nyiti	<i>filter, sieve</i> <i>potato</i>
W w	wa'nga wöli	<i>poison</i> <i>brain</i>	lawu gewu	<i>clothing item</i> <i>town</i>
Y y	yala yëgë	<i>fly swatter</i> <i>locust</i>	ngayi wüyü	<i>table</i> <i>abscess</i>

Exercise 3

In each word below, circle each consonant. The first one has been done as an example.

h i 'b a n a	<i>skin</i>
gb i t i	<i>shield</i>
b i ny a	<i>goat</i>
'j o l a nd a	<i>hail, ice</i>
d o m a g a	<i>boundary</i>
kp o 'd o	<i>hat</i>
w a 'ng a	<i>poison</i>
ngb a ng u	<i>okra</i>
f a r a ng a	<i>young man</i>
mb ä j ä	<i>scab (of wound)</i>
k a r i y a	<i>antelope</i>
'b o nj o	<i>pumpkin</i>
p a c a	<i>a lot</i>

Consonants b and 'b²

The consonants **b** and **'b** sound similar at the beginning of words. When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **b** in **buu** 'banana' is different than the sound of **'b** in **'buu** 'egg'. Say each of the words below. Listen carefully to the difference in sound between **b** and **'b**.

B b	'B 'b
buu <i>banana</i>	'buu <i>egg</i>
bu'du <i>man</i>	'buu <i>hunger</i>
bulo'ngo <i>friend</i>	'buru <i>life</i>
bübü <i>rubbish dump</i>	'bula <i>simsim, sesame</i>
bütü <i>dura, sorghum</i>	'buulu <i>mahogany tree</i>
bürü <i>camp</i>	'bürë <i>dust</i>
bürükü <i>ash</i>	'bonjo <i>pumpkin</i>
bö'bü <i>father</i>	'bongo <i>fig</i>
bö'dü <i>hog, warthog</i>	'boro <i>forging things</i>
bötöli <i>male goat</i>	'boro <i>hole</i>

² Note that none of the lists of words in this and following consonant lessons have been compared and contrasted by speakers; all the consonant lists in this book need to be checked by speakers.

binya	goat	'boki	calf (of leg)
bira	beauty	'boko	rat type
bihi	place	'boyi	trap
bilina	dura, sorghum	'bii	sleep
biyaa	news	'birü	bat
bidi	pasture	'bëë	home, compound
birici	mat	'bata	hare, rabbit
bikëbi	waist	'bara	rib
bihi	dog	'balakana	okra
bii	hair	'baya	feast
beeri	open land	'badibi	bottom of something
bëëri	iron stand		
bata	pride		
bayongo	artist, musician		
baa	river		
baangbe	sweet potato		
baanga	dangerous animal		
baagaa	colleagues		

The letters **b** and **'b** can also be in-between vowels. When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **b** in **taba** 'leprosy' is different than the sound of **'b** in **ta'ba** 'tobacco'. Listen carefully to the difference in sound between **b** and **'b** in the words below.

b		'b	
taba	leprosy	ta'ba	tobacco
laba	bridge	nga'ba	cheek
haba	hippo	hinga'ba	check
abeli	maize	tö'bö	fat
ngäbü	cobra, snake	kürö'bö	mud
ndobo	work	'jomo'ba	seed, kernel
dobaa	abdomen	bö'bü	father
lobi	poem	gu'bu	forest
köbi	buffalo	lu'ba	abandoned place
bübü	rubbish dump	hi'bi	rainy season
bikëbi	waist	hili'bu	snail
kibi	drum	li'bu	hive (of bees)
këbi	rope, string	hi'bü	oil, ointment
		hi'bongo	shell
		ndi'bö	chin
		hi'ba	sound
		hi'bana	skin
		hi'bala	orphan
		kilë'bi	mountain, hill

Exercise 4

Carefully read and say each test word below. The **bold** letter of each test word may or may not be written correctly. Write the word correctly in the space given. The first one is done as an example.

Test Word	Write correctly	Test Word	Write correctly
boorü <i>inside</i>	'böörü _____	'ba'ja <i>wet</i>	_____
böci <i>castrated animal</i>	_____	börö <i>already</i>	_____
'bono <i>front of something</i>	_____	ban <i>there</i>	_____
'bugba <i>off, away, outside</i>	_____	'bahi <i>inside</i>	_____
bü'bü <i>foaming, bubbling</i>	_____	'böö <i>friend</i>	_____
baki'da <i>over there</i>	_____	'bohondo <i>behind</i>	_____
äbi <i>give</i>	_____	abe <i>open</i>	_____
aba <i>rub</i>	_____	aduru' bu <i>dream</i>	_____
andu' ba <i>beg</i>	_____	ämë' bi <i>fly</i>	_____
ä' bü <i>build</i>	_____	kamabal <i>slow</i>	_____
di' bi <i>low, down</i>	_____	kä bü <i>paralyzed</i>	_____
mbö' bö <i>spoiled</i>	_____	gburubaa <i>perfect</i>	_____

Consonants **d** and '**d**

The consonants **d** and '**d** sound similar at the beginning of words. When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **d** in **dongo** 'civet cat' is different than the sound of '**d** in '**dongo** 'lump on head'. Say each of the words below. Listen carefully to the difference in sound between **d** and '**d**.

D d	' D 'd
d ongo <i>civet cat</i>	' d ongo <i>lump on head</i>
d o <i>head</i>	' d ice <i>message</i>
d obaa <i>abdomen</i>	' d uu <i>thigh</i>
d omaga <i>boundary</i>	' d a <i>there</i>
d ori <i>year</i>	' d aa'da'da <i>soft</i>
d ökëri <i>side (of something)</i>	' d u'bii <i>sleep</i>
d öhü <i>funeral</i>	
d ili <i>shadow, shade</i>	
d angara <i>distance</i>	
d aya <i>midwife</i>	
d aa <i>water well</i>	
d ümü <i>asida, porridge</i>	

The letters **d** and '**d** can also be in-between vowels. When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **d** in **gbud** 'snake type' is different than the sound of '**d** in **gu'd** 'room'.

Listen carefully to the difference in sound between **d** and **'d** in the words below.

d	'd
dudu <i>grave</i>	bu'du <i>man</i>
tüdü <i>crying, weeping</i>	mu'du <i>illness</i>
kuda <i>thirst</i>	ngü'dü <i>hump (on back)</i>
kudo <i>speech</i>	ngü'dü <i>blindness</i>
küdü <i>worm</i>	kü'dühü <i>cotton</i>
kidi <i>elephant</i>	ku'da <i>water place</i>
kidi <i>muscle</i>	mbu'da <i>bag, quiver</i>
bidi <i>pasture</i>	babu'do <i>resembling thing</i>
hido <i>behaviour</i>	mü'di <i>bush</i>
kokidi <i>rice</i>	ti'di <i>vomit</i>
hedi <i>urine, pee</i>	hi'di <i>penis</i>
kada <i>sun, day</i>	ti'do <i>weed</i>
	hi'dü <i>fishing spear</i>
	to'do <i>salt</i>
	kpo'do <i>hat</i>
	ko'do <i>gourd, calabash</i>
	hidöki'di <i>chest</i>
	bö'dü <i>hog, warthog</i>
	fö'dü <i>fire</i>
	mbiré'di <i>bamboo</i>
	nya'da <i>smile, welcome</i>
	hi'dü <i>fishing spear</i>

We have the letter **nd**, but we never write the letter **n'd**.

Only **nd** and not **n'd**

Correct	Wrong	
manda	man'da	<i>groundnut</i>
gbondo	gbon'do	<i>leg, foot</i>
marundu	marun'du	<i>spider</i>
lündü	lün'dü	<i>brother</i>
kündütü	kün'dütü	<i>heap, pile</i>
hindo	hin'do	<i>night</i>
mindü	min'di	<i>dirt, soil</i>

Exercise 5

Carefully read and say each test word below. The **bold** letter of each test word may or may not be written correctly. Write the word correctly in the space given. The first one is done as an example.

Test Word	Write correctly	Test Word	Write correctly
-----------	-----------------	-----------	-----------------

'dibi	<i>low, down</i>	<u>dibi</u>	du'bii	<i>sleep</i>	
'dole	<i>roaming, wandering</i>		duu	<i>real</i>	
'da	<i>there</i>		dolongo	<i>hanging</i>	
ädü	<i>start</i>		a'du	<i>light, ignite</i>	
ädü	<i>throw</i>		a'du	<i>live</i>	
agbo'do	<i>collect, gather</i>		kpađu	<i>tall, long</i>	
bu'dabu'da	<i>soft</i>		ä'di	<i>be cold</i>	
ado	<i>cultivate, farm</i>		adoci	<i>cut</i>	
ädi	<i>bend over</i>		a'domo	<i>keep, save</i>	
a'da	<i>tie</i>		ada	<i>count</i>	
ä'di	<i>cook</i>		kä'dëri	<i>much</i>	
a'ju'do	<i>braid (hair)</i>		'bakida	<i>over there</i>	

Consonants j and 'j

The consonants **j** and **'j** sound similar at the beginning of words. When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **j** in **jolo** 'dress' is different than the sound of **'j** in **'jolo** 'antelope type'. Say each of the words below. Listen carefully to the difference in sound between **j** and **'j**.

J j	'J 'j
jolo <i>dress (for women)</i>	'jolo <i>antelope type</i>
joli <i>limp</i>	'joko <i>tooth</i>
jölö <i>cock</i>	'johaya <i>sugar</i>
jöhî <i>nasal mucus</i>	'joo <i>vagina</i>
jumu <i>dish</i>	'jomo'ba <i>seed, kernel</i>
ji <i>arm, hand</i>	'jolanda <i>hail, ice</i>
	'jögömü <i>testicle</i>
	'jî <i>person</i>

The letters **j** and **'j** can also be in-between vowels. When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **j** in **rüjü** 'flour' is different than the sound of **'j** in **lu'ju** 'sap (of tree)'. Listen carefully to the difference in sound between **j** and **'j** in the words below.

j	'j
rüjü <i>flour</i>	lu'ju <i>sap (of tree)</i>
kuje <i>hook</i>	ndu'ju <i>greeting</i>
ngaja <i>girl</i>	ku'ja <i>prostitution</i>
gbaja <i>comb</i>	a'ji <i>thing</i>
mbäjä <i>scab (of wound)</i>	ndö'ji <i>semen</i>
wäji <i>hawk, bird</i>	lë'ji <i>beer</i>

Exercise 6

Carefully read and say each test word below. The **bold** letter of each test word may or may not be written correctly. Write the word correctly in the space given. The first one is done as an example.

Test Word	Write correctly	Test Word	Write correctly
' ji <i>arm, hand</i>	j i	' jii <i>person</i>	_____
joko <i>tooth</i>	_____	' jölö <i>cock</i>	_____
' jolanda <i>hail, ice</i>	_____	jekee <i>good</i>	_____
atiji <i>open</i>	_____	amaja <i>melt</i>	_____
a'julu <i>return, give back</i>	_____	moo'je <i>look, behold</i>	_____
anduju <i>ask, request</i>	_____	andoji <i>flow (like water)</i>	_____
ä'jē <i>diverge, separate</i>	_____	a'ju <i>be born</i>	_____
agbu'ju <i>return, go back</i>	_____	ajudo <i>braid (hair)</i>	_____
ätöji <i>pour</i>	_____	mo'jo <i>little</i>	_____

Consonants 'ng, ng, g

The consonants **'ng, ng** and **g** sound similar at the beginning of words. When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **'ng** in **'ngoo** 'termite' is different than the sound of **ng** in **ngoo** 'in-law' and different than the sound of **g** in **go** 'neck'. Say each of the words below. Listen carefully to the difference in sound between **'ng, ng** and **g**.

'Ng 'ng	Ng ng	G g
' ngoo <i>termite</i>	ngoo <i>in-law</i>	go <i>neck</i>
' ngo'ngo <i>catfish</i>	ngo'ngo <i>housefly</i>	goli <i>wealth</i>
' ngäcä <i>slave, slavery</i>	ngomu <i>abscess</i>	göhi <i>cough</i>
' ngäl'ngäl <i>bright</i>	ngonjo <i>shin (of leg)</i>	ganja <i>iron, metal</i>
' ngaa'nga'nga <i>dry</i>	ngono <i>chicken</i>	gangaci <i>circumcision</i>
	ngoyo <i>song</i>	gala <i>wild dog</i>
	ngökü <i>rubbish</i>	gägä <i>lizard</i>
	ngöönü <i>snore</i>	gingo <i>hook</i>
	ngaja <i>girl</i>	giya <i>root</i>
	ngala <i>dance</i>	gewu <i>town</i>
	ngaligbi <i>rainbow</i>	gu'bu <i>forest</i>
	nganja <i>crocodile</i>	guru <i>fish type</i>
	nga'ba <i>cheek</i>	gulu <i>yeast</i>
	ngaha <i>run</i>	guloto <i>granary</i>
	ngayi <i>table</i>	guu <i>hole</i>
	ngaya <i>scabies, disease</i>	gütü <i>strength</i>

ngäbü	<i>cobra, snake</i>
ngira	<i>forest</i>
ngiri	<i>firewood</i>
ngü'dü	<i>hump (on back)</i>
ngü'dü	<i>blindness</i>
ngüli	<i>widow</i>

The letters **'ng**, **ng** and **g** can also be inbetween vowels. When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **'ng** in **lo'ngo** 'friendship' is different than the sound of **ng** in **kulongo** 'bottle', and is also different than the sound of **g** in **logo** 'hoe blade'. Listen carefully to the difference in sound between **'ng**, **ng** and **g** in the words below.

'ng		ng		g	
lo'ngo	<i>friendship</i>	kulongo	<i>bottle</i>	logo	<i>hoe blade</i>
'ngo'ngo	<i>catfish</i>	bayongo	<i>artist, musician</i>	hogo	<i>back</i>
ngo'ngo	<i>housefly</i>	hi'bongo	<i>shell (of turtle)</i>	kogo	<i>leopard</i>
bulo'ngo	<i>good friend</i>	kurongo	<i>shout, sound</i>	mbogo	<i>hardship</i>
wa'nga	<i>poison</i>	kongono	<i>beak</i>	mburogo	<i>throat mucus</i>
tä'ngä	<i>antelope</i>	yöngölö	<i>bell</i>	boogaa	<i>colleagues</i>
ru'nga	<i>twin</i>	'bongo	<i>fig</i>	'jögömü	<i>testicle</i>
		'dongo	<i>lump on head</i>	mbaga	<i>mother</i>
		dongo	<i>civet cat</i>	kaga	<i>tree, wood</i>
		Böngö	<i>Bongo person</i>	domaga	<i>boundary</i>
		mbiyöngö	<i>pen</i>	magori	<i>ring, wheel</i>
		baanga	<i>dangerous animal</i>	gägä	<i>lizard</i>
		ranga	<i>vulture</i>	mägürë	<i>dove, bird</i>
		manga	<i>stream</i>	ndugu	<i>price</i>
		kanga	<i>ostrich</i>	kügü	<i>laughter</i>
		yanga	<i>clitoris</i>	gbügürü	<i>bag</i>
		gangaci	<i>circumcision</i>	higë	<i>mouse</i>
		dangara	<i>distance</i>	higüci	<i>anus</i>
		manganga	<i>drum type</i>	hege	<i>spirit, god</i>
		faranga	<i>young man</i>	yëgë	<i>locust</i>
		ngbangu	<i>okra</i>		
		mangooli	<i>flute</i>		
		wängä	<i>greed</i>		
		längärä	<i>bed</i>		
		mängälü	<i>grasshopper</i>		
		mängükü	<i>owl</i>		
		mängiri	<i>fear</i>		
		tüngöli	<i>mortar, bowl</i>		
		kungu	<i>road, path</i>		
		runga	<i>rural area</i>		
		küngü	<i>baboon, monkey</i>		
		lingë	<i>horn (of animal)</i>		
		gingo	<i>hook</i>		

Exercise 7

Carefully read and say each test word below. The **bold** letter of each test word may or may not be written correctly. Write the word correctly in the space given. The first one is done as an example.

Test Word		Write correctly	Test Word		Write correctly
g ori	<i>two</i>	<u>ngori</u>	'n gatee	<i>younger</i>	_____
g oli	<i>rich</i>	_____	g iyaa	<i>small</i>	_____
ng äl'ngäl	<i>bright</i>	_____	g atikan	<i>few</i>	_____
g aka	<i>towards</i>	_____	ng ewegewe	<i>falling</i>	_____
ng iyee	<i>some</i>	_____	g ändä	<i>much</i>	_____
g a	<i>all</i>	_____	'ng aa'nga'nga	<i>dry</i>	_____
'ng ara	<i>soon</i>	_____	ng a	<i>long ago</i>	_____
ng ara	<i>great</i>	_____	ng ürtë	<i>short</i>	_____
g ari	<i>turn</i>	_____	k pongo	<i>empty</i>	_____
kp ägälä	<i>far</i>	_____	t igo	<i>strong</i>	_____
l ilingi	<i>lost</i>	_____	g aga	<i>follow</i>	_____
k angaci	<i>without reason</i>	_____	m akitingo	<i>hard</i>	_____
h e'ngu	<i>sharp</i>	_____	l o'ngu	<i>big</i>	_____
d ohogo	<i>behind</i>	_____	m a'ngatee	<i>younger</i>	_____
d ohanga	<i>crawling</i>	_____	a ngo	<i>hang</i>	_____
a 'nga	<i>bite, gnaw</i>	_____	m bulugaa	<i>not sour</i>	_____
y o'ngi	<i>exhausted</i>	_____	b aga	<i>bachelor</i>	_____
t aga	<i>afternoon</i>	_____	a yanga	<i>lose temper</i>	_____
a langa	<i>cut</i>	_____	tä 'ngü	<i>blocked</i>	_____
a ga	<i>chase</i>	_____	a gu	<i>buy, sell</i>	_____
d olo'ngo	<i>hanging</i>	_____	k panga	<i>piece</i>	_____

Consonants n, nd, d

The consonants **n**, **nd** and **d** sound similar at the beginning of words. When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **n** in **noko** 'mother's brother' is different than the sound of **nd** in **ndobo** 'work', and also different than the sound of **d** in **dongo** 'civet cat'. Say each of the words below. Listen carefully to the difference in sound between **n**, **nd** and **d**.

N n		Nd nd		D d	
noko	<i>mother's brother</i>	ndobo	<i>work</i>	dongo	<i>civet cat</i>
nini	<i>mother's sister</i>	ndö'ji	<i>semen</i>	do	<i>head</i>
nafiri	<i>wanting, needing</i>	ndörü	<i>mourning</i>	dobaa	<i>abdomen</i>
nabi	<i>did, had</i>	ndira	<i>pencil</i>	domaga	<i>boundary</i>
nandanika	<i>now</i>	ndi'bö	<i>chin</i>	dori	<i>year</i>
nokotoo	<i>yesterday</i>	ndirī	<i>pimple, blemish</i>	dökēri	<i>side</i>
		ndikā	<i>law</i>	döhī	<i>funeral</i>
		ndere	<i>walk</i>	dīli	<i>shadow</i>
		ndatara	<i>tongue</i>	dangara	<i>distance</i>
		ndaliko	<i>chameleon</i>	daya	<i>midwife</i>
		ndu'ju	<i>greeting</i>	daa	<i>water well</i>
		nduma	<i>grass</i>	dümü	<i>asida</i>
		nduru	<i>weakness</i>		
		ndugu	<i>price</i>		
		ndüü	<i>sound, voice</i>		

The letters **n**, **nd** and **d** can also be inbetween vowels. When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **n** in **hi'bana** 'skin' is different than the sound of **nd** in **landa** 'white stone', and also different than the sound of **d** in **kada** 'sun'.

n		nd		d	
hi'bana	<i>skin</i>	landa	<i>white stone</i>	kada	<i>sun, day</i>
'balakana	<i>okra</i>	manda	<i>groundnut</i>	kokidi	<i>rice</i>
makana	<i>fruit</i>	candu	<i>leech, insect</i>	dudu	<i>grave</i>
tarana	<i>tree type</i>	gbondo	<i>leg, foot</i>	kuda	<i>thirst</i>
kanu	<i>trunk (of elephant)</i>	tondi	<i>leech, insect</i>	kudo	<i>speech</i>
dokono	<i>guide</i>	marundu	<i>spider</i>	tüdü	<i>crying, weeping</i>
ngono	<i>chicken</i>	lündü	<i>brother</i>	küdi	<i>worm</i>
ngöönü	<i>snore</i>	kündütü	<i>heap, pile</i>	kidi	<i>elephant</i>
bilina	<i>dura, sorghum</i>	kündi	<i>rattle, instrument</i>	hido	<i>behaviour</i>
mini	<i>water</i>	hindo	<i>night</i>	kidi	<i>muscle</i>
mino	<i>cry, weeping</i>	mindī	<i>dirt, soil</i>	bidi	<i>pasture</i>
tene	<i>insult</i>	mëndē	<i>thinness</i>	hi'dü	<i>fishing spear</i>
				hēdi	<i>urine, pee</i>

Exercise 8

Carefully read and say each test word below. The **bold** letter of each test word may or may not be written correctly. Write the word correctly in the space given. The first one is done as an example.

Test Word		Write correctly	Test Word		Write correctly
ndee	<i>before</i>	<u>ndee</u>	nandanika	<i>now</i>	_____

nduu	<i>real</i>		dan	<i>today</i>	
ndokotoo	<i>yesterday</i>		dende	<i>shaking</i>	
ndumu	<i>tomorrow</i>		dole	<i>roaming, wandering</i>	
ndolongo	<i>hanging</i>		düböö	<i>older, elder</i>	
di'bono	<i>forward</i>		anda	<i>count</i>	
nandanika	<i>now</i>		donondo	<i>dawn</i>	
kunu	<i>painful</i>		donodo	<i>dawn</i>	
kinaru	<i>wrinkled</i>		ädi	<i>bend over</i>	
gändä	<i>much</i>		kendi	<i>correct</i>	
kändëri	<i>much</i>		kanda	<i>new</i>	
hondoo	<i>last</i>		ëdëë	<i>unripe</i>	
adee	<i>go</i>		anda	<i>tie</i>	

Consonants m, mb, b

The consonants **m**, **mb** and **b** sound similar at the beginning of words. When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **m** in **mira** 'poison' is different than the sound of **mb** in **mbira** 'net', and also different than the sound of **b** in **bira** 'beauty'. Say each of the words below. Listen carefully to the difference in sound between **m**, **mb** and **b**.

M m		Mb mb		B b	
mira	<i>poison</i>	mbira	<i>net</i>	bira	<i>beauty</i>
mini	<i>water</i>	mbirawu	<i>wild cat</i>	bihi	<i>place</i>
mino	<i>cry, weeping</i>	mbili	<i>ear</i>	bilina	<i>dura, sorghum</i>
miyeeyi	<i>yelling</i>	mbirë'di	<i>bamboo</i>	binya	<i>goat</i>
mici	<i>potato</i>	mbiyö	<i>lie</i>	biyaa	<i>news</i>
mindi	<i>dirt, soil</i>	mbiyöngö	<i>pen</i>	bidi	<i>pasture</i>
minyï	<i>odour, smell</i>	mbere	<i>palm tree</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>
mehe	<i>spear type</i>	mbele	<i>catfish</i>	bii	<i>hair</i>
mëndë	<i>thinness</i>	mbëli	<i>wing</i>	birici	<i>mat</i>
mëhi	<i>meat</i>	mbaga	<i>mother</i>	bikëbi	<i>waist</i>
mamba	<i>search, hunt</i>	mbjä	<i>scab</i>	beeri	<i>open land</i>
matiyo	<i>story</i>	mbu'da	<i>bag, quiver</i>	bëeri	<i>iron stand</i>
manda	<i>groundnut</i>	mburogo	<i>throat mucus</i>	bata	<i>pride</i>
manga	<i>stream</i>	mbogo	<i>hardship</i>	bayongo	<i>artist</i>
manganga	<i>drum type</i>	mbötü	<i>door</i>	baa	<i>river</i>
mangooli	<i>flute</i>			baangbe	<i>sweet potato</i>
marundu	<i>spider</i>			baanga	<i>animal</i>
maca	<i>rhino</i>			baagaa	<i>colleagues</i>
macoki	<i>tooth brush</i>			buu	<i>banana</i>
makana	<i>fruit</i>			bu'du	<i>man</i>

magori	<i>ring, wheel</i>
mahikoli	<i>mosquito</i>
maya	<i>breast</i>
maya	<i>yam</i>
maa	<i>child</i>
mänjükürü	<i>ant</i>
mängiri	<i>fear</i>
mängälü	<i>grasshopper</i>
mängükü	<i>owl</i>
maciki	<i>louse, lice</i>
mägürë	<i>dove, bird</i>
mu'du	<i>illness</i>
mumbu	<i>corpse</i>
munya	<i>ugliness</i>
mulu	<i>whisper</i>
muyu	<i>death</i>
mü'di	<i>bush</i>
mülü	<i>darkness</i>
mükü	<i>fallow ground</i>
moko	<i>war, fighting</i>
moori	<i>mother-in-law</i>
mö mü	<i>wife</i>
möölü	<i>fish type</i>
möönyü	<i>dura</i>

bulo'ngo	<i>friend</i>
bübü	<i>rubbish dump</i>
bütü	<i>dura, sorghum</i>
bürü	<i>camp</i>
bürükü	<i>ash</i>
bö'bü	<i>father</i>
bö'dü	<i>hog, warthog</i>
bötöli	<i>male goat</i>

The letters **m**, **mb** and **b** can also be inbetween vowels. When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **m** in **tirama** ‘blood’ is different than the sound of **mb** in **kamba** ‘honey’, and also different than the sound of **b** in **haba** ‘hippo’.

m		mb		b	
tirama	<i>blood</i>	kamba	<i>honey</i>	haba	<i>hippo</i>
lalamu	<i>curse</i>	mamba	<i>search, hunt</i>	taba	<i>leprosy</i>
reme	<i>squirrel</i>	rembo	<i>sheep</i>	laba	<i>bridge</i>
lëmi	<i>sister</i>	rekembe	<i>shell instrument</i>	abeli	<i>maize</i>
jumu	<i>dish</i>	mumbu	<i>corpse</i>	ngäbü	<i>cobra, snake</i>
luma	<i>god</i>	dömbëci	<i>shoulder</i>	këbi	<i>rope, string</i>
nduma	<i>grass</i>			bübü	<i>rubbish dump</i>
cumari	<i>loin cloth</i>			ndobo	<i>work</i>
kumara	<i>woman</i>			dobaa	<i>abdomen</i>
dümü	<i>asida, porridge</i>			lobi	<i>poem</i>
kümü	<i>navel</i>			köbi	<i>buffalo</i>
kümö	<i>celebration</i>			kibi	<i>drum</i>
komo	<i>eye</i>			bikëbi	<i>waist</i>
homo	<i>nose</i>				
'jomo'ba	<i>seed, kernel</i>				

domaga	<i>boundary</i>
'jögöümü	<i>testicle</i>
mömü	<i>wife</i>
himü	<i>relative</i>

Exercise 9

Carefully read and say each test word below. The **bold** letter of each test word may or may not be written correctly. Write the word correctly in the space given. The first one is done as an example.

Test Word		Write correctly	Test Word		Write correctly
baa	<i>short while</i>	<u>mbaa</u>	mbö'bö	<i>spoiled</i>	_____
mo'jo	<i>little</i>	_____	mbeyeka	<i>also, again</i>	_____
mböö	<i>friend</i>	_____	bara	<i>remaining</i>	_____
mangatee	<i>younder</i>	_____	bata	<i>pride</i>	_____
monoo	<i>certain. other</i>	_____	mbiloo	<i>long</i>	_____
bulugaa	<i>not sour</i>	_____	mböcï	<i>castrated animal</i>	_____
himi	<i>inside</i>	_____	abi	<i>leave, travel</i>	_____
ämbü	<i>build</i>	_____	ambanya	<i>abandon</i>	_____
amba	<i>refuse, reject</i>	_____	kpamakpa	<i>far</i>	_____
kamabal	<i>slow</i>	_____	ami	<i>do, make</i>	_____
abo	<i>squeeze</i>	_____	ambu	<i>close (eyes)</i>	_____
ambo	<i>survive</i>	_____	atimbi	<i>go one by one</i>	_____
fimir	<i>round</i>	_____	afemu	<i>deny</i>	_____
ämehi	<i>bury</i>	_____	amba	<i>rub</i>	_____

Consonants ny, nj, j

The consonants **ny**, **nj** and **j** sound similar at the beginning of words. When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **ny** in **nyoro** 'tumor' is different than the sound of **nj** in **njolo** 'frog', and also different than the sound of **j** in **jolo** 'dress'. Say each of the words below. Listen carefully to the difference in sound between **ny**, **nj** and **j**.

Ny ny		Nj nj		J j	
nyoro	<i>tumor</i>	njolo	<i>frog, toad</i>	jolo	<i>dress (for women)</i>
nyihi	<i>moon, month</i>	njuru	<i>poverty</i>	joli	<i>limp</i>
nyiti	<i>potato</i>	njula	<i>rubber</i>	jölö	<i>cock</i>
nyere	<i>chief</i>	njü	<i>leaf, foliage</i>	jöhï	<i>nasal mucus</i>
nya'da	<i>smile, welcome</i>			jumu	<i>dish</i>

nyaka *field, garden*
nyälä *wealth*

ji *arm, hand*

The letters **ny**, **nj** and **j** can also be in-between vowels. When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **ny** in **kiranya** ‘snake’ is different than the sound of **nj** in **nganja** ‘crocodile’, and also different than the sound of **j** in **ngaja** ‘girl’.

ny		nj		j	
kiranya	<i>snake</i>	nganja	<i>crocodile</i>	ngaja	<i>girl</i>
lanyi	<i>gun</i>	tanja	<i>guinea fowl</i>	gbaja	<i>comb</i>
hinyi	<i>scorpion</i>	ganja	<i>iron, metal</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab (of wound)</i>
hinya	<i>bow</i>	mänjükürü	<i>ant</i>	wäji	<i>hawk, bird</i>
binya	<i>goat</i>	kinji	<i>fish</i>	kuje	<i>hook</i>
mīnyī	<i>odour, smell</i>	'bonjo	<i>pumpkin</i>	rüjü	<i>flour</i>
cīnyī	<i>stream</i>	ngonjo	<i>shin (of leg)</i>		
kinyö	<i>thorn, brier</i>				
munya	<i>ugliness</i>				
lūnyī	<i>rat</i>				
kūnyī	<i>flea, insect</i>				
möönyü	<i>dura</i>				
yenyi	<i>scabies, disease</i>				
kēnyī	<i>loan</i>				

Exercise 10

Carefully read and say each test word below. The **bold** letter of each test word may or may not be written correctly. Write the word correctly in the space given. The first one is done as an example.

Test Word		Write correctly	Test Word		Write correctly
ja	<i>not</i>	nja	nyëenyëë	<i>blinking</i>	_____
nja	<i>did, had</i>	_____	njölö	<i>cock</i>	_____
nja	<i>as, while, when</i>	_____	njonjo	<i>small</i>	_____
kinyi	<i>tasty</i>	_____	angbaja	<i>knock down</i>	_____
ayenye	<i>waste, destroy</i>	_____	kunyeë	<i>slowly</i>	_____
anja	<i>throw</i>	_____	moonje	<i>look, behold</i>	_____
kunja	<i>bad</i>	_____	wänjä	<i>wide open</i>	_____
andunju	<i>ask, request</i>	_____	anja	<i>leave something</i>	_____
änyü	<i>eat, chew</i>	_____	ämönyü	<i>eat</i>	_____
gbanja	<i>various, random</i>	_____	kīnyīrēë	<i>bitter</i>	_____

Consonants 'ng, ngb, gb

The consonants **'ng**, **ngb** and **gb** sound similar at the beginning of words. When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **'ng** in **'ngäcä** 'slave' is different than the sound of **ngb** in **ngbala** 'whip', and also different than the sound of **gb** in **gbaja** 'comb'. Say each of the words below. Listen carefully to the difference in sound between **'ng**, **ngb** and **gb**.

'Ng 'ng	Ngb ngb	Gb gb
'ngäcä <i>slave</i>	ngbala <i>whip</i>	gbaja <i>comb</i>
'ngoo <i>termite</i>	ngbangu <i>okra</i>	gbändimö <i>shatta, hot pepper</i>
'ngo'ngo <i>catfish</i>	ngbüti <i>deafness</i>	gbiti <i>shield</i>
		gbigbiti <i>duck, bird</i>
		gbugbu <i>hole</i>
		gbügürü <i>bag type</i>
		gbondo <i>leg, foot</i>
		gboo <i>fence</i>

The letters **'ng**, **ngb** and **gb** can also be inbetween vowels. When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **'ng** in **a'nga** 'bite' is different than the sound of **ngb** in **angba** 'hit', and also different than the sound of **gb** in **agbagba** 'wander'.

'ng	ngb	gb
a'nga <i>bite, gnaw</i>	angba <i>hit, slap</i>	agbagba <i>wander</i>
wa'nga <i>poison</i>	langba <i>drying platform</i>	ngaligbi <i>rainbow</i>
tä'ngä <i>antelope</i>	baangbe <i>sweet potato</i>	higba <i>stool</i>
lo'ngo <i>friendship</i>	kongbo <i>bird type</i>	
'ngo'ngo <i>catfish</i>	yungba <i>hatred</i>	
ngo'ngo <i>housefly</i>	kilingba <i>bone</i>	
bulo'ngo <i>good friend</i>		
ru'nga <i>twin</i>		

Exercise 11

Carefully read and say each test word below. The **bold** letter of each test word may or may not be written correctly. Write the word correctly in the space given. The first one is done as an example.

Test Word	Write correctly	Test Word	Write correctly
ngbä <i>complete</i>	gbä _____	ngbulu <i>big, thick</i>	_____
ngbäl'ngäl <i>bright</i>	_____	'ngaa'nga'nga <i>dry</i>	_____
gbogbo <i>big</i>	_____	ngbanja <i>various</i>	_____
gbo <i>just</i>	_____	gbülükü <i>round</i>	_____
lo'ngu <i>big</i>	_____	tängbö <i>end</i>	_____
logbow <i>big</i>	_____	kangbaci <i>without reason</i>	_____

'bugba	<i>away</i>		alagba	<i>burn something</i>	
angu'ngu	<i>think</i>		angbe	<i>twist, turn over</i>	
a'nga	<i>put on, wear</i>		angbo	<i>join</i>	
agbu'ju	<i>return</i>		angba	<i>roast, bake</i>	

Vowels u and ü

The words **kungu** 'road' and **küngü** 'monkey' have different vowel sounds. Do you hear the difference? In **kungu** 'road' the vowel **u** is light, but in **küngü** 'monkey' the vowel **ü** is heavy. In this lesson we learn the different sounds of these vowels. In following lessons, we will learn the difference between other light and heavy vowels.

There are 10 vowels in Bongo, as shown in the list below. There are 5 light vowels and 5 heavy vowels. Heavy vowels are marked with dots above the vowel.

Bongo Vowels	
<u>Light</u>	<u>Heavy</u>
U u	Ü ü
I i	İ İ
O o	Ö ö
E e	Ë ë
A a	Ä ä

When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **u** in **kungu** 'road' is different than the sound of **ü** in **küngü** 'monkey'. Say each of the words below. Listen carefully to the difference in sound between **u** and **ü**.

U u		Ü ü	
kungu	<i>road, path</i>	küngü	<i>baboon, monkey</i>
kulu	<i>revenge</i>	kümü	<i>navel</i>
kuku	<i>lung</i>	kütü	<i>handle</i>
kuhu	<i>seed</i>	kütü	<i>shelter</i>
'buru	<i>life</i>	kürü	<i>groundnut</i>
bu'du	<i>man</i>	kürü	<i>caterpillar</i>
mu'du	<i>illness</i>	külü	<i>heart</i>
mumbu	<i>corpse</i>	kügü	<i>laughter</i>
mulu	<i>whisper</i>	bübü	<i>rubbish dump</i>
muyu	<i>death</i>	bütü	<i>dura, sorghum</i>
tutu	<i>grinding stone</i>	bürü	<i>camp</i>
dudu	<i>grave</i>	mülü	<i>darkness</i>
ndu'ju	<i>greeting</i>	mükü	<i>fallow ground</i>
nduma	<i>grass</i>	fütü	<i>heel (of foot)</i>
nduru	<i>weakness</i>	fürü	<i>wound, sore</i>

ndugu	<i>price</i>	tütü	<i>shell (of nut)</i>
njuru	<i>poverty</i>	tüdü	<i>cry, weeping</i>
luru	<i>mudfish</i>	türü	<i>government</i>
jumu	<i>dish</i>	dümü	<i>asida, porridge</i>
gbugbu	<i>hole</i>	ngbütü	<i>deafness</i>
gu'bu	<i>forest</i>	ngü'dü	<i>hump (on back)</i>
guru	<i>fish type</i>	ngü'dü	<i>blindness</i>
gulu	<i>yeast</i>	rürü	<i>filth</i>
'buu	<i>egg</i>	rüjü	<i>flour</i>
'buu	<i>hunger</i>	lündü	<i>brother</i>
'duu	<i>thigh</i>	gütü	<i>strength</i>
buu	<i>banana</i>	ndüü	<i>sound, voice</i>
tuu	<i>grandparent</i>	rüü	<i>house, hut</i>
guu	<i>hole</i>	külülü	<i>cry, shout</i>
huu	<i>breath</i>	bürükü	<i>ash</i>
'buulu	<i>mahogany tree</i>	kündütü	<i>heap, pile</i>
cucuku	<i>bead</i>	gbügürü	<i>bag type</i>

Exercise 12

Carefully read and say the test words between the lines below. The **bold** vowel in the middle of each test word may or may not be written correctly. Test the sound of the bold vowel by comparing it with the vowel sound in the words on the left and right. The first one has been done as an example.

	Test Word		Write correctly
kungu <i>road</i>	ngbülü <i>big, thick</i>	küngü <i>monkey</i>	<u>ngublu</u>
kungu <i>road</i>	gbülükü <i>round</i>	küngü <i>monkey</i>	_____
kungu <i>road</i>	düm <i>tomorrow</i>	küngü <i>monkey</i>	_____
kungu <i>road</i>	'bu'bu <i>foaming, bubbling</i>	küngü <i>monkey</i>	_____
kungu <i>road</i>	lukuluku <i>smooth</i>	küngü <i>monkey</i>	_____
kungu <i>road</i>	düü <i>real</i>	küngü <i>monkey</i>	_____
kungu <i>road</i>	kunu <i>painful</i>	küngü <i>monkey</i>	_____
kungu <i>road</i>	anguru <i>call someone</i>	küngü <i>monkey</i>	_____
kungu <i>road</i>	kurkur <i>low</i>	küngü <i>monkey</i>	_____
kungu <i>road</i>	gburu <i>genuine, original</i>	küngü <i>monkey</i>	_____
kungu <i>road</i>	anyu <i>eat, chew</i>	küngü <i>monkey</i>	_____
kungu <i>road</i>	ängü'ngü <i>think</i>	küngü <i>monkey</i>	_____

Vowels i and ü

The vowels **i** and **ĩ** sound similar in words. When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **i** in **bihi** ‘place’ is different than the sound of **ĩ** in **bĩhi** ‘dog’. Say each of the words below. Listen carefully to the difference in sound between **i** and **ĩ**.

I i		ĩ i	
bihi	<i>place</i>	bĩhi	<i>dog</i>
mbili	<i>ear</i>	bĩdi	<i>pasture</i>
mini	<i>water</i>	cĩcĩ	<i>cooking pot</i>
firi	<i>word</i>	cĩnyĩ	<i>stream</i>
ti'di	<i>vomit</i>	mĩndi	<i>dirt, soil</i>
tiki	<i>intestine</i>	mĩnyĩ	<i>odour, smell</i>
tiyi	<i>ant type</i>	mĩcĩ	<i>potato</i>
nyihĩ	<i>moon, month</i>	dĩli	<i>shadow, shade</i>
riti	<i>razor</i>	nĩnĩ	<i>mother's sister</i>
kidi	<i>elephant</i>	nyĩti	<i>potato</i>
kinji	<i>fish</i>	kĩbi	<i>drum</i>
kiri	<i>star</i>	kĩti	<i>chair</i>
gbiti	<i>shield</i>	kĩdi	<i>muscle</i>
wiri	<i>bud (of dura)</i>	hi'bi	<i>rainy season</i>
hinyi	<i>scorpion</i>	hi'di	<i>penis</i>
'bii	<i>sleep</i>	hĩti	<i>health</i>
tii	<i>peanut</i>	ndĩri	<i>pimple, blemish</i>
hii	<i>soil</i>	ngĩri	<i>firewood</i>
ji	<i>arm, hand</i>	'jĩi	<i>person</i>
hi	<i>stomach</i>	bĩi	<i>hair, fur</i>
hilili	<i>air, wind</i>	njĩi	<i>leaf, foliage</i>
		lii	<i>co-wife</i>
		ciĩ	<i>feces</i>
		birĩcĩ	<i>mat</i>
		kĩlilĩ	<i>charcoal</i>
		hikĩnyĩ	<i>happiness, thankfulness</i>
		gbigbĩti	<i>duck, bird</i>

Exercise 13

Carefully read and say the test words between the lines below. The **bold** vowel in the middle of each test word may or may not be written correctly. Test the sound of the bold vowel by comparing it with the vowel sound in the words on the left and right. The first one has been done as an example.

		Test Word		Write correctly		
bihi	<i>place</i>	kiri	<i>rich</i>	bĩhi	<i>dog</i>	<u>kiri</u>
bihi	<i>place</i>	kiri	<i>heavy</i>	bĩhi	<i>dog</i>	_____
bihi	<i>place</i>	kinyi	<i>tasty</i>	bĩhi	<i>dog</i>	_____
bihi	<i>place</i>	kĩmilĩmĩ	<i>sweet</i>	bĩhi	<i>dog</i>	_____

bihi	<i>place</i>	kidi	<i>cold</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	_____
bihi	<i>place</i>	liki	<i>cold</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	_____
bihi	<i>place</i>	liki	<i>disturbing</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	_____
bihi	<i>place</i>	ciki	<i>far</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	_____
bihi	<i>place</i>	dibi	<i>low, down</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	_____
bihi	<i>place</i>	fimbir	<i>round</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	_____
bihi	<i>place</i>	titikpi	<i>loose</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	_____
bihi	<i>place</i>	liligä	<i>lost</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	_____
bihi	<i>place</i>	tibi	<i>unripe</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	_____

Vowels o and ö

The vowels **o** and **ö** sound similar in words. When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **o** in **'bongo** 'fig' is different than the sound of **ö** in **Böngö** 'Bongo person'. Say each of the words below. Listen carefully to the difference in sound between **o** and **ö**.

O o		Ö ö	
'bongo	<i>fig</i>	Böngö	<i>Bongo person</i>
'bonjo	<i>pumpkin</i>	tö'bö	<i>fat</i>
'boro	<i>hole</i>	rötö	<i>bald person</i>
'boro	<i>forging things</i>	jölö	<i>cock</i>
'boko	<i>bush rat</i>	kpökpö	<i>throat</i>
'dongo	<i>lump on head</i>	'böro	<i>already</i>
'ngo'ngo	<i>catfish</i>	ämörö	<i>stop</i>
ngo'ngo	<i>housefly</i>	ärörö	<i>wander</i>
jolo	<i>dress</i>	älö	<i>remove, take off</i>
'jolo	<i>antelope</i>	böö	<i>friend, colleague</i>
'joko	<i>tooth</i>	yöngölö	<i>bell</i>
mbogo	<i>hardship</i>		
moko	<i>war, fighting</i>		
to'do	<i>salt</i>		
tolo	<i>juice, dew</i>		
dongo	<i>civet cat</i>		
doko	<i>basket</i>		
ndobo	<i>work</i>		
njolo	<i>frog</i>		
ngonjo	<i>shin (of leg)</i>		
ngono	<i>chicken</i>		
ngoyo	<i>song</i>		
nyoro	<i>tumor</i>		
noko	<i>mother's brother</i>		

lo'ngo	<i>friendship</i>
logo	<i>hoe blade</i>
ko'do	<i>gourd, calabash</i>
komo	<i>eye</i>
koto	<i>back</i>
kongbo	<i>bird type</i>
koro	<i>trap</i>
koko	<i>colour, shape</i>
kogo	<i>leopard</i>
gbondo	<i>leg, foot</i>
homo	<i>nose</i>
holo	<i>tail</i>
hogo	<i>back</i>
'ngoo	<i>termite</i>
ngoo	<i>in-law, marriage</i>
gboo	<i>fence</i>
hoo	<i>stream, pool</i>
'joo	<i>vagina</i>
go	<i>neck</i>
do	<i>head</i>
ro	<i>body, name</i>
ko	<i>opening</i>
kongono	<i>beak</i>
dokono	<i>guide</i>
korokoro	<i>sharp point</i>

Exercise 14

Carefully read and say the test words between the lines below. The **bold** vowel in the middle of each test word may or may not be written correctly. Test the sound of the bold vowel by comparing it with the vowel sound in the words on the left and right. The first one has been done as an example.

	Test Word			Write correctly	
'bongo	<i>fi</i> g	ngbö	<i>just</i>	Böngö <i>Bongo person</i>	<u>ngbo</u>
'bongo	<i>fi</i> g	jolo	<i>cock</i>	Böngö <i>Bongo person</i>	_____
'bongo	<i>fi</i> g	'bö n ö	<i>front (of something)</i>	Böngö <i>Bongo person</i>	_____
'bongo	<i>fi</i> g	'bohondo	<i>behind</i>	Böngö <i>Bongo person</i>	_____
'bongo	<i>fi</i> g	mö'l j ö	<i>little</i>	Böngö <i>Bongo person</i>	_____
'bongo	<i>fi</i> g	monoo	<i>certain, other</i>	Böngö <i>Bongo person</i>	_____
'bongo	<i>fi</i> g	molo	<i>bottom</i>	Böngö <i>Bongo person</i>	_____
'bongo	<i>fi</i> g	'boro	<i>already</i>	Böngö <i>Bongo person</i>	_____

'bongo *fig* | toro *up, high* | Böngö *Bongo person* | _____

Vowels e and ë

The vowels **e** and **ë** sound similar in words. When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **e** in **nyere** 'chief' is different than the sound of **ë** in **yërë** 'younger twin'. Say each of the words below. Listen carefully to the difference in sound between **e** and **ë**.

E e		Ë ë	
nyere	<i>chief</i>	yërë	<i>younger twin</i>
ndere	<i>walk</i>	yëgë	<i>locust</i>
mbele	<i>catfish</i>	lëlë	<i>stone</i>
mehe	<i>spear type</i>	'bëë	<i>home, compound</i>
tene	<i>insult</i>	yëë	<i>awhile</i>
tele	<i>swim</i>	kpënyï	<i>elder, older</i>
reme	<i>squirrel</i>	kpë	<i>large</i>
kete	<i>pot</i>	nyëënyëë	<i>blinking</i>
kehe	<i>game</i>	ëndëë	<i>unripe</i>
hege	<i>spirit, god</i>		
lee	<i>father's sister</i>		
rekembe	<i>shell instrument</i>		

Exercise 15

Carefully read and say the test words between the lines below. The **bold** vowel in the middle of each test word may or may not be written correctly. Test the sound of the bold vowel by comparing it with the vowel sound in the words on the left and right. The first one has been done as an example.

		Test Word				Write correctly
nyere	<i>chief</i>	endee	unripe	yërë	<i>younger twin</i>	ëndëë
nyere	<i>chief</i>	nyëënyëë	blinking	yërë	<i>younger twin</i>	_____
nyere	<i>chief</i>	ndëndë	shaking	yërë	<i>younger twin</i>	_____
nyere	<i>chief</i>	ndee	before	yërë	<i>younger twin</i>	_____
nyere	<i>chief</i>	gëwëgëwë	falling	yërë	<i>younger twin</i>	_____
nyere	<i>chief</i>	yëë	awhile	yërë	<i>younger twin</i>	_____
nyere	<i>chief</i>	lelekpe	loose, free	yërë	<i>younger twin</i>	_____
nyere	<i>chief</i>	jëkëë	good	yërë	<i>younger twin</i>	_____
nyere	<i>chief</i>	kpë	large	yërë	<i>younger twin</i>	_____

Vowels a and ä

The vowels **a** and **ä** sound similar in words. When we listen carefully, we hear the sound of **a** in **mbaga** ‘mother’ is different than the sound of **ä** in **mbäjä** ‘scab’. Say each of the words below. Listen carefully to the difference in sound between **a** and **ä**.

A a		Ä ä	
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab (of wound)</i>
'bata	<i>hare, rabbit</i>	'ngäcä	<i>slave</i>
'bara	<i>rib</i>	tä'ngä	<i>antelope</i>
'baya	<i>feast</i>	nyälä	<i>wealth</i>
bata	<i>pride</i>	räkä	<i>bread</i>
mamba	<i>search, hunt</i>	kälä	<i>mane (of lion)</i>
manga	<i>stream</i>	gägä	<i>lizard</i>
maca	<i>rhino</i>	wängä	<i>greed</i>
maya	<i>yam</i>	längärä	<i>bed</i>
maya	<i>breast, milk</i>	wärä	<i>bright</i>
ta'ba	<i>tobacco</i>	wänjä	<i>wide open</i>
taba	<i>leprosy</i>	gändä	<i>much</i>
tanja	<i>guinea fowl</i>	rätä	<i>crazy</i>
tara	<i>quarrel, lip</i>	'ngäl'ngäl	<i>bright</i>
daya	<i>midwife</i>	kpängälä	<i>far</i>
ngbala	<i>whip</i>	wätäwätä	<i>big</i>
nga'ba	<i>cheek</i>		
nganja	<i>crocodile</i>		
ngala	<i>dance</i>		
ngaja	<i>girl</i>		
ngaha	<i>run</i>		
ngaya	<i>scabies, disease</i>		
nya'da	<i>smile, welcome</i>		
nyaka	<i>field</i>		
ranga	<i>vulture</i>		
raka	<i>shoe, sandle</i>		
laba	<i>bridge</i>		
landa	<i>white stone</i>		
langba	<i>drying platform</i>		
kamba	<i>honey</i>		
kada	<i>sun, day</i>		
kanga	<i>ostrich</i>		
kaga	<i>tree, wood</i>		
gbaja	<i>comb</i>		
ganja	<i>iron, metal</i>		
gala	<i>wild dog</i>		
wa'nga	<i>poison</i>		
haba	<i>hippo</i>		
haya	<i>sand</i>		
yanga	<i>clitoris</i>		

yala	<i>fly swatter</i>
baa	<i>river</i>
maa	<i>child, pregnancy</i>
daa	<i>water well</i>
tarana	<i>tree type</i>
ndatara	<i>tongue</i>
yakara	<i>pumpkin type</i>
faranga	<i>young man</i>
baanga	<i>dangerous animal</i>
'balakana	<i>okra</i>

Exercise 16

Carefully read and say the test words between the lines below. The **bold** vowel in the middle of each test word may or may not be written correctly. Test the sound of the bold vowel by comparing it with the vowel sound in the words on the left and right. The first one has been done as an example.

		Test Word				Write correctly
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	tägä	<i>afternoon</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	<u>taga</u>
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	wätäwätä	<i>big</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	_____
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	fäcä	<i>a lot of</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	_____
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	kpangala	<i>far</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	_____
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	mbaa	<i>short while</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	_____
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	'ngää'ngä'ngä	<i>dry</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	_____
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	rata	<i>crazy</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	_____
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	'ngäl'ngäl	<i>bright</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	_____
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	'daa'da'da	<i>soft</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	_____
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	mbärä	<i>remaining</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	_____
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	wanja	<i>wide open</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	_____
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	'ba'ja	<i>wet</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	_____

Mixed Vowels

Light and heavy vowels are never mixed together in the same word. In the following words, only the **light** vowels **u, i, e, o, a** are together. Read each word carefully and listen to the sound of the two vowels together.

Second Vowel in the Word						
Fir	st	u	i	e	o	a
	u	kungu	bu'duji	kuye	kudo	lula

	<i>road</i>	<i>thumb</i>	<i>knot</i>	<i>speech</i>	<i>cloud</i>
i	hiru <i>saliva</i>	firi <i>word</i>	kire <i>arrow</i>	riko <i>bed</i>	fira <i>axe</i>
e	gewu <i>town</i>	beeri <i>open land</i>	mbele <i>catfish</i>	rembo <i>sheep</i>	kedeka <i>also</i>
o	ro'bu <i>wanting</i>	tondi <i>leech</i>	dole <i>wandering</i>	'boro <i>hole</i>	dobaa <i>abdomen</i>
a	waru <i>fish type</i>	ngayi <i>table</i>	ngatee <i>younger</i>	bayongo <i>artist</i>	wa'nga <i>poison</i>

In the following words, only the **heavy** vowels **ü, ĩ, ë, ö, ä** are together. Read each word carefully and listen to the sound of the two vowels together.

Second Vowel in the Word						
First Vowel in the Word		ü	ĩ	ë	ö	ä
	ü	kümü <i>navel</i>	kpüli <i>lion</i>	lülë <i>turtle</i>	kümö <i>celebration</i>	
	ĩ	hĩlü <i>hyena</i>	cĩnyĩ <i>stream</i>	hĩgë <i>mouse</i>	hĩrö <i>liver</i>	ndĩkā <i>law</i>
	ë		lëmi <i>sister</i>	yëgë <i>locust</i>		
	ö	mömü <i>wife</i>	döhi <i>funeral</i>	dökëri <i>side</i>	tö'bö <i>fat</i>	
	ä	hävü <i>yawn</i>	wäli <i>wild dog</i>	kädëri <i>much</i>		'ngäcä <i>slave</i>

In summary, we have the following spelling rule.

Spelling Rule 1: Do not mix light vowels **u, i, e, o, a** and heavy vowels **ü, ĩ, ë, ö, ä** together in the same word. That is, write all vowels in the same word with dots (for heavy vowels), or write all vowels in the same word without dots (for light vowels).

Light vowels		Heavy vowels	
hiru	<i>saliva</i>	hĩlü	<i>hyena</i>
ngbangu	<i>okra</i>	kähü	<i>mushroom</i>
kire	<i>arrow</i>	hĩgë	<i>mouse</i>
kure	<i>malaria</i>	'bürë	<i>dust</i>
loki	<i>crowd</i>	ndö'ji	<i>semen</i>
gingo	<i>hook</i>	ngökü	<i>rubbish</i>
giya	<i>root</i>	ndikā	<i>law</i>

Exercise 17

Carefully read and say each test word below. The vowels of each test word may or may not be written correctly. Write the word correctly in the space given. The first one is done as an example.

Test Word		Write correctly	Test Word		Write correctly
a'bi	<i>give</i>	<u>ä</u> 'bi	hirökaga	<i>flower</i>	_____
aljimönyü	<i>food</i>	_____	birihï	<i>honour</i>	_____
'bigumëhï	<i>butcher</i>	_____	hitiro	<i>body</i>	_____
mahimü	<i>relative</i>	_____	'bingü'dü	<i>deaf person</i>	_____
bilëlehitoro	<i>thunder</i>	_____	tilükëhï	<i>gold</i>	_____
mäcikiriko	<i>bed bug</i>	_____	lë'jicuka	<i>bubble</i>	_____
bihibi'dögürö	<i>bathroom</i>	_____	do'bëë	<i>clan</i>	_____

Long and Short Vowels

The words **hi** ‘stomach’ and **hii** ‘soil’ have different vowel sounds. Do you hear the difference? In **hi** ‘stomach’ the vowel **i** is short, but in **hii** ‘soil’ the vowel **ii** is long. Say each pair of words below. Listen for the difference between the short and long vowels³.

Short vowel		Long vowel	
hi	<i>stomach</i>	hii	<i>soil</i>
go	<i>neck</i>	ngoo	<i>in-law, marriage</i>
'buru	<i>life</i>	'buulu	<i>mahogany tree</i>

Many words with one syllable have a long vowel.

Words with one syllable and long vowel

Light		Heavy	
'buu	<i>egg</i>	rüü	<i>house, hut</i>
'buu	<i>hunger</i>	ndüü	<i>sound, voice</i>
'duu	<i>thigh</i>	'jii	<i>person</i>
buu	<i>banana</i>	'bii	<i>your</i>
tuu	<i>grandparent</i>	bii	<i>hair, fur</i>
guu	<i>hole</i>	njii	<i>leaf, foliage</i>
huu	<i>breath</i>	lii	<i>co-wife</i>
duu	<i>real</i>	cii	<i>feces</i>
'bii	<i>sleep</i>	'bëë	<i>home, compound</i>
tii	<i>peanut</i>	yëë	<i>awhile</i>
hii	<i>soil</i>	böö	<i>friend, colleague</i>
kpii	<i>remaining</i>		
kii	<i>ten</i>		

³ Without further tone analysis, there is not much solid evidence for a vowel length distinction. However, the speakers consistently and confidently write words according to vowel length. So, it seems best make the distinction of vowel length in writing.

lee	<i>father's sister</i>
ndee	<i>before</i>
'ngoo	<i>termite</i>
ngoo	<i>in-law, marriage</i>
gboo	<i>fence</i>
hoo	<i>stream, pool</i>
'joo	<i>vagina</i>
baa	<i>river</i>
maa	<i>child, pregnancy</i>
daa	<i>water well</i>
njaa	<i>not completely</i>
kaa	<i>whenever</i>
haa	<i>inside</i>

Most words with one syllable and a short vowel are used in a special way (as a preposition, pronoun, etc.)

Words with one syllable and short vowel

ji	<i>arm, hand</i>	'ba	<i>to, in</i>
hi	<i>stomach</i>	ḍi	<i>from</i>
go	<i>neck</i>	do	<i>on, over</i>
do	<i>head</i>	na	<i>and, with</i>
ṛo	<i>body, for</i>	ji	<i>to</i>
ro	<i>name</i>	hi	<i>in, inside</i>
ko	<i>opening</i>	ma	<i>I, me</i>
ho	<i>wide open</i>	mi	<i>I</i>
'da	<i>there</i>	ī	<i>you (sg)</i>
ga	<i>all</i>	bi	<i>he</i>
'bo	<i>had</i>	ba	<i>he, him, his</i>
na	<i>this, these</i>	hu	<i>she, her</i>
di	<i>when, while</i>	ni	<i>he, she</i>
da	<i>when, who</i>	ne	<i>it, him, her</i>
ka	<i>and, then</i>	ji	<i>we</i>
ki	<i>if</i>	je	<i>we</i>
ka	<i>when, while</i>	hi	<i>you (pl)</i>
ka	<i>in order to</i>	he	<i>you (pl)</i>
ka	<i>be, is are</i>	ye	<i>they, them</i>
		yi	<i>they</i>

Most words with two or more syllables have only short vowels. A few words have a long first syllable or a long last syllable. Most words with long vowel in the last syllable describe other words (are an adjective or modifier).

First or second syllable with long vowel	Last syllable with long vowel		
b̄ëëri	<i>anvil, iron stand</i>	ë̄ndëë	<i>unripe</i>
m̄öönyü	<i>dura, sorghum</i>	nyë̄ënyëë	<i>blinking</i>

möölü	<i>fish type</i>
ngöönü	<i>snore</i>
'böörü	<i>inside</i>
beeri	<i>open land, clearing</i>
miyeeyi	<i>yelling</i>
'buulu	<i>mahogany tree</i>
mangooli	<i>flute</i>
moori	<i>mother-in-law</i>
mooje	<i>look, behold</i>
boogaa	<i>colleagues</i>
ngaa'nga'nga	<i>dry</i>
baangbe	<i>sweet potato</i>
baanga	<i>dangerous animal</i>

mäkinyëë	<i>sweet</i>
ndüböö	<i>older, elder</i>
monoo	<i>certain, other</i>
diroo	<i>some</i>
atadoo	<i>add, increase</i>
akpekoo	<i>leave</i>
nokotoo	<i>yesterday</i>
mbiloo	<i>long</i>
tigoo	<i>weak, faint</i>
doturoo	<i>alone</i>
hondoo	<i>last</i>
batuu	<i>father-in-law</i>
andee	<i>go</i>
ngoree	<i>second</i>
kinjirëë	<i>bitter</i>
ngatee	<i>younger</i>
jekee	<i>good</i>
kirehee	<i>late</i>
kayee	<i>first</i>
kunyee	<i>slowly</i>
giyee	<i>some</i>
boogaa	<i>colleagues</i>
dobaa	<i>abdomen</i>
biyaa	<i>news</i>
mbulugaa	<i>not sour</i>
maki'da'daa	<i>soft</i>
maka' baa	<i>wide</i>
makakpaa	<i>long</i>
mutaa	<i>third</i>
landaa	<i>thick, big</i>
gburu'baa	<i>perfect</i>
giyaa	<i>small, little</i>
afaa	<i>dull, blunt</i>
akpaa	<i>short</i>
äyëë	<i>never</i>

Exercise 18

Carefully read and say each test word below. The **bold** letter in each test word may or may not be written correctly. Write the word correctly in the space given. The first one is done as an example.

Test Word	Write correctly	Test Word	Write correctly
ki <i>ten</i>	<u>kii</u>	tii <i>peanut</i>	_____
go <i>neck</i>	_____	mori <i>mother-in-law</i>	_____

huu	<i>she, her</i>		'da	<i>there</i>	
gboo	<i>fence</i>		baanga	<i>dangerous animal</i>	
kaa	<i>and, then</i>		li	<i>co-wife</i>	
mono	<i>certain</i>		na	<i>and, with</i>	
yë	<i>awhile</i>		tigo	<i>weak, faint</i>	
ji	<i>to</i>		ba	<i>he</i>	
kinjirëë	<i>bitter</i>		kunye	<i>slowly</i>	
jee	<i>we</i>		afaa	<i>dull, blunt</i>	

Vowels at the end of words

Some words that end in a vowel are pronounced without the final vowel. However, we write the word with the final vowel. Say each of the words below. Look carefully at the correct way to write them.

Correct	Wrong
abeli <i>maize</i>	abel <i>maize</i>
bötöli <i>male goat</i>	bötöl <i>male goat</i>
cöli <i>hanging net</i>	cöl <i>hanging net</i>
füli <i>cooking stone</i>	fül <i>cooking stone</i>
foli <i>shell</i>	fol <i>shell</i>
foli <i>cloud</i>	fol <i>cloud</i>
goli <i>wealth</i>	gol <i>wealth</i>
kokoli <i>kingfisher, bird</i>	kokol <i>kingfisher, bird</i>
möölü <i>fish type</i>	mööl <i>fish type</i>
tüngöli <i>mortar, bowl</i>	tüngöl <i>mortar, bowl</i>
wöli <i>brain</i>	wöl <i>brain</i>
wäli <i>wild dog</i>	wäl <i>wild dog</i>
joli <i>limp</i>	jol <i>limp</i>
a'julu <i>return, give back</i>	a'jul <i>return, give back</i>
bëëri <i>anvil, iron stand</i>	beer <i>anvil, iron stand</i>
bürü <i>camp</i>	bür <i>camp</i>
beeri <i>open land</i>	beer <i>open land</i>
cumari <i>loin cloth</i>	cumar <i>loin cloth</i>
firi <i>word</i>	fir <i>word</i>
hikëri <i>side (of body)</i>	hikër <i>side (of body)</i>
köri <i>sheabutter tree</i>	kör <i>sheabutter tree</i>
kürü <i>caterpillar</i>	kür <i>caterpillar</i>
kürü <i>groundnut</i>	kür <i>groundnut</i>
kiri <i>star</i>	kir <i>star</i>
kori <i>footprint</i>	kor <i>footprint</i>
luru <i>mudfish</i>	lur <i>mudfish</i>

mängiri	<i>fear</i>	mängir	<i>fear</i>
moori	<i>mother-in-law</i>	moor	<i>mother-in-law</i>
türü	<i>government</i>	tür	<i>government</i>
waru	<i>fish type</i>	war	<i>fish type</i>
wiri	<i>bud (of dura)</i>	wir	<i>bud (of dura)</i>
yakara	<i>pumpkin type</i>	yakar	<i>pumpkin type</i>
ndiri	<i>pimple, blemish</i>	ndir	<i>pimple, blemish</i>
ndörü	<i>mourning</i>	ndör	<i>mourning</i>
nduru	<i>weakness</i>	ndur	<i>weakness</i>
njuru	<i>poverty</i>	njur	<i>poverty</i>
ngiri	<i>firewood</i>	ngir	<i>firewood</i>
ngori	<i>two</i>	ngor	<i>two</i>
änyiri	<i>refuse</i>	änyir	<i>refuse</i>
adari	<i>defeat</i>	adar	<i>defeat</i>
agikori	<i>surround</i>	agikor	<i>surround</i>
ahileri	<i>slide</i>	ahiler	<i>slide</i>
ale kori	<i>go around</i>	ale kor	<i>go around</i>
alamu	<i>curse</i>	alam	<i>curse</i>
ändimü	<i>shift, move</i>	ändim	<i>shift, move</i>
ädilämü	<i>drown</i>	ädiläm	<i>drown</i>
jumu	<i>dish</i>	jum	<i>dish</i>
'jögömü	<i>testicle</i>	'jögöm	<i>testicle</i>
kümü	<i>navel</i>	küm	<i>navel</i>
hihimü	<i>rotten</i>	hihim	<i>rotten</i>
dümü	<i>asida, porridge</i>	düm	<i>asida, porridge</i>
ngöönü	<i>snore</i>	ngöön	<i>snore</i>
kanu	<i>trunk (of elephant)</i>	kan	<i>trunk (of elephant)</i>
künyü	<i>flea, insect</i>	küny	<i>flea, insect</i>
kënyü	<i>loan</i>	këny	<i>loan</i>
hinyü	<i>scorpion</i>	hiny	<i>scorpion</i>
konyü	<i>white</i>	kony	<i>white</i>
lanyü	<i>gun</i>	lany	<i>gun</i>
lünnyü	<i>rat</i>	lünny	<i>rat</i>
möönnyü	<i>dur, sorghum</i>	moönny	<i>dur, sorghum</i>
alonyü	<i>contribute</i>	alony	<i>contribute</i>
ämönyü	<i>eat</i>	ämöny	<i>eat</i>

In words with a final vowel after a consonant **r**, **l**, **m**, **n**, or **ny**, the final vowel is often dropped in speaking.

In summary, we have the following rule for final vowels:

Spelling rule 2: Write most words with a final vowel.

Exercise 19

Carefully read and say each test word below. The **bold** letter in each test word may or may not be written correctly. Write the word correctly in the space given. The first one is done as an example.

Test Word	Write correctly	Test Word	Write correctly
alam <i>curse</i>	<u>alamu</u>	dümü <i>asida, porridge</i>	_____
kürü <i>groundnut</i>	_____	ngor <i>two</i>	_____
ämöny <i>eat</i>	_____	hiny <i>scorpion</i>	_____
kür <i>groundnut</i>	_____	wäl <i>wild dog</i>	_____
cumari <i>loin cloth</i>	_____	jumu <i>dish</i>	_____
gol <i>wealth</i>	_____	cöl <i>hanging net</i>	_____

Consonants w, y before final vowels

The consonant **w** can be at the beginning of words as in **wa'nga** 'poison' or in the middle of words as in **lawu** 'clothing item'. The consonant **y** can be at the beginning of words as in **yala** 'fly swatter', or in the middle of words as in **ngayi** 'table'.

	Beginning	Middle
W w	wa'nga <i>poison</i> wöli <i>brain</i>	lawu <i>clothing item</i> gewu <i>town</i>
Y y	yala <i>fly swatter</i> yëgë <i>locust</i>	ngayi <i>table</i> wüyi <i>abscess</i>

There are several different final vowels that can be after **w** or after **y**.

Final vowel after w	Final vowel after y
cucu wa <i>porcupine</i>	'baya <i>feast</i>
aw o <i>pull, draw out</i>	ngoy o <i>song</i>
gewegew e <i>falling</i>	mbiy ö <i>lie</i>
hi wu <i>plant type</i>	kuy e <i>knot</i>
käw ü <i>branch (of river)</i>	muy u <i>death</i>
	'boy i <i>trap</i>
	müy i <i>five</i>

When the final vowels **u** or **ü** are after **w**, the vowel is not spoken. However it is written. We don't write the following words without **u** as in **hiw** (wrong) 'plant type' or without **w** as in **hiu** (wrong) 'plant type'. Instead, we write these words with both **w** and **u** as in **hiwu** 'plant type'.

Correct	Wrong
_____	_____

hiwu	<i>plant type</i>	hiw	hiu	<i>plant type</i>
gewu	<i>town</i>	gew	geu	<i>town</i>
yewu	<i>there are, exists</i>	yew	yeu	<i>there are, exists</i>
hëwü	<i>four</i>	hëw	hëü	<i>four</i>
alewu	<i>look at, watch</i>	alew	aleu	<i>look at, watch</i>
lawu	<i>clothing item</i>	law	lau	<i>clothing item</i>
mbirawu	<i>wild cat</i>	mbiraw	mbirau	<i>wild cat</i>
alawu	<i>awake</i>	alaw	alau	<i>awake</i>
awu	<i>hear, listen</i>	aw	au	<i>hear, listen</i>
Liwü	<i>man's name</i>	Liw	Liü	<i>man's name</i>
föwü	<i>early</i>	föw	föü	<i>early</i>
hãwü	<i>yawn</i>	hãw	hãü	<i>yawn</i>
kãwü	<i>branch (of river)</i>	kãw	kãü	<i>branch (of river)</i>
ädãwü	<i>confuse</i>	ädãw	ädãü	<i>confuse</i>
ãwü	<i>carry, take</i>	ãw	ãü	<i>carry, take</i>

When the final vowels *i* or *ï* are after *y*, the vowel is not spoken. However it is written. We don't write the following words without *i* as in **'boy** (wrong) 'trap' or without *y* as in **'boi** (wrong) 'trap'. Instead, we write them with both *y* and *i* as in **'boyi** 'trap'.

Correct	Wrong
'boyi <i>trap</i>	'boy 'boi <i>trap</i>
toyi <i>near</i>	toy toi <i>near</i>
ngayi <i>table</i>	ngay ngai <i>table</i>
payi <i>digging tool</i>	pay pai <i>digging tool</i>
kayi <i>first</i>	kay kai <i>first</i>
cayi <i>healing, cured</i>	cay cai <i>healing, cured</i>
tayi <i>morning</i>	tay tai <i>morning</i>
alayi <i>rub, caress</i>	alay alai <i>rub, caress</i>
ayi <i>make</i>	ay ai <i>make</i>
amayi <i>come</i>	amay amai <i>come</i>
tiyi <i>ant type</i>	tiy tii <i>ant type</i>
lüyï <i>grass</i>	lüy lüï <i>grass</i>
rëyi <i>plenty, common</i>	rëy rëï <i>plenty</i>
miyeeyi <i>yelling</i>	miyeey miyeei <i>yelling</i>
yëyi <i>boat, canoe</i>	yëy yëï <i>boat, canoe</i>
külüyï <i>python</i>	külüy külüï <i>python</i>
wüyï <i>abscess, infection</i>	wüy wüï <i>abscess, infection</i>
müyï <i>five</i>	müy müï <i>five</i>

In summary, we have the following rule for vowels after *y* and *w*:

Spelling rule 3: At the end of words, write *y* or *w* before a final vowel. Do not write *y* or *w* at the end of words without a final vowel. Do not write two vowels together without a *y* or *w* separating them.

Exercise 20

Carefully read and say each test word below. The **bold** letter in each test word may or may not be written correctly. Write the word correctly in the space given. The first one is done as an example.

Test Word	Write correctly	Test Word	Write correctly
yëi <i>boat, canoe</i>	<u>yiyi</u>	föw <i>early</i>	_____
häw <i>yawn</i>	_____	ädäwü <i>confuse</i>	_____
amai <i>come</i>	_____	müy <i>five</i>	_____
lawu <i>clothing item</i>	_____	tayi <i>morning</i>	_____
lüyi <i>grass</i>	_____	geu <i>town</i>	_____
heu <i>four</i>	_____	ngai <i>table</i>	_____

Tone

Some words sound the same except for tone. Do you hear the difference in sound between **maya** ‘yam’ and **maya** ‘milk’? **Maya** ‘yam’ (with Low-High-Low tone) [˥- ˨] sounds higher than **maya** ‘milk’ (with Low tone) [- ˨]. Both **maya** ‘yam’ and **maya** ‘milk’ have the same vowels and consonants. The only difference in sound between these words is what we call tone—how high or low the sound is.

There are five different patterns of tone in Bongo nouns. Listen to the tone as you read the following words. Each have a different tone pattern.

H	High	[˥ ˥]	raka	<i>shoe</i>
L	Low	[- ˨]	landa	<i>stone</i>
LH	Low-High	[- ˥]	mehe	<i>spear</i>
LHL	Low-High-Low	[˥- ˨]	ganja	<i>metal</i>
HL	High-Low	[˥ ˨]	gbaja	<i>comb</i>

The sound of vowels should not be confused with tone. In the chart below, the words going down have the same tone but different vowels. Read each column going down and listen for the difference in vowels.

	H	L	LH	LHL
u	kungu <i>road</i>	njuru <i>poverty</i>	dudu <i>grave</i>	

	lu'ju nduru	<i>tree sap</i> <i>weakness</i>	mumbu ndugu	<i>corpse</i> <i>price</i>	bu'du guru	<i>man</i> <i>fish</i>		
ü	kümü fürü kütü	<i>navel</i> <i>wound</i> <i>shelter</i>	bürü rjü kütü	<i>camp</i> <i>flour</i> <i>handle</i>	dümü tjü büü	<i>porridge</i> <i>cry</i> <i>sorghum</i>	rürü mülü pütü	<i>filth</i> <i>darkness</i> <i>heel</i>
i	kinji mbili nyih	<i>fish</i> <i>ear</i> <i>moon</i>	riti kiri hinyi	<i>razor</i> <i>star</i> <i>scorpion</i>	mini ti'di bihi	<i>water</i> <i>vomit</i> <i>land</i>	wiri	<i>bud</i>
ï	ngiri kidi kibi	<i>firewood</i> <i>muscle</i> <i>drum</i>	hi'di kiti bidi	<i>penis</i> <i>chair</i> <i>pasture</i>	hiü	<i>health</i>	bihi mindü nyüü	<i>dog</i> <i>dirt</i> <i>potato</i>
e	kete ndere	<i>water pot</i> <i>trip, walk</i>	mbere kehe reme	<i>palm tree</i> <i>joke</i> <i>squirrel</i>	hege mehe	<i>spirit</i> <i>spear</i>	mbele nyere tene	<i>catfish</i> <i>chief</i> <i>insult</i>
ë	yëgë lëlä yërë	<i>locust</i> <i>stone</i> <i>young twin</i>						
o	nyoro ngonjo koko	<i>tumor</i> <i>shin</i> <i>colour</i>	dongo njolo kogo	<i>civet cat</i> <i>frog</i> <i>leopard</i>	'boro ndobo moko	<i>hole</i> <i>work</i> <i>war</i>	ngoyo to'do koro	<i>song</i> <i>salt</i> <i>trap</i>
ö	rötö	<i>bald person</i>	Böngö	<i>Bongo</i>	kpökpö	<i>throat</i>	jölö	<i>cock</i>
a	ngaha ranga laba	<i>run</i> <i>vulture</i> <i>bridge</i>	wa'nga 'baya haba	<i>poison</i> <i>feast</i> <i>hippo</i>	'bata taba ngaja	<i>hare</i> <i>leprosy</i> <i>girl</i>	ngbala ngaya ganja	<i>arm</i> <i>scabies</i> <i>metal</i>
ä	wängä kälä 'ngäcä	<i>greed</i> <i>mane</i> <i>servant</i>	tä'ngä räkä gägä	<i>antelope</i> <i>bread</i> <i>lizard</i>				

In the chart above, the words going across have the same vowel but different tone. Read each row going across and listen for the difference in tone.

There are a few common words that are the same except for tone. We write an underline on the root vowel of certain words so the meaning is clear in writing. Spelling rule 15 tells us which words have an underline.

Spelling rule 4: Underline the vowel in the following words on the left with Low tone. Do not underline the words on the right.

Low	High
r <u>o</u> <i>body, for</i>	ro <i>name</i>
d <u>i</u> <i>from</i>	di <i>when, who</i>
n <u>a</u> <i>and, with</i>	na <i>this</i>
at <u>a</u> <i>put, store</i>	ata <i>see</i>
al <u>a</u> <i>find, search, bring, fetch</i>	ala <i>grow</i>
ag <u>a</u> <i>cut</i>	aga <i>chase</i>

abe *pass, walk*
 ada *count, read*
 ätü *sprout, meet*
 ädi *be cold*
 angba *roast, bake*
 acu *fill, be full, take*

abe *open, insult*
 ada *tie*
 ätü *bow down, pound*
 ädi *bend over*
 angba *hit, wear*
 acu *fall*

Exercise

Carefully read and say each test word below. The **bold** letter in each test word may or may not be written correctly. Write the word correctly in the space given. The first one is done as an example.

<u>Test Word</u>	<u>Write correctly</u>	<u>Test Word</u>	<u>Write correctly</u>
na <i>with</i>	na	ada <i>count, read</i>	_____
na <i>this</i>	_____	ada <i>tie</i>	_____
ro <i>name</i>	_____	ro <i>body</i>	_____
ro <i>for</i>	_____	ata <i>see</i>	_____
di <i>from</i>	_____	ata <i>put, store</i>	_____
di <i>when</i>	_____	aga <i>chase</i>	_____
abe <i>open</i>	_____	aga <i>cut</i>	_____
abe <i>walk</i>	_____	ala <i>find, bring</i>	_____

Spelling Rules Reviewed

In this book, we have learned three spelling rules that help reading and writing. We now review these rules. There are examples after each rule. The page number is shown where the rule is further explained.

In summary, we have the following spelling rule.

Spelling Rule 1 (page 33): Do not mix light vowels **u, i, e, o, a** and heavy vowels **ü, i, ë, ö, ä** together in the same word. That is, write all vowels in the same word with dots (for heavy vowels), or write all vowels in the same word without dots (for light vowels).

<u>Light vowels</u>		<u>Heavy vowels</u>	
hiru	<i>saliva</i>	hïlï	<i>hyena</i>
ngbangu	<i>okra</i>	kähü	<i>mushroom</i>
kire	<i>arrow</i>	hïgë	<i>mouse</i>
kure	<i>malaria</i>	'bürë	<i>dust</i>
loki	<i>crowd</i>	ndö'ji	<i>semen</i>
gingo	<i>hook</i>	ngökü	<i>rubbish</i>

giya root | ndikä law

Spelling rule 2 (page 39): Write most words with a final vowel.

Correct	Wrong
abeli <i>maize</i>	abel <i>maize</i>
kori <i>footprint</i>	kor <i>footprint</i>
alamu <i>curse</i>	alam <i>curse</i>
ngöönü <i>snore</i>	ngöön <i>snore</i>
ämönyü <i>eat</i>	ämöny <i>eat</i>

Spelling rule 3 (page 41): At the end of words, write **y** or **w** before a final vowel. Do not write **y** or **w** at the end of words without a final vowel. Do not write two vowels together without a **y** or **w** separating them.

Correct	Wrong
gewu <i>town</i>	gew geu <i>town</i>
lawu <i>clothing item</i>	law lau <i>clothing item</i>
häwü <i>yawn</i>	häw häü <i>yawn</i>
'boyi <i>trap</i>	'boy 'boi <i>trap</i>
amayi <i>come</i>	amay amai <i>come</i>
yëyi <i>boat, canoe</i>	yëy yëi <i>boat, canoe</i>

Spelling rule 4 (page 42): Underline the vowel in the following words on the left with Low tone. Do not underline the words on the right.

Low	High
r _o <i>body, for</i>	ro <i>name</i>
d _i <i>from</i>	di <i>when, who</i>
n _a <i>and, with</i>	na <i>this</i>
a _t a <i>put, store</i>	ata <i>see</i>
a _l a <i>find, search, bring, fetch</i>	ala <i>grow</i>
a _g a <i>cut</i>	aga <i>chase</i>
a _b e <i>pass, walk</i>	abe <i>open, insult</i>
a _d a <i>count, read</i>	ada <i>tie</i>
ä _t ü <i>sprout, meet</i>	ätü <i>bow down, pound</i>
ä _d i <i>be cold</i>	ädi <i>bend over</i>
ang _b a <i>roast, bake</i>	angba <i>hit, wear</i>
a _c u <i>fill, be full, take</i>	acu <i>fall</i>

Exercise 21

Carefully read and say each test word below. The letters in each test word may or may not be written correctly. Write the word correctly in the space given. The first one is done as an example.

Test Word		Write correctly	Test Word		Write correctly
'bikülü	<i>jealous person</i>	<u>'bikülü</u>	mäkinyë	<i>sweetness</i>	_____
ahü	<i>grind</i>	_____	hïrökaga	<i>flower</i>	_____
hi'bëë	<i>courtyard</i>	_____	beer	<i>open land</i>	_____
dorüü	<i>roof</i>	_____	'bimängiri	<i>coward</i>	_____
tingöl	<i>mortar, bowl</i>	_____	alew	<i>look at, watch</i>	_____
dödili	<i>ghost, spirit</i>	_____	ätünyü	<i>smell</i>	_____
'jögöm	<i>testicle</i>	_____	külüü	<i>python</i>	_____
föü	<i>early</i>	_____	ngöön	<i>snore</i>	_____
lany	<i>gun</i>	_____	ngayi	<i>table</i>	_____
na	<i>and, with</i>	_____	ro	<i>for</i>	_____
ada	<i>count, read</i>	_____	ata	<i>put, store</i>	_____

Bongo Word List

Below, singular words (one) and plural words (more than one) are in alphabetical order. There are nouns (n), pronouns (pron), verbs (v) and other word categories listed by the abbreviations below.

adj	adjective	describes a noun by following the noun
adv	adverb	describes a verb
aff	affix	prefix (beginning letters) or suffix (ending letters) that has meaning or a special use
con	connector	joins a clause, phrase or sentence
dem	demonstrative	points to or shows which noun is talked about
der	derivational prefix	beginning letters of a word that changes one word into a new word
exp	expression	word that can be a complete sentence by itself
ind	indefinite pronoun	takes the place of an unspecified noun
mod	modifier	describes a noun by preceding the noun
n	noun	person, animal, place, thing, or idea
num	number	tells how many of a noun there are
oth	other	the word category is not yet known
part	particle	word that has a special use
prep	preposition	introduces a noun (or noun phrase) that describes a previous action
pron	pronoun	takes the place of noun or noun phrase
quan	quantity	describes the approximant amount of a noun by following the noun
pron.refl	reflexive pronoun	takes the place of a noun that is used as an object (receiver) after being the subject (doer) of the same action
ques	question word	asks a question

v	verb	action, motion, change, state, or equal sign
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Bongo Word List

<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>	<u>Word category</u>
A a		
aba		v <i>rub</i>
aba		v <i>get engaged</i>
abe		v <i>walk</i>
abe		v <i>insult, reply with abusive words</i>
abeli		n <i>maize</i>
a'ba		v <i>drive (animals)</i>
a'ba		v <i>sting (like bee), shoot</i>
a'bi		v <i>uproot</i>
a'bu		v <i>wrap up, fold</i>
a'bugu		v <i>steal</i>
aca		v <i>insult</i>
ace		v <i>cover, report</i>
ace		v <i>get ready, prepare</i>
acu		v <i>fall, fill</i>
ada		v <i>tie</i>
ada		v <i>count</i>
adu		v <i>light, ignite</i>
a'dice		v <i>send (message)</i>
a'do		v <i>cultivate, farm</i>
a'doci		v <i>cut</i>
a'domo		v <i>keep, save</i>
a'du		v <i>live</i>
a'dugba		v <i>catch, arrest</i>
afati, apati		v <i>thank, praise</i>
aga		v <i>cut</i>
agele		v <i>choose, pick</i>
ageme		v <i>deceive, trick, persuade, seduce</i>
agi		v <i>turn, go around</i>
agi-ro		v <i>lay (yourself) down, lie down</i>
ago		v <i>harvest (groundnuts) by digging</i>
agoki		v <i>gather</i>
agu		v <i>stab</i>
agu		v <i>buy, sell</i>
agbagba		v <i>wander</i>
agbo		v <i>join, put together</i>
agbodo		v <i>collect, gather</i>
aha		v <i>fan</i>
ahaga		v <i>crawl</i>
ahiri		v <i>fry</i>
aho		v <i>slaughter, skin</i>

aje	v	<i>arrange</i>
ajo	v	<i>trap, set trap</i>
a'ji	n	<i>thing</i>
a'ju	v	<i>be born</i>
a'julu	v	<i>return, give back</i>
ake	v	<i>divide, divorce</i>
ako	v	<i>scratch (body)</i>
akori	v	<i>clear, clean, plow field after harvest</i>
aku	v	<i>tells, say, sing</i>
akpe	v	<i>kick, flap (wings)</i>
akpi	v	<i>open</i>
akpi	v	<i>help, save</i>
ala	v	<i>grow up</i>
ala	v	<i>get, bring, fetch</i>
alaga	v	<i>chop, cut</i>
alamu	v	<i>curse</i>
alawu	v	<i>awake</i>
ale	v	<i>search for</i>
alehe	v	<i>look at, see, visit</i>
alewu	v	<i>look at, watch, graze, visit</i>
ali	v	<i>remove, pull, cook</i>
alingi	v	<i>look for</i>
alo	v	<i>smear, apply (oil)</i>
alogo	v	<i>boil</i>
alolo	v	<i>fill (bottles with liquid)</i>
alonyi	v	<i>contribute, give</i>
alutu	v	<i>burn something</i>
ama'ja	v	<i>melt</i>
amala	v	<i>crawl</i>
amayi	v	<i>come</i>
amebe	v	<i>pass through</i>
ami	v	<i>do, make, cry</i>
amile	v	<i>say</i>
amita	mod	<i>able</i>
amo	v	<i>survive</i>
amohitu	v	<i>know, notice</i>
amolo	v	<i>flee, run away</i>
amolu	v	<i>enter, go in</i>
amonyo	v	<i>copulate, have sex</i>
amu	v	<i>close (eye)</i>
amba	v	<i>refuse, reject</i>
ambi	v	<i>leave, travel, escape, fade</i>
ambi	v	<i>overtake</i>
ambo	v	<i>squeeze, draw milk</i>
anene	v	<i>taste</i>
andee	v	<i>go</i>

andu'ba	v	<i>beg</i>
anduju	v	<i>ask, request</i>
anga	v	<i>follow</i>
ango	v	<i>hang, write</i>
angu'ngu	v	<i>think</i>
angba	v	<i>hit, strike, slap, spank</i>
angba	v	<i>put on, wear (clothes)</i>
angba	v	<i>roast, bake</i>
angbe	v	<i>twist, turn over, drive (animals)</i>
anja	v	<i>throw</i>
anya	v	<i>leave something, forgive</i>
anya	oth	<i>unhappy, upset</i>
a'nga	v	<i>bite, gnaw, cut off, subtract</i>
ara	v	<i>press</i>
ata	v	<i>see, find, show</i>
ata	v	<i>put, store</i>
ate	v	<i>stay, remain</i>
ati'di	v	<i>vomit</i>
atiko	v	<i>break, crush</i>
atinge	v	<i>scoop, draw water</i>
ato	v	<i>raise, lift</i>
atu	v	<i>spread (disease), carry</i>
atugba, a'dugba	v	<i>catch, arrest, take care of</i>
atunu	v	<i>kill, murder, slaughter</i>
awo	v	<i>pull, draw out</i>
awu	v	<i>hear, listen</i>
aya	v	<i>jump</i>
aye	v	<i>drink</i>
ayeme	v	<i>mend, repair, make flat</i>
ayenje	v	<i>waste, destroy, spoil</i>
ayi	v	<i>make</i>
ayo	v	<i>point, show, indicate</i>
ayu	v	<i>die</i>
äbü	v	<i>build</i>
äbü	v	<i>blow</i>
ä'bī	v	<i>give</i>
äcē, ämēcī	v	<i>get in , board</i>
äcī	v	<i>beat</i>
äcū	v	<i>be brave</i>
ädī	v	<i>be cold</i>
ädī	v	<i>bend over</i>
ädü	v	<i>start</i>
ä'di	v	<i>cook</i>
ä'dögü	v	<i>wash (clothes)</i>
ä'dü	v	<i>throw, plant, sow</i>
äfi, äpī	v	<i>send</i>

ägë, äljë	v	<i>take, get, obtain, marry</i>
ähü	v	<i>grind</i>
äjë	v	<i>diverge, so separately</i>
äkü	v	<i>create, make, finish</i>
älë	v	<i>dig</i>
äli	v	<i>swallow, leak</i>
äligi	v	<i>die, be lost, loose something</i>
älö	v	<i>remove, take off (clothes)</i>
älü	v	<i>suck, nurse, raise, bring, up (child)</i>
ämëbi	v	<i>fly</i>
ämëhi	v	<i>bury</i>
ämönyü	v	<i>eat</i>
ämörö	v	<i>stop, stand, rest</i>
ämü	v	<i>bump</i>
änyï	v	<i>get up</i>
änyü	v	<i>eat, chew</i>
ärë	v	<i>threaten</i>
ärïhi	v	<i>honour</i>
ärü	v	<i>sew (cloth)</i>
ätï	v	<i>dig, push, close (mouth)</i>
ätü	v	<i>pound</i>
ätü	v	<i>sprout (like plant)</i>
äwü	v	<i>carry, take</i>

Ä ä

äwü	v	<i>carry</i>
-----	---	--------------

B b

ba		<i>pron he, him, his</i>
baa		<i>n river</i>
babu'do		<i>n resembling thing</i>
baagaa, boogaa		<i>n colleagues</i>
baanga	baangee	<i>n dangerous animal</i>
batuu	batuuwee	<i>n father-in-law</i>
bayongo	bayongee	<i>n artist, musician</i>
beeri		<i>n open land, clearing</i>
beeri		<i>n anvil, iron stand</i>
bi		<i>pron he</i>
bihi		<i>n place</i>
bilina		<i>n dura, sorghum</i>
binya	binyee	<i>n goat</i>
bira		<i>n beauty</i>
biyaa		<i>n news</i>
bïi		<i>n hair, fur</i>
bïdi		<i>n pasture</i>
bihi	bihëë	<i>n dog</i>

bīrihī		<i>n</i>	<i>honour</i>
böö	bööyëë	<i>n</i>	<i>friend</i>
bö'bü		<i>n</i>	<i>father</i>
böcī		<i>n</i>	<i>castrated animal</i>
bö'dü	bö'dëë	<i>n</i>	<i>hog, warthog</i>
Böngö	Böngëë	<i>n</i>	<i>Bongo person</i>
bötöli	bötölëë	<i>n</i>	<i>male goat not castrated</i>
buu		<i>n</i>	<i>banana</i>
bu'du	bu'dee	<i>n</i>	<i>man</i>
bulo'ngo	bulongoyee	<i>n</i>	<i>good friend</i>
bübü		<i>n</i>	<i>rubbish dump, garbage pile</i>
bürü		<i>n</i>	<i>camp</i>
bürükü		<i>n</i>	<i>ash</i>
bütü		<i>n</i>	<i>dura, sorghum type</i>

'B 'b

'ba		<i>part</i>	<i>of</i>
'ba		<i>prep</i>	<i>to, in</i>
'balakana		<i>n</i>	<i>okra</i>
'ban		<i>adv</i>	<i>there</i>
'bara		<i>n</i>	<i>rib</i>
'bata	'batee	<i>n</i>	<i>hare, rabbit</i>
'baya		<i>n</i>	<i>feast</i>
'bëë		<i>n</i>	<i>home, compound, village</i>
'bii		<i>n</i>	<i>sleep</i>
'birü	'birüwëë	<i>n</i>	<i>bat</i>
'bo		<i>part</i>	<i>had</i>
'boki		<i>n</i>	<i>calf (of leg)</i>
'boko	'bokee	<i>n</i>	<i>rat type</i>
'bono		<i>mod</i>	<i>front (of something)</i>
'bongo		<i>n</i>	<i>figh</i>
'bonjo		<i>n</i>	<i>pumpkin</i>
'boro		<i>n</i>	<i>hole</i>
'boro		<i>n</i>	<i>forging things</i>
'boyi		<i>n</i>	<i>trap</i>
'börö		<i>adv</i>	<i>already</i>
'buu		<i>n</i>	<i>egg</i>
'bugba		<i>adv</i>	<i>away, outside, off</i>
'bula		<i>n</i>	<i>simsim, sesame</i>
'buulu		<i>n</i>	<i>mahogany tree</i>
'buru		<i>n</i>	<i>life</i>
'bü'bü		<i>mod</i>	<i>foaming, bubbling</i>
'bürë		<i>n</i>	<i>dust</i>

C c

caa		<i>n</i>	<i>cow</i>
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caki		<i>n</i>	<i>ladder</i>
candu		<i>n</i>	<i>leech, insect type</i>
cayi		<i>mod</i>	<i>healing, cured</i>
cii		<i>n</i>	<i>feces</i>
cici		<i>n</i>	<i>cooking pot</i>
cinyi		<i>n</i>	<i>stream</i>
cöli		<i>n</i>	<i>handing net storage</i>
cucuwa	cucuwee	<i>n</i>	<i>porcupine</i>
cuka		<i>n</i>	<i>smoke</i>
cumari		<i>n</i>	<i>loin cloth</i>

D d

da		<i>con</i>	<i>when, while, after</i>
daa		<i>n</i>	<i>water well</i>
dj		<i>prep</i>	<i>from</i>
di		<i>con</i>	<i>when, while, after</i>
dibi		<i>adv</i>	<i>low, down</i>
diroo		<i>mod</i>	<i>some</i>
dili		<i>n</i>	<i>shadow, shade</i>
do		<i>n</i>	<i>head</i>
do		<i>prep</i>	<i>on</i>
doko		<i>n</i>	<i>basket</i>
doko		<i>mod</i>	<i>edge (of something)</i>
dokono		<i>n</i>	<i>guide</i>
do		<i>n</i>	<i>head</i>
domaga		<i>n</i>	<i>boundary</i>
dongo	dongee	<i>n</i>	<i>civet cat</i>
dori		<i>n</i>	<i>year</i>
dö'bëë		<i>n</i>	<i>clan</i>
dödili	dödilëë	<i>n</i>	<i>ghost, spirit</i>
döhï		<i>n</i>	<i>funeral</i>
dökëri		<i>mod</i>	<i>side (of something)</i>
dömbëci		<i>n</i>	<i>shoulder</i>
duu		<i>mod</i>	<i>real</i>
dudu		<i>n</i>	<i>grave</i>
dümü		<i>n</i>	<i>asida, porridge</i>

'D 'd

'da		<i>adv</i>	<i>there</i>
'daa'da'da		<i>adj</i>	<i>soft</i>
'dice		<i>n</i>	<i>message</i>
'dongo		<i>n</i>	<i>lump on head</i>
'duu		<i>n</i>	<i>thigh</i>

E e

Ĕ ě

ëndĕĕ		<i>adj</i>	<i>unripe</i>
ëndimĕndĭ		<i>adj</i>	<i>mature</i>

F f

faca, paca		<i>quan</i>	<i>a lot of</i>
faranga, paranga	farangee, parangee	<i>a</i>	<i>young man</i>
fati, pati		<i>n</i>	<i>praise</i>
fira, pira		<i>n</i>	<i>axe</i>
firafa, pirafa		<i>n</i>	<i>mud wall</i>
firi, piri		<i>n</i>	<i>word, matter</i>
fito, pito		<i>n</i>	<i>cane, walking stick</i>
foli, poli		<i>n</i>	<i>cloud</i>
foli, poli		<i>n</i>	<i>shell</i>
fö'dü, pö'dü		<i>n</i>	<i>fire</i>
fule, pule		<i>n</i>	<i>scar</i>
füli, püli		<i>n</i>	<i>cooking stone</i>
fürü, pürü		<i>n</i>	<i>wound, sore</i>
fütü, pütü		<i>n</i>	<i>heel (of foot)</i>

G g

ga		<i>quan</i>	<i>all</i>
gala	galee	<i>n</i>	<i>wild dog</i>
ganja		<i>n</i>	<i>money</i>
gägä		<i>n</i>	<i>lizard (general)</i>
gändä		<i>mod</i>	<i>much</i>
gewegewe		<i>mod</i>	<i>falling</i>
gewu		<i>n</i>	<i>town</i>
gingo		<i>n</i>	<i>hook</i>
giya		<i>n</i>	<i>root</i>
go		<i>n</i>	<i>neck</i>
goli		<i>n</i>	<i>wealth, riches</i>
göhĭ		<i>n</i>	<i>cough</i>
guu		<i>n</i>	<i>hole</i>
gu'bu		<i>n</i>	<i>forest, away from houses</i>
guloto		<i>n</i>	<i>granary</i>
guru	guree	<i>n</i>	<i>fish type</i>
güci		<i>mod</i>	<i>bottom (of something)</i>
gütü		<i>n</i>	<i>strength</i>

Gb gb

gbaja		<i>n</i>	<i>comb</i>
gbanja		<i>mod</i>	<i>various, random, different</i>
gbändimö		<i>n</i>	<i>shatta, hot pepper</i>
gbiti		<i>n</i>	<i>shield</i>
gbĭgbĭti		<i>n</i>	<i>duck, bird type</i>

gboo		<i>n</i>	<i>fence</i>
gbogbo		<i>mod</i>	<i>big</i>
gbondo		<i>n</i>	<i>leg, foot</i>
gbö, gbä		<i>adj</i>	<i>complete</i>
gbugbu		<i>n</i>	<i>hole</i>
gburu		<i>mod</i>	<i>genuine, original</i>
gbügürü		<i>n</i>	<i>bag type</i>
gbülükü		<i>mod</i>	<i>round</i>

H h

haba		<i>n</i>	<i>hippo</i>
haya		<i>n</i>	<i>sand</i>
häwü		<i>n</i>	<i>yawn</i>
he		<i>pron</i>	<i>you (pl), your</i>
hege	hegee	<i>n</i>	<i>spirit, god</i>
hengu		<i>adj</i>	<i>sharp</i>
hëdī		<i>n</i>	<i>urine, pee</i>
hi		<i>n</i>	<i>stomach</i>
hi		<i>prep</i>	<i>in, inside</i>
hi		<i>pron</i>	<i>you (pl)</i>
hii		<i>n</i>	<i>soil</i>
hi'ba		<i>mod</i>	<i>sound (something)</i>
hi'bala	hi'balee	<i>n</i>	<i>orphan</i>
hi'bana		<i>n</i>	<i>skin</i>
hido		<i>n</i>	<i>behavior, attitude</i>
higba		<i>n</i>	<i>stool</i>
hile		<i>n</i>	<i>baby</i>
hilete		<i>n</i>	<i>spoon, shell</i>
hilili		<i>n</i>	<i>air, wind</i>
hinyi		<i>n</i>	<i>scorpion</i>
hilo		<i>n</i>	<i>dry season</i>
himi		<i>mod</i>	<i>inside</i>
hinya		<i>n</i>	<i>bow</i>
hinyi		<i>n</i>	<i>scorpion</i>
hiru		<i>n</i>	<i>saliva</i>
hiwu		<i>n</i>	<i>plant type</i>
hi'bi		<i>n</i>	<i>rainy season</i>
hi'bü		<i>n</i>	<i>oil, ointment</i>
hüdökī'dī		<i>n</i>	<i>chest</i>
hi'dī		<i>n</i>	<i>penis</i>
hi'dü		<i>n</i>	<i>fishing spear</i>
hīgë	hīgëë	<i>n</i>	<i>mouse</i>
hilëlë	hilëlëë	<i>n</i>	<i>kite, bird type</i>
hīlü		<i>n</i>	<i>hyena</i>
hīmü		<i>n</i>	<i>relative by blood</i>
hirö		<i>n</i>	<i>liver</i>

hirüü		<i>n</i>	<i>floor</i>
hiti		<i>n</i>	<i>health</i>
hoo		<i>n</i>	<i>stream, pool</i>
hogo		<i>n</i>	<i>back</i>
holo		<i>n</i>	<i>tail</i>
homo		<i>n</i>	<i>nose</i>
hondoo		<i>mod</i>	<i>last</i>
höli	holeë	<i>n</i>	<i>bird (general)</i>
hu		<i>pron</i>	<i>she, her</i>
huu		<i>n</i>	<i>breath, spirit</i>

I i

İ i

ı		<i>pron</i>	<i>you (sg)</i>
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J j

je		<i>pron</i>	<i>we, us, our</i>
jekee		<i>mod</i>	<i>good</i>
ji		<i>n</i>	<i>arm, hand</i>
ji		<i>pron</i>	<i>we</i>
ji		<i>prep</i>	<i>to, for</i>
joli		<i>n</i>	<i>limp</i>
jolo		<i>n</i>	<i>dress (for women)</i>
jöhü		<i>n</i>	<i>nasal mucus, snot</i>
jölö	jölëë	<i>n</i>	<i>cock</i>
jumu		<i>n</i>	<i>dish</i>

J j

'jii		<i>n</i>	<i>person</i>
'joo		<i>n</i>	<i>vagina</i>
'johaya		<i>n</i>	<i>sugar</i>
'joko		<i>n</i>	<i>tooth</i>
'jolanda		<i>n</i>	<i>hail, ice</i>
'jolo		<i>n</i>	<i>antelope type</i>
'jomo'ba		<i>n</i>	<i>seed, kernel</i>
'jögömü		<i>n</i>	<i>testicle</i>

K k

ka		<i>con</i>	<i>and, then</i>
ka		<i>con</i>	<i>in order to, so that</i>
ka		<i>part</i>	<i>be, is, are</i>
kaa		<i>con</i>	<i>whenever</i>
kada		<i>n</i>	<i>sun, day</i>
kaga		<i>n</i>	<i>tree, wood</i>

kakpa		<i>adj</i>	<i>long ago</i>
kaliki		<i>n</i>	<i>elbow</i>
kaliki		<i>n</i>	<i>bird type</i>
kamba		<i>n</i>	<i>honey</i>
kanu		<i>n</i>	<i>trunk (of elephant)</i>
kanda		<i>adj</i>	<i>new</i>
kanga	kangee	<i>n</i>	<i>ostrich</i>
kariya	kariyee	<i>n</i>	<i>antelope</i>
kädëri		<i>quan</i>	<i>much</i>
kähü		<i>n</i>	<i>mushroom</i>
kälä		<i>n</i>	<i>mane (of lion)</i>
käwü		<i>n</i>	<i>branch (of river)</i>
kehe		<i>n</i>	<i>game</i>
kendi		<i>oth</i>	<i>right, correct</i>
kete		<i>n</i>	<i>pot (for water, cooking)</i>
këbi		<i>n</i>	<i>rope, string, thread</i>
kënyï		<i>n</i>	<i>loan</i>
këti		<i>n</i>	<i>reed</i>
ki		<i>con</i>	<i>if</i>
kii		<i>num</i>	<i>ten</i>
kidi	kidee	<i>n</i>	<i>elephant</i>
kihika		<i>n</i>	<i>grass broom</i>
kihilili		<i>n</i>	<i>light-weight</i>
kihiwa		<i>n</i>	<i>porcupine</i>
kilingba		<i>n</i>	<i>bone</i>
kindaru		<i>adj</i>	<i>wrinkled</i>
kinji	kinjee	<i>n</i>	<i>fish (general)</i>
kiranya	kiranyee	<i>n</i>	<i>snake (general)</i>
kire		<i>n</i>	<i>arrow</i>
kiri		<i>n</i>	<i>star</i>
kiri		<i>adj</i>	<i>heavy</i>
kiya		<i>n</i>	<i>gall bladder</i>
kïbi		<i>n</i>	<i>drum</i>
kidi		<i>n</i>	<i>muscle, vein</i>
kilë'bi		<i>n</i>	<i>mountain, hill</i>
kilili		<i>n</i>	<i>charcoal</i>
kilirü		<i>n</i>	<i>giraffe</i>
kilo	kiloyee	<i>n</i>	<i>parrot, bird type</i>
kinyï		<i>adj</i>	<i>tasty</i>
kinyö		<i>n</i>	<i>thorn, brier</i>
kiri		<i>mod</i>	<i>rich</i>
ko		<i>n</i>	<i>opening, edge, mouth</i>
ko'do		<i>n</i>	<i>gourd, calabath</i>
kogo	kogee	<i>n</i>	<i>leopard</i>
koki	kokee	<i>n</i>	<i>egret, bird type</i>
kokidi		<i>n</i>	<i>rice</i>

koko		<i>n</i>	<i>colour, shape</i>
kokoli	kokolee	<i>n</i>	<i>kingfisher, bird type</i>
kokoro		<i>n</i>	<i>fingernail, talon</i>
komo		<i>n</i>	<i>eye</i>
kongbo	kongbee	<i>n</i>	<i>bird type</i>
konyi		<i>adj</i>	<i>white</i>
kori		<i>n</i>	<i>footprint</i>
koro		<i>n</i>	<i>trap</i>
korokoro		<i>n</i>	<i>shap point, finger nail, claw</i>
koto		<i>n</i>	<i>back</i>
köbī	köbëë	<i>n</i>	<i>buffalo</i>
köli		<i>n</i>	<i>whistling</i>
köri		<i>n</i>	<i>shea butter tree</i>
kötü		<i>num</i>	<i>one</i>
kuda		<i>n</i>	<i>thirst</i>
kudo		<i>n</i>	<i>speech</i>
ku'da		<i>n</i>	<i>water place</i>
kuhu		<i>n</i>	<i>seed, tribe</i>
kuje		<i>n</i>	<i>hook</i>
ku'ja		<i>n</i>	<i>prostitution</i>
kuku		<i>n</i>	<i>lung</i>
kulongo		<i>n</i>	<i>bottle</i>
kuloyo		<i>n</i>	<i>millet</i>
kulu		<i>n</i>	<i>revenge</i>
kumara	kumaree	<i>n</i>	<i>woman</i>
kunu		<i>adj</i>	<i>painful, important</i>
kungu		<i>n</i>	<i>road, path</i>
kunya		<i>adj</i>	<i>bad</i>
kure		<i>n</i>	<i>malaria, bulb (of plant)</i>
kurongo		<i>n</i>	<i>shout, noice, sound</i>
kuta		<i>n</i>	<i>filter, sieve</i>
kuye		<i>n</i>	<i>knot</i>
küdi		<i>n</i>	<i>worm, maggot</i>
kü'dühi		<i>n</i>	<i>cotton</i>
külü		<i>n</i>	<i>heart</i>
külülü		<i>n</i>	<i>cry, shout</i>
külüyi	külüyii	<i>n</i>	<i>python, snake type</i>
kümö		<i>n</i>	<i>celebration</i>
kümü		<i>n</i>	<i>navel, belly button</i>
küngü	küngëë	<i>n</i>	<i>baboon, monkey</i>
künyī	künyëë	<i>n</i>	<i>flea, tick, insect type</i>
kürö'bö		<i>n</i>	<i>mud</i>
Küröhi		<i>n</i>	<i>man's name</i>
kürü	kürëë	<i>n</i>	<i>caterpillar</i>
kürü		<i>n</i>	<i>groundnut</i>
kütü		<i>n</i>	<i>shelter</i>

kütü		<i>n</i>	<i>handle</i>
Kp kp			
kpadu		<i>adj</i>	<i>tall, long</i>
kpanga		<i>mod</i>	<i>piece (of something)</i>
kpawu		<i>quan</i>	<i>all</i>
kpärikpö	kpärikpëë	<i>n</i>	<i>tortoise</i>
kpë		<i>adj</i>	<i>large</i>
kpënyï		<i>mod</i>	<i>elder, older</i>
kpi		<i>adv</i>	<i>quietly</i>
kpico		<i>n</i>	<i>talon, claw</i>
kpo'do		<i>n</i>	<i>hat</i>
kpökpö		<i>n</i>	<i>throat</i>
kpüli	kpülëë	<i>n</i>	<i>lion</i>
L l			
laba		<i>n</i>	<i>bridge</i>
lalamu		<i>n</i>	<i>curse</i>
landa		<i>n</i>	<i>white stone, rock</i>
landaa		<i>n</i>	<i>thick, big</i>
langba		<i>n</i>	<i>drying platform</i>
lanyi		<i>n</i>	<i>gun</i>
lawu		<i>n</i>	<i>clothing item</i>
längärä		<i>n</i>	<i>beg</i>
lee		<i>n</i>	<i>father's sister, aunt</i>
lelekpe		<i>mod</i>	<i>loose, free</i>
lë'ji		<i>n</i>	<i>beer, alcohol</i>
li'jicükä		<i>n</i>	<i>bubble</i>
lëlë		<i>n</i>	<i>stone</i>
lëmï		<i>n</i>	<i>sister</i>
li'bu		<i>n</i>	<i>hive (of bees)</i>
linda, payi		<i>n</i>	<i>digging tool</i>
lii		<i>n</i>	<i>co-wife</i>
lingë		<i>n</i>	<i>horn (of animal)</i>
lirü	lirüwëë	<i>n</i>	<i>pelican, bird type</i>
Liwü		<i>n</i>	<i>man's name</i>
lobi		<i>n</i>	<i>poem</i>
logo		<i>n</i>	<i>hoe blade</i>
loki		<i>n</i>	<i>crowd</i>
loki		<i>mod</i>	<i>many</i>
longbo		<i>mod</i>	<i>big</i>
lo'ngo		<i>n</i>	<i>friendship</i>
lo'ngu		<i>mod</i>	<i>big</i>
löhi		<i>n</i>	<i>baldness</i>
lu'ba		<i>n</i>	<i>abandoned place</i>
lu'ju		<i>n</i>	<i>sap (of tree)</i>

lula		<i>n</i>	<i>cloud</i>
luma		<i>n</i>	<i>brother or sister in-law</i>
Luma, luma		<i>n</i>	<i>God, god</i>
luru	luree	<i>n</i>	<i>mudfish</i>
lüyi		<i>n</i>	<i>grass</i>
lülë		<i>n</i>	<i>water turtle</i>
lündü		<i>n</i>	<i>brother</i>
lünyi	lünyëë	<i>n</i>	<i>rat</i>

M m

ma		<i>pron</i>	<i>I, me, my</i>
maa		<i>n</i>	<i>pregnancy, child</i>
maca	macee	<i>n</i>	<i>rhino</i>
macoki, macoko		<i>n</i>	<i>tooth brush, tooth stick</i>
magori		<i>n</i>	<i>ring, wheel</i>
mahikoli	mahikolee	<i>n</i>	<i>mosquito</i>
makana		<i>n</i>	<i>fruit</i>
makara		<i>mod</i>	<i>clean</i>
makpulukpu		<i>n</i>	<i>bettle</i>
mamba		<i>n</i>	<i>search, hunt</i>
manda		<i>n</i>	<i>groundnut</i>
manga		<i>n</i>	<i>stream</i>
manganga		<i>n</i>	<i>drum type</i>
mangatee		<i>mod</i>	<i>younger</i>
mangooli		<i>n</i>	<i>flute</i>
marundu		<i>n</i>	<i>spider</i>
matiyo		<i>n</i>	<i>story</i>
maya		<i>n</i>	<i>breast, milk</i>
maya		<i>n</i>	<i>yam</i>
mäciki		<i>n</i>	<i>louse, lice</i>
mägürë	mägürëë	<i>n</i>	<i>dove, bird type</i>
mähimü		<i>n</i>	<i>relative</i>
mäkümünyi		<i>n</i>	<i>flea, insect type</i>
mängälü	mängälëë	<i>n</i>	<i>grasshopper</i>
mängiri		<i>n</i>	<i>fear</i>
mängükü		<i>n</i>	<i>owl</i>
mänjükürü		<i>n</i>	<i>ant (general)</i>
mehe		<i>n</i>	<i>spear type</i>
mëhi		<i>n</i>	<i>meat</i>
mëndë		<i>n</i>	<i>thinness</i>
mi		<i>pron</i>	<i>I</i>
mini		<i>n</i>	<i>water</i>
mino		<i>n</i>	<i>cry, weeping</i>
mira		<i>n</i>	<i>poison, venom</i>
miyeeyi, miyooyi		<i>n</i>	<i>yelling</i>
mici		<i>n</i>	<i>potato</i>

mündi		<i>n</i>	<i>dirt, soil</i>
mīnyī		<i>n</i>	<i>odour, smell</i>
mooje		<i>n</i>	<i>look, behold</i>
mo'jo		<i>mod</i>	<i>little</i>
moko		<i>n</i>	<i>war, fighting</i>
molo		<i>mod</i>	<i>bottom (of something)</i>
monoo		<i>adj</i>	<i>certain, other, another</i>
moori		<i>n</i>	<i>mother-in-law</i>
möölü		<i>n</i>	<i>fish type</i>
mömü	mömünëë	<i>n</i>	<i>wife</i>
möönyü		<i>n</i>	<i>dura, sorghum type</i>
mu'du		<i>n</i>	<i>illness, sickness, rest</i>
mumbu		<i>n</i>	<i>corpse, dead body</i>
munya		<i>n</i>	<i>ugliness</i>
muyu		<i>n</i>	<i>death</i>
mü'di		<i>n</i>	<i>bush</i>
mükü		<i>n</i>	<i>fallow ground, abandoned place</i>
mülü		<i>n</i>	<i>darkness</i>

Mb mb

mbaa		<i>adv</i>	<i>short while</i>
mbaga		<i>n</i>	<i>mother</i>
mbara		<i>adv</i>	<i>remaining</i>
mbäjä		<i>n</i>	<i>scab of wound</i>
mbele	mbelee	<i>n</i>	<i>catfish</i>
mbëli		<i>n</i>	<i>wing</i>
mbili		<i>n</i>	<i>ear</i>
mbira		<i>n</i>	<i>net</i>
mbirawu		<i>n</i>	<i>wild cat</i>
mbirë'di		<i>n</i>	<i>bamboo</i>
mbiyö		<i>n</i>	<i>lie, falsehood</i>
mbiyöngö		<i>n</i>	<i>pen, colour</i>
mbö'bö		<i>mod</i>	<i>spoiled</i>
mbötü		<i>n</i>	<i>door</i>
mbu'da		<i>n</i>	<i>bag, quiver</i>
mbulugaa		<i>mod</i>	<i>not sour</i>
mburogo		<i>n</i>	<i>throat mucus, phlegm</i>

N n

na		<i>prep</i>	<i>and, with</i>
na		<i>dem</i>	<i>this, these</i>
nafiri		<i>adj</i>	<i>wanting, needing</i>
ne		<i>pron</i>	<i>it, him, her, its, his</i>
ni		<i>pron</i>	<i>he, she (logophoric)</i>
ninī	ninëë	<i>n</i>	<i>mother's sisiter</i>
noko	nokee	<i>n</i>	<i>mother's brother</i>

nokotoo

adv yesterday

Nd nd

ndaliko

ndalikee

n chameleon, lizard type

ndan

adv today

ndatara

n tongue

ndee

adv before

ndende

adv shaking

ndere

n walk

ndira

n pencil

ndi'bö

n chin

ndikä

n law

ndirä

n pimple, blemish (on face)

ndobo

n work

ndö'ji

n semen

ndörü

n mourning, grieving

ndugu

n price

ndu'ju

n greeting, peace

ndumu

adv tomorrow

nduma

n grass

nduru

n weakness

ndüü

n sound, voice, messenger

ndüböö

adj older, elder

Ng ng

ngaha

n run

ngaja

ngajee

n girl

ngaka

mod towards

ngala

n dance

ngaligbi

n rainbow

nganja

nganje

n crocodile

ngara

mod great

ngatee

adj younger

ngaya, yenyi

n scabies, itching disease

ngayi

n table

ngäbü

n cobra, snake type

ngira

n forest, bush

ngiri

v firewood

ngoo

ngooyee

n in-law, guest

ngoo

n marriage

ngoo

n marriage

ngomu

n abscess

ngono

ngonee

n chicken

ngonjo

n shin (of leg)

ngo'ngo

ngo'ngee

n housefly

ngori

num second

ngoyo		<i>n</i>	<i>song</i>
ngökü		<i>n</i>	<i>rubbish, garbage</i>
ngöönü		<i>n</i>	<i>snore</i>
ngü'dü		<i>n</i>	<i>hump (on back)</i>
ngü'dü		<i>n</i>	<i>blindness</i>
ngüli		<i>n</i>	<i>widow, widower</i>
Ngb ngb			
ngbala		<i>n</i>	<i>whip, arm, branch</i>
ngbangu		<i>n</i>	<i>okra</i>
ngbo		<i>adv</i>	<i>just</i>
ngbulu		<i>mod</i>	<i>big, thick</i>
ngbütü		<i>n</i>	<i>deafness</i>
Nj nj			
nja		<i>part</i>	<i>did, had</i>
nja		<i>part</i>	<i>not</i>
njaa		<i>part</i>	<i>not (completely)</i>
njü		<i>n</i>	<i>leaf, foliage</i>
njolo	njolee	<i>n</i>	<i>frog, toad</i>
njonjo		<i>mod</i>	<i>small</i>
njula		<i>n</i>	<i>rubber</i>
njuru		<i>n</i>	<i>poverty</i>
Ny ny			
nya		<i>con</i>	<i>as, while, when</i>
nya'da		<i>n</i>	<i>smile, welcome</i>
nyaka		<i>n</i>	<i>field, garden</i>
nyälä		<i>n</i>	<i>wealth</i>
nyere	nyeree	<i>n</i>	<i>chief</i>
nyëenyëë		<i>mod</i>	<i>blinking</i>
nyihi		<i>n</i>	<i>moon, month</i>
nyiti		<i>n</i>	<i>potato</i>
nyoro		<i>n</i>	<i>tumor</i>
'Ng 'ng			
'ngaa'nga'nga		<i>adj</i>	<i>dry</i>
'ngäcä	'ngäcëë	<i>n</i>	<i>slave</i>
'ngoo		<i>n</i>	<i>termite</i>
'ngo'ngo		<i>n</i>	<i>catfish</i>
O o			
Ö ö			
ötümötü		<i>adj</i>	<i>rotten</i>

P p

piyi, linda		<i>n</i>	<i>digging tool</i>
pirapa		<i>n</i>	<i>mud wall</i>

R r

raka		<i>n</i>	<i>shoe, sandle</i>
ranga	range	<i>n</i>	<i>vulture</i>
räkä		<i>n</i>	<i>bread</i>
rekembe		<i>n</i>	<i>shell instrument</i>
reme	remee	<i>n</i>	<i>squirrel</i>
rembo	rembee	<i>n</i>	<i>sheep</i>
rëyi		<i>quan</i>	<i>plenty</i>
rëti		<i>quan</i>	<i>many</i>
riko		<i>n</i>	<i>bed</i>
riti		<i>n</i>	<i>razor</i>
ro		<i>n</i>	<i>name</i>
rō		<i>n</i>	<i>body</i>
rō		<i>n</i>	<i>for, at, on</i>
ro'bu		<i>mod</i>	<i>wanting, needing</i>
rötō		<i>n</i>	<i>bald person</i>
runga		<i>n</i>	<i>rural area for farming</i>
ru'nga	rungee	<i>n</i>	<i>twin</i>
rüü		<i>n</i>	<i>house, hut, room</i>
rüjü		<i>n</i>	<i>flour</i>
rürü		<i>n</i>	<i>filth, uncleanness</i>

T t

taba		<i>n</i>	<i>leprosy</i>
ta'ba		<i>n</i>	<i>tobacco</i>
taga		<i>mod</i>	<i>afternoon</i>
tanja	tanjee	<i>n</i>	<i>guinea fowl</i>
tara		<i>n</i>	<i>lip, quarrel</i>
tarana		<i>n</i>	<i>tree type</i>
tayi		<i>adj</i>	<i>morning</i>
tängü		<i>mod</i>	<i>blocked, obstructed</i>
tängbö		<i>mod</i>	<i>end (of something)</i>
tä'ngä	tä'ngëë	<i>n</i>	<i>antelope type</i>
tele		<i>n</i>	<i>swim</i>
tene		<i>n</i>	<i>insult</i>
tii		<i>n</i>	<i>peanut, used for sauce</i>
ti'di		<i>n</i>	<i>vomit</i>
ti'do		<i>n</i>	<i>weed</i>
tigo		<i>adj</i>	<i>strong</i>
tigoo		<i>adj</i>	<i>weak, faint</i>

tiki		<i>n</i>	<i>intestine</i>
timara		<i>n</i>	<i>blood</i>
tiyi		<i>n</i>	<i>ant type</i>
tibi, kitibi		<i>mod</i>	<i>unripe</i>
tüü		<i>n</i>	<i>ring</i>
tüngöli		<i>n</i>	<i>mortar, bowl for grinding</i>
to'do		<i>n</i>	<i>salt</i>
toko		<i>adv</i>	<i>also</i>
tolo		<i>n</i>	<i>juice, dew</i>
tondi		<i>n</i>	<i>leech, insect type</i>
toro		<i>mor</i>	<i>up, high</i>
toto		<i>adv</i>	<i>different</i>
toyi		<i>adj</i>	<i>near</i>
tö'bö		<i>n</i>	<i>fat</i>
törü		<i>adv</i>	<i>completely, strongly</i>
tuu	tuuwee	<i>n</i>	<i>grandparent</i>
tutu		<i>n</i>	<i>grinding stone</i>
tüdü		<i>n</i>	<i>cry, weeping</i>
türü		<i>n</i>	<i>gouvernement</i>
tütü		<i>n</i>	<i>shell (of groundnut)</i>

U u

ukpaa, akpaa		<i>mod</i>	<i>short</i>
ununu		<i>oth</i>	<i>suffering</i>

Ü ü

ünyï		<i>mod</i>	<i>good, sweet</i>
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W w

wa'nga		<i>n</i>	<i>poison</i>
waru	waree	<i>n</i>	<i>fish type</i>
wäji	wäjëe	<i>n</i>	<i>hawk, bird type</i>
wäli		<i>n</i>	<i>wild dog</i>
wängä		<i>n</i>	<i>greed</i>
wänjä		<i>mod</i>	<i>wide open</i>
wära		<i>mod</i>	<i>bright</i>
wätawätä		<i>mod</i>	<i>big</i>
wilele	wilelee	<i>n</i>	<i>small animal like civet cat</i>
wiri		<i>n</i>	<i>bud (of dura head)</i>
wöli		<i>n</i>	<i>brain</i>
wüyï		<i>n</i>	<i>abscess, skin infection</i>

Y y

yakara		<i>n</i>	<i>pumpkin</i>
yala		<i>n</i>	<i>fly swatter</i>
yanga		<i>n</i>	<i>clitoris</i>

ye		<i>pron</i>	<i>they, them, their</i>
yemeka		<i>adv</i>	<i>also, again</i>
yenyi, ngaya		<i>n</i>	<i>scabies, itching disease</i>
yewu		<i>part</i>	<i>there are, exists</i>
yëë		<i>adv</i>	<i>awhile</i>
yëgë	yëgëë	<i>n</i>	<i>locust</i>
yërë		<i>n</i>	<i>younger twin</i>
yëyi		<i>n</i>	<i>boat, canoe</i>
yi		<i>pron</i>	<i>they</i>
yöngölö		<i>n</i>	<i>bell</i>

Glossary

Word	Example	Definition
syllable	cu ma ri in cumari 'loin cloth'	The parts of a word that can be divided according to beats.
consonant	mb and r in mbira 'net'	Letter sounds that begin or occasionally end a syllable; a consonant cannot be a syllable by itself.
vowel	i and a in mbira 'net'	Letter sounds that end a syllable; a vowel can be a syllable by itself.
heavy vowel	ü in küngü 'monkey'	The sound of vowel letters with dots.
light vowel	u in kungu 'road'	The sound of vowel letters without dots.
short vowel	i in hi 'stomach'	The sound of single vowel letters which take less time to pronounce.
long vowel	ii in hii 'soil'	The sound of doubled vowel letters which take longer to pronounce.

Answers to Exercises

Answers to the exercises of this book are given below.

Exercise 1

a	<u>abeli</u>	i	<u>kinji</u>	nj	<u>njolo</u>
ä	<u>äwü</u>	ï	<u>bïhi</u>	ny	<u>nyere</u>
b	<u>bu'du</u>	j	<u>ji</u>	'ng	<u>'ngoo</u>
'b	<u>'bata</u>	'j	<u>'joko</u>	o	<u>kogo</u>
c	<u>caki</u>	k	<u>kada</u>	ö	<u>köbi</u>
d	<u>do</u>	kp	<u>kpüli</u>	p	<u>pirapa</u>
'd	<u>'duu</u>	l	<u>lanyi</u>	r	<u>reme</u>

e	<u>kete</u>	m	<u>maca</u>	t	<u>tīngōlī</u>
ë	' <u>bëë</u>	mb	<u>mbiyōngō</u>	u	<u>tutu</u>
f	<u>fira</u>	n	<u>noko</u>	ü	<u>kūngū</u>
g	<u>ganja</u>	nd	<u>ndira</u>	w	<u>waru</u>
gb	<u>gbaja</u>	ng	<u>ngono</u>	y	<u>yōngōlō</u>
h	<u>hinyi</u>	ngb	<u>ngbangu</u>		

Exercise 2

number of syllables		divided into syllables			
<u>2</u>	lo'ngo	<u>lo</u>	<u>'ngo</u>		<i>friendship</i>
<u>3</u>	külüyi	<u>kü</u>	<u>lü</u>	<u>yī</u>	<i>python</i>
<u>1</u>	'ngoo	<u>'ngoo</u>			<i>termite</i>
<u>2</u>	nduma	<u>ndu</u>	<u>ma</u>		<i>grass</i>
<u>3</u>	gbügürü	<u>gbü</u>	<u>gü</u>	<u>rü</u>	<i>bag type</i>
<u>2</u>	ngbala	<u>ngba</u>	<u>la</u>		<i>whip</i>
<u>1</u>	njii	<u>njii</u>			<i>leaf</i>
<u>3</u>	marundu	<u>ma</u>	<u>ru</u>	<u>ndu</u>	<i>spider</i>
<u>2</u>	mbele	<u>mbe</u>	<u>le</u>		<i>catfish</i>
<u>3</u>	dangara	<u>da</u>	<u>nga</u>	<u>ra</u>	<i>distance</i>
<u>2</u>	nga'ba	<u>nga</u>	<u>'ba</u>		<i>cheek</i>
<u>2</u>	candu	<u>ca</u>	<u>ndu</u>		<i>leech, insect</i>
<u>2</u>	kpökpö	<u>kpö</u>	<u>kpö</u>		<i>throat</i>
<u>3</u>	bayongo	<u>ba</u>	<u>yo</u>	<u>ngo</u>	<i>artist, musician</i>
<u>2</u>	binya	<u>bi</u>	<u>nya</u>		<i>goat</i>
<u>2</u>	ünyī	<u>ü</u>	<u>nyī</u>		<i>good, sweet</i>

Exercise 3

(h) i ('b) a (n) a	<i>skin</i>
(gb) i (t) i	<i>shield</i>
(b) i (ny) a	<i>goat</i>
(j) o (l) a (nd) a	<i>hail, ice</i>
(d) o (m) a (g) a	<i>boundary</i>
(kp) o ('d) o	<i>hat</i>
(w) a ('ng) a	<i>poison</i>
(ngb) a (ng) u	<i>okra</i>
(f) a (r) a (ng) a	<i>young man</i>

(m) ä (j) ä	<i>scab (of wound)</i>
(k) a (r) i (y) a	<i>antelope</i>
(b) o (nj) o	<i>pumpkin</i>
(p) a (c) a	<i>a lot</i>

Exercise 4

Test Word	Write correctly	Test Word	Write correctly
b öörü <i>inside</i>	<u>'b</u> öörü	'b'al'ja <i>wet</i>	<u>'b</u> 'al'ja
b öci <i>castrated animal</i>	<u>b</u> öci	börö <i>already</i>	<u>'b</u> örö
'b o no <i>front of something</i>	<u>'b</u> ono	ban <i>there</i>	<u>'b</u> an
'b u gba <i>off, away, outside</i>	<u>'b</u> ugba	'b a hi <i>inside</i>	<u>'b</u> a <i>hi</i>
bü'bü <i>foaming, bubbling</i>	<u>'b</u> ü'bü	'b ö ö <i>friend</i>	<u>b</u> öö
baki'da <i>over there</i>	<u>'b</u> aki'da	'b o hondo <i>behind</i>	<u>'b</u> ohondo
ä i <i>give</i>	<u>ä</u> 'b <i>i</i>	abe <i>open</i>	<u>a</u> be
ab a <i>rub</i>	<u>a</u> ba	aduru'bu <i>dream</i>	<u>a</u> duru'bu
and u 'ba <i>beg</i>	<u>a</u> ndu'ba	äm e 'bi <i>fly</i>	<u>ä</u> m <i>e</i> 'bi
ä'b ü <i>build</i>	<u>ä</u> bü	kamab a l <i>slow</i>	<u>k</u> amab <i>a</i> l
di'b i <i>low, down</i>	<u>d</u> ibi	käb ü <i>paralyzed</i>	<u>k</u> ä'bü
mb ö 'b ö <i>spoiled</i>	<u>m</u> bö'bö	gburub a a <i>perfect</i>	<u>g</u> buru'baa

Exercise 5

Test Word	Write correctly	Test Word	Write correctly
'd i bi <i>low, down</i>	<u>d</u> ibi	du'b i i <i>sleep</i>	<u>'d</u> 'bii
'd o le <i>roaming, wandering</i>	<u>d</u> ole	duu <i>real</i>	<u>d</u> uu
'd a <i>there</i>	<u>'d</u> a	dolongo <i>hanging</i>	<u>d</u> olongo
ä d ü <i>start</i>	<u>ä</u> dü	a'd u <i>light, ignite</i>	<u>a</u> du
ä d ü <i>throw</i>	<u>ä</u> 'd <i>ü</i>	a'd u <i>live</i>	<u>a</u> 'du
agb o 'd o <i>collect, gather</i>	<u>a</u> gbodo	kpad u <i>tall, long</i>	<u>k</u> padu
bu'd a bu'd a <i>soft</i>	<u>b</u> u'dabu'da	ä'd i <i>be cold</i>	<u>ä</u> 'di
ad o <i>cultivate, farm</i>	<u>a</u> 'd <i>o</i>	ad o ci <i>cut</i>	<u>a</u> 'doci
ä d i <i>bend over</i>	<u>ä</u> 'd <i>i</i>	a'd o mo <i>keep, save</i>	<u>a</u> 'domo
a'd a <i>tie</i>	<u>a</u> da	ad a <i>count</i>	<u>a</u> da
ä'd i <i>cook</i>	<u>ä</u> 'd <i>i</i>	kä'd ë r i <i>much</i>	<u>k</u> ä'dëri
a'ju'd o <i>braid (hair)</i>	<u>a</u> 'judo	'b a kida <i>over there</i>	<u>'b</u> aki'da

Exercise 6

Test Word	Write correctly	Test Word	Write correctly
'j i <i>arm, hand</i>	<u>'j</u> i	'j i i <i>person</i>	<u>'j</u> ii
j o ko <i>tooth</i>	<u>'j</u> oko	'j ö lö <i>cock</i>	<u>'j</u> öLö
'j o landa <i>hail, ice</i>	<u>'j</u> olanda	je k ee <i>good</i>	<u>j</u> eeke
at i ji <i>open</i>	<u>a</u> tiji	am a ja <i>melt</i>	<u>a</u> ma'ja

a'julu	<i>return, give back</i>	<u>a'julu</u>	moo'je	<i>look, behold</i>	<u>mooje</u>
anduju	<i>ask, request</i>	<u>anduju</u>	andoji	<i>flow (like water)</i>	<u>ando'ji</u>
äjä	<i>diverge, separate</i>	<u>äjä</u>	a'ju	<i>be born</i>	<u>a'ju</u>
agbu'ju	<i>return, go back</i>	<u>agbu'ju</u>	ajudo	<i>braid (hair)</i>	<u>a'judu</u>
ätöji	<i>pour</i>	<u>ätö'ji</u>	mo'jo	<i>little</i>	<u>mo'jo</u>

Exercise 7

Test Word		Write correctly	Test Word		Write correctly
gori	<i>two</i>	<u>ngori</u>	'ngatee	<i>younger</i>	<u>ngatee</u>
goli	<i>rich</i>	<u>goli</u>	giyaa	<i>small</i>	<u>giyaa</u>
ngäl'ngäl	<i>bright</i>	<u>'ngäl'ngäl</u>	gantikan	<i>few</i>	<u>ngantikan</u>
gaka	<i>towards</i>	<u>ngaka</u>	ngewegewe	<i>falling</i>	<u>gewegewe</u>
ngiyee	<i>some</i>	<u>giyee</u>	gändä	<i>much</i>	<u>gändä</u>
ga	<i>all</i>	<u>ga</u>	'ngaa'nga'nga	<i>dry</i>	<u>'ngaa'nga'nga</u>
'ngara	<i>soon</i>	<u>ngara</u>	nga	<i>long ago</i>	<u>nga</u>
ngara	<i>great</i>	<u>ngara</u>	ngürtë	<i>short</i>	<u>gürtë</u>
agi	<i>turn</i>	<u>agi</u>	kpongo	<i>empty</i>	<u>kpongo</u>
kpägalä	<i>far</i>	<u>kpängälä</u>	tigo	<i>strong</i>	<u>tigo</u>
lilingi	<i>lost</i>	<u>lilingi</u>	aga	<i>follow</i>	<u>anga</u>
kangaci	<i>without reason</i>	<u>ka'ngaci</u>	makitigo	<i>hard</i>	<u>makitigo</u>
he'ngu	<i>sharp</i>	<u>hengu</u>	lo'ngu	<i>big</i>	<u>lo'ngu</u>
dohogo	<i>behind</i>	<u>dohogo</u>	ma'ngatee	<i>younger</i>	<u>mangatee</u>
dohanga	<i>crawling</i>	<u>dohaga</u>	ango	<i>hang</i>	<u>ango</u>
a'nga	<i>bite, gnaw</i>	<u>a'nga</u>	mbulugaa	<i>not sour</i>	<u>mbulugaa</u>
yo'ngi	<i>exhausted</i>	<u>yongi</u>	baga	<i>bachelor</i>	<u>banga</u>
taga	<i>afternoon</i>	<u>taga</u>	ayanga	<i>lose temper</i>	<u>aya'nga</u>
alanga	<i>cut</i>	<u>ala'nga</u>	tä'ngü	<i>blocked</i>	<u>tängü</u>
aga	<i>chase</i>	<u>aga</u>	agu	<i>buy, sell</i>	<u>agu</u>
dolo'ngo	<i>hanging</i>	<u>dolongu</u>	kpanga	<i>piece</i>	<u>kpanga</u>

Exercise 8

Test Word		Write correctly	Test Word		Write correctly
ndee	<i>before</i>	<u>ndee</u>	nandanika	<i>now</i>	<u>nandanika</u>
nduu	<i>real</i>	<u>duu</u>	dan	<i>today</i>	<u>ndan</u>
ndokotoo	<i>yesterday</i>	<u>nokotoo</u>	dende	<i>shaking</i>	<u>ndende</u>
ndumu	<i>tomorrow</i>	<u>ndumu</u>	dole	<i>roaming, wandering</i>	<u>dole</u>
ndolongu	<i>hanging</i>	<u>dolongu</u>	düböö	<i>older, elder</i>	<u>ndüböö</u>
di'bono	<i>forward</i>	<u>di'bono</u>	anda	<i>count</i>	<u>ada</u>
nandanika	<i>now</i>	<u>nandanika</u>	donondo	<i>dawn</i>	<u>donondo</u>
kunu	<i>painful</i>	<u>kunu</u>	donodo	<i>dawn</i>	<u>donondo</u>
kinaru	<i>wrinkled</i>	<u>kindaru</u>	ädi	<i>bend over</i>	<u>ädi</u>
gändä	<i>much</i>	<u>gändä</u>	kendi	<i>correct</i>	<u>kendi</u>
kändëri	<i>much</i>	<u>kändëri</u>	kanda	<i>new</i>	<u>kanda</u>
hondoo	<i>last</i>	<u>hondoo</u>	ädëë	<i>unripe</i>	<u>ädëë</u>

adee go | andee | anda tie | ada

Exercise 9

Test Word	Write correctly	Test Word	Write correctly
baa <i>short while</i>	<u>mbaa</u>	mbö'bö <i>spoiled</i>	<u>mbö'bö</u>
mo'jo <i>little</i>	<u>mo'jo</u>	mbeyeka <i>also, again</i>	<u>meyeka</u>
mböö <i>friend</i>	<u>böö</u>	bara <i>remaining</i>	<u>mbara</u>
mangatee <i>younder</i>	<u>mangatee</u>	bata <i>pride</i>	<u>bata</u>
monoo <i>certain. other</i>	<u>monoo</u>	mbiloo <i>long</i>	<u>mbiloo</u>
bulugaa <i>not sour</i>	<u>mbulugaa</u>	mböci <i>castrated animal</i>	<u>böci</u>
himi <i>inside</i>	<u>himi</u>	abi <i>leave, travel</i>	<u>ambi</u>
ämbü <i>build</i>	<u>äbü</u>	ambanya <i>abandon</i>	<u>ambanya</u>
amba <i>refuse, reject</i>	<u>amba</u>	kpamakpa <i>far</i>	<u>kpamakpa</u>
kamabal <i>slow</i>	<u>kamabal</u>	ami <i>do, make</i>	<u>ami</u>
abo <i>squeeze</i>	<u>ambo</u>	ambu <i>close (eyes)</i>	<u>amu</u>
ambo <i>survive</i>	<u>amo</u>	atimbi <i>go one by one</i>	<u>atimbi</u>
fimir <i>round</i>	<u>fimbir</u>	afemu <i>deny</i>	<u>afemu</u>
ämehi <i>bury</i>	<u>ämehi</u>	amba <i>rub</i>	<u>aba</u>

Exercise 10

Test Word	Write correctly	Test Word	Write correctly
ja <i>not</i>	<u>nja</u>	nyëenyëë <i>blinking</i>	<u>nyëenyëë</u>
nja <i>did, had</i>	<u>nja</u>	njölö <i>cock</i>	<u>jölö</u>
nja <i>as, while, when</i>	<u>nya</u>	njonjo <i>small</i>	<u>njonjo</u>
kinyi <i>tasty</i>	<u>kinyi</u>	angbaja <i>knock down</i>	<u>angbanja</u>
ayenye <i>waste, destroy</i>	<u>ayenje</u>	kunyeë <i>slowly</i>	<u>kunyeë</u>
anja <i>throw</i>	<u>anja</u>	moonje <i>look, behold</i>	<u>mooje</u>
kunja <i>bad</i>	<u>kunya</u>	wänjä <i>wide open</i>	<u>wänjä</u>
andunju <i>ask, request</i>	<u>anduju</u>	anja <i>leave something</i>	<u>anya</u>
änyü <i>eat, chew</i>	<u>änyü</u>	ämönyü <i>eat</i>	<u>ämönyü</u>
gbanja <i>various, random</i>	<u>gbanja</u>	kinyirëë <i>bitter</i>	<u>kinjirü</u>

Exercise 11

Test Word	Write correctly	Test Word	Write correctly
ngbä <i>complete</i>	<u>gbä</u>	ngbulu <i>big, thick</i>	<u>ngbulu</u>
ngbäl'ngäl <i>bright</i>	<u>'ngäl'ngäl</u>	'ngaa'nga'nga <i>dry</i>	<u>'ngaa'nga'nga</u>
gbogbo <i>big</i>	<u>gbogbo</u>	ngbanja <i>various</i>	<u>gbanja</u>
gbo <i>just</i>	<u>ngbo</u>	gbülükü <i>round</i>	<u>gbülükü</u>
lo'ngu <i>big</i>	<u>lo'ngu</u>	tängbö <i>end</i>	<u>tängbö</u>
logbow <i>big</i>	<u>longbow</u>	kangbaci <i>without reason</i>	<u>ka'ngaci</u>
'bugba <i>away</i>	<u>'bugba</u>	alagba <i>burn something</i>	<u>alagba</u>

angu'ngu	<i>think</i>	<u>angu'ngu</u>	angbe	<i>twist, turn over</i>	<u>angbe</u>
a'nga	<i>put on, wear</i>	<u>angba</u>	angbo	<i>join</i>	<u>agbo</u>
agbu'ju	<i>return</i>	<u>agbu'ju</u>	angba	<i>roast, bake</i>	<u>angba</u>

Exercise 12

		Test Word				Write correctly
kungu	<i>road</i>	ngbülü	<i>big, thick</i>	küngü	<i>monkey</i>	<u>ngublu</u>
kungu	<i>road</i>	gbülükü	<i>round</i>	küngü	<i>monkey</i>	<u>gbülükü</u>
kungu	<i>road</i>	düm	<i>tomorrow</i>	küngü	<i>monkey</i>	<u>dum</u>
kungu	<i>road</i>	'bu'bu	<i>foaming, bubbling</i>	küngü	<i>monkey</i>	<u>'bü'bü</u>
kungu	<i>road</i>	lukuluku	<i>smooth</i>	küngü	<i>monkey</i>	<u>lukuluku</u>
kungu	<i>road</i>	düü	<i>real</i>	küngü	<i>monkey</i>	<u>duu</u>
kungu	<i>road</i>	kunu	<i>painful</i>	küngü	<i>monkey</i>	<u>kunu</u>
kungu	<i>road</i>	anguru	<i>call someone</i>	küngü	<i>monkey</i>	<u>ängürü</u>
kungu	<i>road</i>	kurkur	<i>low</i>	küngü	<i>monkey</i>	<u>kurkur</u>
kungu	<i>road</i>	gburu	<i>genuine, original</i>	küngü	<i>monkey</i>	<u>gburu</u>
kungu	<i>road</i>	anyu	<i>eat, chew</i>	küngü	<i>monkey</i>	<u>änyü</u>
kungu	<i>road</i>	ängü'ngü	<i>think</i>	küngü	<i>monkey</i>	<u>angu'ngu</u>

Exercise 13

		Test Word				Write correctly
bihi	<i>place</i>	kiri	<i>rich</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	<u>kiri</u>
bihi	<i>place</i>	kiri	<i>heavy</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	<u>kiri</u>
bihi	<i>place</i>	kinyi	<i>tasty</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	<u>kinyi</u>
bihi	<i>place</i>	kimilimī	<i>sweet</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	<u>kimilimi</u>
bihi	<i>place</i>	kidi	<i>cold</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	<u>kidi</u>
bihi	<i>place</i>	liki	<i>cold</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	<u>liki</u>
bihi	<i>place</i>	liki	<i>disturbing</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	<u>liki</u>
bihi	<i>place</i>	ciki	<i>far</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	<u>ciki</u>
bihi	<i>place</i>	dibi	<i>low, down</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	<u>dibi</u>
bihi	<i>place</i>	fimbir	<i>round</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	<u>fimbir</u>
bihi	<i>place</i>	titikpi	<i>loose</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	<u>titikpi</u>
bihi	<i>place</i>	liligi	<i>lost</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	<u>liligi</u>
bihi	<i>place</i>	tibi	<i>unripe</i>	bihi	<i>dog</i>	<u>tibi</u>

Exercise 14

		Test Word			Write correctly
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'bongo	<i>fig</i>	ngbö	<i>just</i>	Böngö	<i>Bongo person</i>	<u>ngbo</u>
'bongo	<i>fig</i>	jolo	<i>cock</i>	Böngö	<i>Bongo person</i>	<u>jölö</u>
'bongo	<i>fig</i>	'böno	<i>front (of something)</i>	Böngö	<i>Bongo person</i>	<u>'bono</u>
'bongo	<i>fig</i>	'bohondo	<i>behind</i>	Böngö	<i>Bongo person</i>	<u>'bohondo</u>
'bongo	<i>fig</i>	mö'jö	<i>little</i>	Böngö	<i>Bongo person</i>	<u>mo'jo</u>
'bongo	<i>fig</i>	monoo	<i>certain, other</i>	Böngö	<i>Bongo person</i>	<u>monoo</u>
'bongo	<i>fig</i>	molo	<i>bottom</i>	Böngö	<i>Bongo person</i>	<u>molo</u>
'bongo	<i>fig</i>	'boro	<i>already</i>	Böngö	<i>Bongo person</i>	<u>'böro</u>
'bongo	<i>fig</i>	toro	<i>up, high</i>	Böngö	<i>Bongo person</i>	<u>toro</u>

Exercise 15

	Test Word			Write correctly		
nyere	<i>chief</i>	endee	<i>unripe</i>	yëre	<i>younger twin</i>	<u>ëndëë</u>
nyere	<i>chief</i>	nyëënyëë	<i>blinking</i>	yëre	<i>younger twin</i>	<u>nyëënyëë</u>
nyere	<i>chief</i>	ndëndë	<i>shaking</i>	yëre	<i>younger twin</i>	<u>ndende</u>
nyere	<i>chief</i>	ndee	<i>before</i>	yëre	<i>younger twin</i>	<u>ndee</u>
nyere	<i>chief</i>	gëwëgëwë	<i>falling</i>	yëre	<i>younger twin</i>	<u>gewegewe</u>
nyere	<i>chief</i>	yëë	<i>awhile</i>	yëre	<i>younger twin</i>	<u>yëë</u>
nyere	<i>chief</i>	lelekpe	<i>loose, free</i>	yëre	<i>younger twin</i>	<u>lelekpe</u>
nyere	<i>chief</i>	jëkëë	<i>good</i>	yëre	<i>younger twin</i>	<u>jekee</u>
nyere	<i>chief</i>	kpë	<i>large</i>	yëre	<i>younger twin</i>	<u>kpë</u>

Exercise 16

	Test Word			Write correctly		
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	tägä	<i>afternoon</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	<u>taga</u>
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	wätäwätä	<i>big</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	<u>wätäwätä</u>
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	fäcä	<i>a lot of</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	<u>faca</u>
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	kpangala	<i>far</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	<u>kpängälä</u>
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	mbaa	<i>short while</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	<u>mbaa</u>
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	'ngää'ngä'ngä	<i>dry</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	<u>'ngaa'nga'nga</u>
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	rata	<i>crazy</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	<u>rätä</u>
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	'ngäl'ngäl	<i>bright</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	<u>'ngäl'ngäl</u>
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	'daa'da'da	<i>soft</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	<u>'daa'da'da</u>
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	mbärä	<i>remaining</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	<u>mbara</u>
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	wanja	<i>wide open</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	<u>wänjä</u>
mbaga	<i>mother</i>	'ba'ja	<i>wet</i>	mbäjä	<i>scab</i>	<u>'ba'ja</u>

Exercise 17

Test Word		Write correctly	Test Word	Write correctly	
a'bi	<i>give</i>	<u>ä'bi</u>	hirökaga	<i>flower</i>	<u>hirökägä</u>

a'jimönyü	<i>food</i>	<u>ä'jimönyü</u>	birihī	<i>honour</i>	<u>birihī</u>
'bigümēhī	<i>butcher</i>	<u>'bigümēhī</u>	hitiro	<i>body</i>	<u>hitiro</u>
māhīmū	<i>relative</i>	<u>māhīmū</u>	'bingü'dü	<i>deaf person</i>	<u>'bingü'dü</u>
bilēlēhitoro	<i>thunder</i>	<u>bilēlēhitoro</u>	tīlūkēhī	<i>gold</i>	<u>tīlūkēhī</u>
mācīkīrīkō	<i>bed bug</i>	<u>mācīkīrīkō</u>	lē'jīcūkā	<i>bubble</i>	<u>lē'jīcūkā</u>
bihībī'dögürö	<i>bathroom</i>	<u>bihībī'dögürö</u>	do'bēē	<i>clan</i>	<u>dō'bēē</u>

Exercise 18

<u>Test Word</u>		<u>Write correctly</u>	<u>Test Word</u>		<u>Write correctly</u>
ki	<i>ten</i>	<u>kii</u>	tii	<i>peanut</i>	<u>tii</u>
go	<i>neck</i>	<u>go</u>	mori	<i>mother-in-law</i>	<u>moori</u>
huu	<i>she, her</i>	<u>hu</u>	'da	<i>there</i>	<u>'da</u>
gboo	<i>fence</i>	<u>gboo</u>	baanga	<i>dangerous animal</i>	<u>baanga</u>
kaa	<i>and, then</i>	<u>ka</u>	li	<i>co-wife</i>	<u>lii</u>
mono	<i>certain, other</i>	<u>monoo</u>	na	<i>and, with</i>	<u>na</u>
yē	<i>awhile</i>	<u>yēē</u>	tigo	<i>weak, faint</i>	<u>tigoo</u>
ji	<i>to</i>	<u>ji</u>	ba	<i>he</i>	<u>ba</u>
kīnjirēē	<i>bitter</i>	<u>kīnjirēē</u>	kunye	<i>slowly</i>	<u>kunyee</u>
jee	<i>we</i>	<u>je</u>	afaa	<i>dull, blunt</i>	<u>afaa</u>

Exercise 19

<u>Test Word</u>		<u>Write correctly</u>	<u>Test Word</u>		<u>Write correctly</u>
alam	<i>curse</i>	<u>alamu</u>	dümü	<i>asida, porridge</i>	<u>dümü</u>
kürü	<i>groundnut</i>	<u>kürü</u>	ngor	<i>two</i>	<u>ngori</u>
ämönyü	<i>eat</i>	<u>ämönyü</u>	hiny	<i>scorpion</i>	<u>hinyi</u>
kür	<i>groundnut</i>	<u>kürü</u>	wäl	<i>wild dog</i>	<u>wäli</u>
cumari	<i>loin cloth</i>	<u>cumari</u>	jumu	<i>dish</i>	<u>jumu</u>
gol	<i>wealth</i>	<u>goli</u>	cöl	<i>hanging net</i>	<u>cöli</u>

Exercise 20

<u>Test Word</u>		<u>Write correctly</u>	<u>Test Word</u>		<u>Write correctly</u>
yēi	<i>boat, canoe</i>	<u>yīyī</u>	fōw	<i>early</i>	<u>fōwü</u>
hāw	<i>yawn</i>	<u>hāwü</u>	ādāwü	<i>confuse</i>	<u>ādāwü</u>
amai	<i>come</i>	<u>amayi</u>	müy	<i>five</i>	<u>müyī</u>
lawu	<i>clothing item</i>	<u>lawu</u>	tayi	<i>morning</i>	<u>tayi</u>
lūyī	<i>grass</i>	<u>lūyī</u>	geu	<i>town</i>	<u>gewu</u>
hēü	<i>four</i>	<u>hēwü</u>	ngai	<i>table</i>	<u>ngayi</u>

Exercise 21

<u>Test Word</u>	<u>Write correctly</u>	<u>Test Word</u>	<u>Write correctly</u>
na <i>with</i>	<u>na</u>	ada <i>count, read</i>	<u>ada</u>
na <i>this</i>	<u>na</u>	ada <i>tie</i>	<u>ada</u>
ro <i>name</i>	<u>ro</u>	ro <i>body</i>	<u>ro</u>
ro <i>for</i>	<u>ro</u>	ata <i>see</i>	<u>ata</u>
di <i>from</i>	<u>di</u>	ata <i>put, store</i>	<u>ata</u>
di <i>when</i>	<u>di</u>	aga <i>chase</i>	<u>aga</u>
abe <i>open</i>	<u>abe</u>	aga <i>cut</i>	<u>aga</u>
abe <i>walk</i>	<u>abe</u>	ala <i>find, bring</i>	<u>ala</u>

Exercise 22

<u>Test Word</u>	<u>Write correctly</u>	<u>Test Word</u>	<u>Write correctly</u>
'bikülü <i>jealous person</i>	<u>'bikülü</u>	mäkinyë <i>sweetness</i>	<u>mäkinyë</u>
ahü <i>grind</i>	<u>ahü</u>	hürökaga <i>flower</i>	<u>hürökagä</u>
hi'bëë <i>courtyard</i>	<u>hi'bëë</u>	beer <i>open land</i>	<u>beeri</u>
dorüü <i>roof</i>	<u>dorüü</u>	'bimängiri <i>coward</i>	<u>'bimängiri</u>
tingöl <i>mortar, bowl</i>	<u>tingöli</u>	alew <i>look at, watch</i>	<u>alewu</u>
dödili <i>ghost, spirit</i>	<u>dödili</u>	ätünyü <i>smell</i>	<u>ätünyü</u>
'jögöm <i>testicle</i>	<u>'jögömü</u>	külüü <i>python</i>	<u>külüyi</u>
föü <i>early</i>	<u>föwü</u>	ngöön <i>snore</i>	<u>ngöönü</u>
lany <i>gun</i>	<u>lanyi</u>	ngayi <i>table</i>	<u>ngayi</u>
na <i>and, with</i>	<u>na</u>	ro <i>for</i>	<u>ro</u>
ada <i>count, read</i>	<u>ada</u>	ata <i>put, store</i>	<u>ata</u>