Reading and Writing Mundari

Book 2

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This book is used to teach how how to better read and write Mundari.

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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 four spelling rules that help reading and writing, as well as all the sounds that join together to make words. This book is for all Mundari readers. It is especially important for those writing books and translating Scripture to understand the lessons of this book.

Each of the Mundari words in this book are listed in the Alphabet 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. The words are taken from Mundari stories. These stories are at the end of the *Mundari Grammar Book*.

There are English words in this book that may be new to you. Each new word is <u>underlined</u> 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 Mundari if you need help.

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Mundari Alphabet

The first step in learning to read and write Mundari is learning the alphabet. The Mundari language has 27 letters, as shown in the following list of words.

	Mundari Alphabet			
A a	ama	sandals		
Ää	äpü	crime, guilt		
Вb	banduk	sword		
D d	düät	bull		
'D 'd	'dioŋ	dog		
E e	Eke!	Drive in!		
G g	gü	granary		
<u>I</u> i	kidi	waterwell		
Ϊï	kïdï	arm		
Јj	jurak	bag		
K k	kïbär	anthill		
L l	likiro	hare		
M m	manta	field, garden		
Nn	nukuanit	rope		
Ny ny	nyajua	gazelle type		
Ŋŋ	ŋobora	horns		
Оо	olot	flour		
Pр	parat	ax		
Rr	rima	blood		
S s	suri	chicken		
T t	tolokso	egg		
U u	kuŋu	knee		
Üü	üsür	tax		
$\mathbf{W} \mathbf{w}$	würï	warthog		
Yу	yaru	hippo		
'Y 'y	'yuddu	planting		
•	la'at	clothes		

There are only a few words with the letter 'y as in 'yuddu 'planting'. In some words borrowed from Bari, there is the letter 'b as in 'bolot 'flower'.

'B'b 'bolot *flower*

The Mundari 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	 j	 r	
ä	 k	 S	
b	 1	 t	
d	 m	 u	
'd	 n	 ü	
e	 ny	 W	
g	 ŋ	 y	
i	 o	 'y	
ï	 p	 ,	

Syllables

Now we learn how Mundari letters are joined together in words. Words can be divided into <u>syllables</u>, or beats. Each of the words below have *three* syllables. They can be divided into three separate beats as shown.

Three-syllable words					
sokare	so	ka	re	hare	
koropo	ko	ro	po	leaves	
kärü'e	kä	rü	'e	widow	
titi'it	ti	ti	'it	sparrow (bird type)	
lo'duluk	lo	'du	luk	animal like badger	

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

Two-syllable words						
jaku	ja	ku	animal			
kälï	ka	li	whip			
ja'e	ja	'e	rainy season			
gümät	gü	mät	wind			
lütek	lü	tek	roof			

banduk	ban duk	sword
liŋgo	liŋ go	fox
rüäkä	rüä kä	darkness
nyajua	nya jua	gazelle type
alaŋ	a laŋ	salt
olot	o lot	flour
atiaŋ	a tiaŋ	night

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

One-syllable words
granary
sky, heaven
belly, womb
waist
head
hyena
famine
ear

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	r of syllables	divided	into sylla	bles	
<u>2</u>	güreny	<u>gü</u>	reny		cat
	mony				mother-in-law
	düät				bull
	jame				word
	mürüt				neck
	ŋobora				horns
	guek				raven
	peya				gun
	marate				somebody

 waria	 	 wives
 boroŋ	 	 harmful animal
 lokore	 	 meat
 manta	 	 field, garden

Consonants and Vowels

Some letters are consonants and some letters are vowels. In the word $k\ddot{b}\ddot{a}r$ 'anthill', the letters k, b and r are consonants and \ddot{a} are vowels.

Consonants usually begin syllables and sometimes end syllables. Vowels are in the middle of syllables and sometimes end syllables. In the syllable $k\ddot{\mathbf{i}}$, the consonant \mathbf{k} begins the syllable, and the vowel $\ddot{\mathbf{i}}$ ends the syllable. In the syllable $b\ddot{\mathbf{a}}\mathbf{r}$, the consonant \mathbf{b} begins the syllable, the consonant \mathbf{r} ends the syllable, and the vowel $\ddot{\mathbf{a}}$ is in the middle of the syllable.

In a few words such as **alan** 'salt', 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 such as 'dion' 'dog', there are two vowels i, o in the middle of the syllable. Even though the word has 4 letters, the entire word is only one syllable.

The following 18 letters are Mundari consonants:

	Munda		
Вb	K k	Ŋŋ	W w
D d	L 1	Рp	Υy
'D 'd	M m	Rr	1
G g	Nn	Ss	
Jі	Ny ny	Τt	

The following 8 letters are Mundari vowels:

		<u>Mundari</u>		
a	e	i	O	u
ä		ï		ü

In this lesson, we learn about Mundari consonants. In the next lessons, we learn about Mundari vowels.

The list below has Mundari words with each of the consonants. Most consonants can be at the *beginning* or *middle* of words. But, the consonant 'cannot be at the beginning.

Some consonants can be at the *ends* of words. But, the consonants b, d, $^{\prime}d$, g, j, l, w, y, and $^{\prime}$ cannot.

Вb	Word beg b oyi b üt	inning net bush	Word middle ru b e ka b elo	sorcerer sheep (pl)	Word en	<u>d</u>
D d	d ïlï d ü'de	hole cloud	kü d ü me d e	rain household		
'D 'd	'd ïrï 'd üŋït	virgins herd	dü 'd e ku 'd at	cloud bread		
G g	g ele g üre	shoulder dove	mo g or lo g elie	hunger bird type		
Јj	j aku j et	animal belly	mï j ï nya j ua	mouse gazelle		
K k	k adi	house	to k ot	field	bandu k	sword
	k älï	whip	so k are	otter	gue k	raven
Ll	liŋgo loli	fox basket	buluk alaŋ	crowd salt		
M m	mere	mountain	gü m ät	wind	ka m	fishes
	marin	fence	ki m aŋ	fire	a re m	speared
N n	n ukuanit	rope	kï n e	goat	käyï n	hand
	n ügäŋ	another	yini	co-wife	ŋü n	god
Ny ny	ny ajua	gazelle type	mere ny e	grandfather	güre ny	cat
	ny ürüt	food	mo ny a	mothers-in-law	mu ny	body
Ŋŋ	ŋ äüŋ	hyena	bu ŋ o	flock	ala ŋ	salt
	ŋ uri	person	di ŋ it	time	'dio ŋ	dog
Pр	p ärï	bed	ko p o	cup	ŋe'de p	tongue
	p erek	fish spear	ya p a	moon	a ro p	paid
Rr	r ïŋït	power	gü r eny	cat	jü r	village
	r ube	sorcerer	ki r eŋ	cow	tä r	island
S s	sokare	otter	ü s ür	tax	a to s	picked
	soŋ	water	ama s o	sandal	a kua s	begged

T t	tokot ture	field stick	lü t ek pa t a	roof ropes	düä t kaka t	bull door
W w	wale welet	knife oil	ka w okonit ka w asanit	beater (person) replier		
Y y	yapa yümü	moon heart	ko y i kä y ïn	road hand		
'Y y	'yuddu 'yalet	planting credit, loan	loŋu 'y um koko 'y ogga	heel swarm		
•			kü'ü ja'e	shield rainy season		

Exercise 3

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

g \ddot{u} \ddot{u} \ddot{u} \ddot{u}	grave
k ä y ï n	hand
m a r i ŋ	fence
ŋ e 'd e p	tongue
t o l o k	eggs
w ü r ï	warthog
s e r a n	stars
d ü 'd e	cloud, sky
j a ' e	rainy season
a t i a ŋ	night

Heavy and Light Vowels

The words dan 'time' and jäny 'dangerous person' have different vowel sounds. In dan, the vowel a is <u>light</u>. In jäny, the vowel ä is <u>heavy</u>.

There are 8 vowels in Mundari, as shown in the list below. Heavy vowels are marked with dots above the vowel.

Vo	<u>wels</u>
Light	Heavy
Δα	Ää

Ee Ii Ïï Oo Uu Üü

The following words have the vowel $/\mathbf{a}/$ or $/\mathbf{\ddot{a}}/$. Say each of these words. Listen to the difference in sound between the vowels $/\mathbf{a}/$ and $/\mathbf{\ddot{a}}/$.

	A a		Ää
daŋ	time	jäny	dangerous person
kak	earth	mäk	<i>waist</i>
mar	chief, king	tär	island
taba	tobacco	pädä	gold
pata	ropes		
manta	field, garden		
parat	ax		
kakat	door		
alaŋ	salt		
ama	sandals		
bar	flood		

The following words have the vowel /i/ or /i/.

	Ιi		Ϊï
mi	custom	kï	sky, heaven
kidi	waterwell	kïdï	arm
miri	scholar	mïrï	government
kili	battle line	dïlï	hole
diŋit	time	rïŋït	power
titi'it	sparrow (bird type)	kïnyjïrï	bird
		mïk	grain, sorghum
		kïn	dung, feces
		pïrït	place
		dïnï	tree type
		mïjï	mouse
		'dïrï	virgins

The following words have the vowel $/\mathbf{u}/$ or $/\ddot{\mathbf{u}}/$.

Uu			Üü	
ju	friend	gü	granary	
muny	body	ŋün	god	
kuruk	mouth	mürüt	neck	
wuyut	buttock	nyürüt	food, produce	
buluk	crowd	tülü	ax	
kuŋu	knee	münü	snake	

kuyu	bones	küdü	rain
•		lürü	mist
		yümü	heart
		kü'ü	shield
		üsür	tax
		jür	village
		büt	bush

The following words have the light vowel /e/. In Mundari, there are no words with only a heavy vowel /e/. So, we never write /e/ with dots.

	E e
le	milk
jet	belly, womb
ŋer	brother, sister
meŋ	custom
mede	household, family
mere	mountain
gele	shoulder
kele	tooth
welet	oil
perek	fish spear
memeŋ	gum
ŋe'dep	tongue
meretet	rib, side
merenye	grandfather

The following words have the light vowel $/\mathbf{o}/$. In Mundari, there are no words with only a heavy vowel $/\mathbf{o}/$. So, we never write $/\mathbf{o}/$ with dots.

Оо			
ro	word, matter		
ŋo	thing		
mot	foot		
lor	day		
wor	stream		
soŋ	water		
mony	mother-in-law		
kopo	cup		
loro	voice		
olot	flour		
tokot	field		
boron	harmful animal		
mogor	hunger		
koloŋ	sun		
tolok	eggs		

komon *in-laws* koropo *leaves*

Exercise 4

Carefully read and say the test words between the lines below. The **bold** vowel in the middle of each test word may or may <u>not</u> 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. If the sound for the bold vowel is light as in the word on the left, write the word correctly with a light vowel. If the sound for the bold vowel is heavy as in the word on the right, write the word correctly with a heavy vowel. The first one has been done as an example.

<u>Light</u>		Test	Word	Heavy		Write correctly
kak	earth	y ä	wine	mäk	waist	<u>ya</u>
kak	earth	p ä d ä	gold	mäk	waist	
kak	earth	k a kat	door	mäk	waist	
kak	earth	t a r	island	mäk	waist	
kak	earth	yapa	moon	mäk	waist	
kidi	well	miji	mouse	kïdï	arm	
kidi	well	dïlï	hole	kïdï	arm	
kidi	well	kinyjiri	bird	kïdï	arm	
kidi	well	tïtï'ït	sparrow	kïdï	arm	
kidi	well	yini	co-wife	kïdï	arm	
ju	friend	j u r	village	gü	granary	
ju	friend	m u ny	body	gü	granary	
ju	friend	k ü'ü	shield	gü	granary	
ju	friend	p ü rü	fleas	gü	granary	
ju	friend	m u nu	snake	gü	granary	

Mixed Vowels

Light and heavy vowels are usually not mixed together in the same word. In the following words, only **light** vowels $/\mathbf{a}/$, $/\mathbf{e}/$, $/\mathbf{i}/$, $/\mathbf{o}/$, $/\mathbf{u}/$ are together.

Light vowels together in the same word

wale	knife
kadi	house
yaru	hippo
peya	gun

nerot south kiŋa year kiren cowkido chest liluŋ lamb sokare otter kone song loli basket lo'duluk animal like badger jurak bag ture stick mu'din field flock buŋo

In the following words, only **heavy** vowels $/\ddot{a}/$, $/\ddot{i}/$, $/\ddot{u}/$ are together.

Heavy vowels together in the same word

pärï bed
äpü crime
kïbär anthill
mïrü lion
gümät wind
würï warthog

However, the light vowels $\langle \mathbf{e}/, \langle \mathbf{o}/\rangle$ can be together with light vowels $\langle \mathbf{a}/, \langle \mathbf{e}/, \langle \mathbf{i}/, \langle \mathbf{o}/, \langle \mathbf{u}/\rangle$ or together with heavy vowels $\langle \mathbf{\ddot{a}}/, \langle \mathbf{\ddot{i}}/, \langle \mathbf{\ddot{u}}/\rangle$.

Vowels /e/ and /o/ with light or heavy vowels in the same word

Light vowels		Heavy vowels	
wale	knife	kärü' e	widow
kir e ŋ	cow	kïn e	goat
tur e	stick	gür e	dove
l o li	basket	lojïtän	stakes for fishing
l o' duluk	animal like badger	k o bükän	wings

In words with heavy vowels such as **kärü'e** 'widow' or **lojïtän** 'stakes for fishing', $/\mathbf{e}/$ or $/\mathbf{o}/$ become at most half-heavy. They do not become full heavy vowels. So, we never write $/\mathbf{e}/$ or $/\mathbf{o}/$ with dots.

In summary, we have the following spelling rule.

Spelling Rule 1: The light vowels **a**, **i**, **u** and the heavy vowels **ä**, **ï**, **ü** are not mixed together in the same words. The light vowels **e**, **o** can be with either heavy or light vowels, but are never written with dots.

Exercise 5

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
marïŋ	wall	<u>marin</u>	gülam	grave	
mërök	enemies		gürëny	cat	
tome	elephant		kiro	scorpion	
tïrän	goods		jakü	animal	
kä'di	pumpkin		dü'de	cloud	
mïjök	mice		'duŋït	herd	

Vowels u, ü and i, ï next to consonants

The consonant **y** can be at the beginning of words as in **yapa** 'moon' or in the middle of words as in **koyi** 'road'. The consonant **w** can be at the beginning of words as in **wale** 'knife' or in the middle of words as in **Wowok** 'Beat!'

	Word be	eginning	Word midd	<u>le</u>
Yу	y apa	moon	ko y i	road
			Word midd ko y i kä y ïn	
W w	wale welet	knife oil	ka w okonit ka w asanit	beater (person who beats) replier (person who replies)

When \mathbf{y} is in the middle of a word, it is always between two vowels—it is never next to a consonant. In \mathbf{koyi} 'road', \mathbf{y} is between the vowels \mathbf{o} and \mathbf{i} . But, we never write \mathbf{y} next to a consonant as in \mathbf{ryak} (wrong) 'steal'. Instead, we write \mathbf{riak} 'steal' with the vowel \mathbf{i} . When next to a consonant, we spell the sound $[\mathbf{y}]$ with the vowel \mathbf{i} or $\ddot{\mathbf{i}}$.

Correct		Wrong	
r i ak		r y ak	steal, be greedy
'dioŋ	dog	'd y oŋ	dog
logelie	bird type	logelye	bird type
küänd ï ä	wife	küänd y ä	dog bird type wife

Similarly, we never write \mathbf{w} next to a consonant as in \mathbf{kwe} (wrong) 'eye'. Instead we write \mathbf{kue} 'eye' with the vowel \mathbf{u} . When next to a consonant, we spell the sound $[\mathbf{w}]$ with the vowel \mathbf{u} or $\ddot{\mathbf{u}}$.

Correct	W	rong	3

kue	eye	kwe	eye
s ü ät	ear, side	s w ät	ear, side
ŋä ü ŋ	hyena	ŋä w ŋ	hyena
nyaj u a	gazelle type	nyaj w a	gazelle type

Why don't we write **w** next to consonants? This would make reading more difficult. The word **kue** 'eye' and **küe** 'head' would both be written **kwe** (wrong). But, these words sound differently, so they should be written differently. So, they should be written with **u** or **ü** instead of **w** as in **kue** 'eye' and **küe** 'head'.

Corr	ect	Wrong		
kue	eye	kwe	eye	
küe	head	kwe	head	

Why don't we write **y** next to consonants? This would make reading more difficult. There are several words beginning with the letter **ny** such as **nyajua** 'gazell type', **nyürüt** 'food, produce', **nye** 'he', **nyo** 'what'. On the other hand, there is the word **nio** 'my'. If we wrote **y** next to consonants, the words **nyo** 'what' and **nio** 'my' would both be written **nyo**. These words have different beginning sounds, so they should be written differently. The word **nyo** 'what' should be written with the letter **ny**, and **nio** 'my' should be written with **i** instead of **y**.

Corr	<u>ect</u>	Wro	Wrong		
ny o	what	nyo	what		
nio	my	n y o	my		

In summary, we have the following spelling rule:

Spelling Rule 2: When next to a consonant, write the sound [y] as i or \ddot{i} , and write the sound [w] as u or \ddot{u} . Do not write y or w next to a consonant.

Exercise 6

Carefully read and say each test word below. 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 Wor		<u>d</u>	Write correctly
swät	ear, side	<u>süät</u>	dyaŋ	famine	
guek	raven (bird type)		kwa	thorns	
kwere	Tamarind tree		warya	wives	
atiaŋ	night		kwändïä	wife	
rwäkä	darkness		kueny	birds	

'dyoŋ	dog		nyajwa	gazelle type	
-------	-----	--	--------	--------------	--

The consonant '

The consonant ' is only in the middle of words such as **kü'ü** 'shield' and other words below.

Word middle kü'ü shield ja'e rainy season la'u piece of clothing kärü'e widow

The consonant 's should not be confused with the consonant 'd as in 'dion' 'dog'. The consonant 'd is a different consonant than '. The consonant 'd may come at the beginning and middle of words, but the consonant 'is only in the middle of words.

The consonant ' is always between two vowels and always begins a new syllable. So, ' always separates two vowels with their own beat. The two vowels are in different syllables. In ja'e 'rainy season', both a and e have their own beat. The vowel a is in the first syllable ja and the vowel e is in the second syllable 'e.

Consonant ' separates 2 vowels in different syllables ja'e | ja 'e | rainy season

This is different than the vowels in **kue** 'eye'. In **kue**, both **u** and **e** are in the same beat or syllable. So the vowels **u** and **e** are not separated with the consonant ' in **kue**.

$\frac{2 \text{ vowels in the same syllable}}{\text{kue}}$

The consonant ' is also different than the consonant y. The consonants ' and y can both begin a new syllable, and they separate vowels in different syllables. However, ' sounds different than y in the words $k\ddot{u}'\ddot{u}$ 'shield' and kuyu 'bones'. So they should be written differently—each with their own letter.

Consonants ' and y separate 2 vowels in different syllables, but sound differently

kü'ü	kü	' ü	shield
ku y u	ku	y u	bones

The consonant ' is also different than the consonant \mathbf{w} . The consonants ' and \mathbf{w} can both begin a new syllable, and they separate vowels in different syllables. However, ' sounds different than \mathbf{w} in the words **ko'ane** 'priest' and **owa** 'wedding'. So they should be written differently—each with their own letter.

Consonants ' and w separate 2 vowels in different syllables, but sound differently

ko'ane	ko	' a	ne	priest
o w a	o	w a		wedding

In summary, we have the following spelling rule:

Spelling Rule 3: Write the consonant 'to separate vowels if both vowels get a beat (if the vowels are in different syllables). Do not write 'if both vowels are in the same beat (syllable) or if the sounds [y] or [w] separate the vowels.

Exercise 7

Carefully read and say each test word below. 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 W	ord	Write correctly	Test Wo	ord	Write correctly
kärüe	widow	<u>kärü'e</u>	boi	net	
ku'u	bones		la'u	piece of clothing	
layat	clothes		titi'it	sparrow (bird type)	
wuyut	buttock		kiyo	boat	
ko'i	road		pea	gun	
käyïn	hand		nyäyet	spoon	

Consonants p, t, s, k at the Ends of Words

The consonants \mathbf{p} , \mathbf{t} , \mathbf{s} , \mathbf{k} can be at the beginning, middle and end of words. The consonants \mathbf{b} , \mathbf{d} , \mathbf{j} , \mathbf{g} can be at the beginning and middle of words, but never at the ends of words.

	Word b	eginning	Word middle		Word end	
Pр	p ärï	bed	ko p o	cup	ŋe'de p	tongue
	p erek	fish spear	ya p a	moon	a ro p	paid
Τt	tokot ture	field stick	lü t ek pa t a	roof ropes	düät kaka t	bull door
Ss	sokare soŋ	otter water	üsür ama s o	tax sandal	a tos a kuas	picked begged

K k	k adi k älï	house whip	to k ot so k are	field otter	_	sword raven
Вb	b oyi b üt	net bush	ru b e ka b elo	sorcerer sheep (pl)		
D d	d ïlï d ü'de	hole cloud	kü d ü me d e	rain household		
Jј	jaku jet	animal belly	mï j ï nya j ua	mouse gazelle		
G g	gele güre	shoulder dove	_	hunger bird type		

Readers would have more difficulty if we wrote **b** at the ends of words instead of **p**. In **ne'depan** 'tongues', there is the sound [**p**]. So, we write it with the letter **p**. Since we write **p** in **ne'depan**, we should also write a **p** in **ne'dep** 'tongue'. The words **ne'dep** 'tongue' and **ne'depan** 'tongues' have the same meaning except that **ne'depan** is more than one. So, we should write these words with the same meaning with the same letter **p**. Readers may think the words have different meaning if we write a **b** in **ne'de<u>b</u>** 'tongue' and a **p** in **ne'depan** 'tongues'.

Correct		Wrong	
ŋe'de p	tongue	ŋe'de b	tongue
ŋe'de p an	tongues	ŋe'depan	tongues

Readers would also have more difficulty if we wrote \mathbf{d} , \mathbf{j} , \mathbf{g} at the ends of words instead of \mathbf{t} , \mathbf{s} , \mathbf{k} . In $\mathbf{ku'datan}$ 'breads', we write the sound $[\mathbf{t}]$ with the letter \mathbf{t} . So, we should also write $\mathbf{ku'dat}$ 'bread' with the letter \mathbf{t} . In $\mathbf{Tose!}$ 'Pick!', we write the sound $[\mathbf{s}]$ with the letter \mathbf{s} , so we should also write \mathbf{a} tos 'picked' with the letter \mathbf{s} . In $\mathbf{jurakan}$ 'bags', we write the sound $[\mathbf{k}]$ with the letter \mathbf{k} , so we should also write \mathbf{jurak} 'bag with the letter \mathbf{k} .

	Correct		Wrong		
p	ŋe'de p	ŋe'de p an	ŋe'de b	ŋe'depan	tongue, tongues
t	ku'da t	ku'da t an	ku'da d	ku'datan	bread, breads
s	a to s	Tose!	a toj	Tose!	picked (nuts), Pick!
k	jura k	jura k an	jura g	jurakan	bag, bags

In summary, we have the following spelling rule:

```
Spelling Rule 4: Write p, t, s, k at the ends of words and not b, d, j, g.
```

Exercise 8

Carefully read and say each test word below. 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
ku'dad	bread	<u>ku'dat</u>	bulug	crowd	
lütek	roof		kak	earth	
kurug	mouth		parad	ax	
düäd	bull		a rob	paid	
a kuaj	begged		tokot	field	

Spelling Rules Reviewed

In this book, we have learned four 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.

Spelling Rule 1 (page 13): The light vowels **a**, **i**, **u** and the heavy vowels **ä**, **ï**, **ü** are not mixed together in the same words. The light vowels **e**, **o** can be with either heavy or light vowels, but are never written with dots.

Li	ght vowels	Heavy	Heavy vowels		
sokare	otter	küändïä	wife		
logelie	bird type	pärï	bed		
kabelo	sheep (pl)	mïrü	lion		
liluŋ	lamb	güläm	grave		

Vowels /e/ and /o/ with light or heavy vowels in the same word

Light vowels		Heavy vowels	
kireŋ	cow	kïne	goat
lo'duluk	animal like badger	kobükän	wings

Spelling Rule 2 (page 15): When next to a consonant, write the sound [y] as i or \ddot{i} , and write the sound [w] as u or \ddot{u} . Do not write y or w next to a consonant.

	Correct		Wrong	
i	r i ak	steal, be greedy	r y ak	steal, be greedy
ï	küänd ï ä	wife	küänd y ä	wife
u	nyaj u a	gazelle type	nyaj w a	gazelle type
ü	k ü e	head	k w e	head

Spelling Rule 3 (page 17): Write the consonant 'to separate vowels if both vowels get a beat (if the vowels are in different syllables). Do not write 'if both vowels are in the

same beat (syllable) or if the sounds [y] or [w] separate the vowels.

		Word middle		
2 syllables	1	la ' at	clothes	
		ja ' e kü ' ü	rainy season	
		kü ' ü	shield	
	y	ku y u	bones	
	w	ka w asanit	replier	
1 syllable		kue	eye	

Spelling Rule 4 (page 18): Write p, t, s, k at the ends of words and not b, d, j, g.

	Correct		Wrong		
p	ŋe'de p	ŋe'de p an	ŋe'de b	ŋe'depan	tongue, tongues
t	ku'da t	ku'da t an	ku'da d	ku'datan	bread, breads
S	a tos	Tose!	a toj	Tose!	picked (nuts), Pick!
k	jura k	jura k an	jura g	jurakan	bag, bags

Exercise 9

Carefully read and say each test word below. 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 Wo	<u>rd</u>	Write correctly	Test Word	<u>l</u>	Write correctly
käji	town, cattle camp	<u>käjï</u>	ku'dät	bread	
kibär	anthill		jurak	bag	
kärü'e	widow		tïränsö	produce	
gwek	raven (bird type)		kwändyä	wife	
'dioŋ	dog		kwe	eye	
atyaŋ	night		ŋäwŋ	hyena	
layu	piece of clothing		niyo	my	
ki'o	boat		boyi	net	
käïn	hand		jae	rainy season	
a tos	picked		pereg	fish spear	
'düŋïd	herd, group		ŋe'deb	tongue	
banduk	sword		gümät	wind	

Alphabetical Word List

The following singular (one) and plural (more than one) words are in alphabetical order.

There are nouns (n) and indefinite words (ind). The gender of each word is given with the words **lo** (masculine singular), **na** (femine signular), **kulo** (masculine plural), and **kune** (femine plural).

n = noun

ind = indefinite word

Mundari Word List

Mundan wo				
<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>	Gender	Part of	
			Speech	
A a			_	
alaŋ	alaŋi	na	n	salt
amaso	ama	lo	n	sandals
atiaŋ	atiaŋi	lo	n	night
v	J			
Ää				
äpü	äpüät	lo	n	crime, guilt
1	1			, 2
Вb				
banduk	bandukan	lo	n	sword
bar	baran	lo	n	flood
boroŋ	bürüŋïn	lo, na	n	harmful animal
bot		na	n	north
boyi	boyan	na	n	net
buluk	bulukan	na	n	crowd
buŋo	buŋuat	na	n	flock, group
büt	bütän	lo	n	bush
'B 'b				
'bolot		na	n	flower (barrowed from Bari)
				,
D d				
daŋ	daŋin	na	n	time
diaŋ	diaŋi	lo	n	famine
diŋit	diŋitan	na	n	time
dïlï	dïlïä	na	n	hole
dïnï	den	lo	n	tree type
do'de	do'diot	lo	n	story
düät	düälïŋ	lo	n	bull
dü'de	dü'dälä	na	n	cloud, sky
'D 'd				
'dioŋ	'dijin	lo, na	n	dog
'dïrïso	'dïrï	na	n	unmarried girl, virgin
'düŋït	'düŋïtän	lo, na	n	herd, group
·· J ·	J	- ,) U - T

gele gelelia lo n shoulder gerok mo lo num - quan one - many guek guekan lo, na n raven (bird type) gü gügüä lo n granary güläm gülämän na n grave gümät gümätän lo n wind güre gürälä lo, na n dove güreny gürenyän lo, na n cat	
güläm gülämän na n grave gümät gümätän lo n wind güre gürälä lo, na n dove güreny gürenyän lo, na n cat J j jaku jaka lo, na n animal	
gümät gümätän lo n wind güre gürälä lo, na n dove güreny gürenyän lo, na n cat J j jaku jaka lo, na n animal	
güre gürälä lo, na n dove güreny gürenyän lo, na n cat J j jaku jaka lo, na n animal	
güreny gürenyän lo, na n <i>cat</i> J j jaku jaka lo, na n <i>animal</i>	
J j jaku jaka lo, na n <i>animal</i>	
jaku jaka lo, na n <i>animal</i>	
jaku jaka lo, na n <i>animal</i>	
jame jamiat lo n word	
ja'e ja'eat lo n rainy season	
jäny jänyjü lo, na n dangerous person or anima	al
jet jokia na n belly, womb	
ju julin, julina lo, na n friend	
jurak jurakan lo n bag	
jür jürän lo n <i>village</i>	
Juliuge	
K k	
kabiliso kabelo lo, na n sheep	
kadi kadisik na n <i>house</i>	
kak kakan na n <i>earth</i>	
kakat kakati na n door	
— kape kulo n.pl <i>yeast</i>	
kapiriaso kapiria lo n <i>skirt</i>	
kare karia lo n <i>river</i>	
— kariŋi kune n.pl <i>name</i>	
kawasanit kawasak lo, na vn.actr replier (person who replies	es)
kawokonit kawokok lo, na vn.actr beater (person who beats))
kä'dï kä'dïät lo n <i>pumpkin</i>	
käji käjinä na n town, cattle camp	
kämärï kam lo, na n fish	
kälï kälïät na n <i>whip</i>	
kärü'e kärü'et lo, na n <i>widow, widower</i>	
käyïn käyïntï lo n <i>hand</i>	
11. 11. 1	
kele kala lo n <i>tooth</i>	
kele kala lo n <i>tooth</i> kidi kidia lo n <i>waterwell</i>	
kidi kidia lo n waterwell kido kidoni na n chest, authority kileŋ kileŋan lo, na n small furry animal	
kidi kidia lo n waterwell kido kidoni na n chest, authority	

kimaŋ		na	n	fire
kiŋa	kiŋani	lo	n	year
ki'o	üjïn	lo	n	boat
kireŋ	suk	lo, na	n	COW
kiro	kironi	lo, na	n	scorpion
kï		na	n	sky, heaven
kïbär	kïbärä	lo	n	anthill
kïdï	kïdïa	lo	n	arm
	kïn, kïnïnïät	kune	n.pl	dung, feces
kïne	yïdïn	lo, na	n	goat
kïnyjïrï	kueny	lo, na	n	bird (general)
kobükänso	kobükän	lo	n	wing
koko'yogga			V	swarm
koloŋ		na	n	sun
komonit	komon	lo, na	n	in-law
koŋe	koŋia	lo	n	song
kopo	koporo	lo	n	cup
koroposo	koropo	na	n	leaf
koyi	koyini	lo	n	road
kuas			V	beg
ku'dat	ku'datan	na	n	bread
kue	kuen	lo	n	eye
kuere	kuerelat	lo	n	Tamarind tree
kulupit	kulupitan	na	n	window
küme	kümüsïk	na	n	nose
kuŋu	kuŋuat	lo	n	knee
kuruk	kürïän	lo	n	mouth
kuyuso	kuyu	lo	n	bone
küändïä	waria	na	n	wife
küdü	küdüät	na	n	rain
küe	kïjïkän	na	n	head
	küräk	kune	n.pl	sand, soil
kürï	kua	na	n	thorn
kü'ü	kü'ät	na	n	shield
T 1				
L1	1.1.4			
la'u	la'at	na	n 1	piece of clothing
1:1-:	le	kune	n.pl	milk
likiro	likironi	lo, na	n	hare
liluŋ	liluŋa	lo	n	male lamb
lingo	lingola	lo, na	n	fox
lo'duluk	lo'dulukan	lo, na	n	animal like badger
logelie	logelieni	lo, na	n	bird type
lojïtso lokora	lojïtän lokorio	lo	n	stake for fishing with nets
lokore	lokorio	na lo	n	meat, flesh
loli	loliat	lo	n	basket

loŋu'yum	loŋu'yuman	lo	n	heel
lor	perok	lo	n	day
loro	loroni	lo	n	voice
lütek	lüteko	lo	n	roof
lügäŋ	kulie	lo	ind	male someone, certain, another
lürü	lürüät	lo	n	mist
M m				
manta	mäntïänä	na	n	field, garden
mar	marti	lo, na	n	chief, king, leader
marate	marateni	lo, na	n	somebody
mariŋ	mariŋi	na	n	wall, fence
mäk	mäkän	na	n	waist
mede	mïdïsäk	na	n	household, family, home
medeso	lumede	lo, na	n	neighbour
memen	memeŋa	na	n	gum
men	menan	lo	n	custom
mere	meria	lo	n	mountain
		lo		grandfather
merenye	merenyeni		n	9
meretet	mara	lo	n	rib, side
merokso	merok	lo, na	n	enemy
mi 	milan 	lo	n	custom
miri 	miria 1	lo, na	n	scholar
mïjï	mïjok	lo, na	n	mouse
	mïk	kulo	n.pl	grain, sorghum
mïrï	mïrïät	na	n	government
mïrü	mïrüät	lo, na	n	lion
mogor		lo	n	hunger
mony	monya	na	n	mother-in-law
mot	mok	lo	n	foot
mu'diŋ		na	n	field, forest
muny	ärïk	na	n	body
münü	münïä	lo, na	n	snake
mürï	mur	lo, na	n	mosquito
mürüt	mürütän	na	n	neck
N n				
nügäŋ	kunie	na	ind	female someone, certain, another
11008011	110,1110	1144	1110	2011.010
Ny ny				
nyajua	nyajuani	lo, na	n	gazelle type
• •	• •			
nyürüt	nyürütän	na	n	food, produce
n n				
Ŋŋ	ກວິນິກວິກ	10 20	n	hvana
ŋäüŋ nəldən	ŋäüŋän nəldənən	lo, na	n	hyena
ŋe'dep	ŋe'depan	lo	n	tongue

ŋer ŋerot	ŋerik	lo, na	n mod	brother, sisiter south
niro	wajik	lo, na	n	child
•	ŋojin	lo, na		thing
ηo ηode		•	n n	lame person
J	ŋodeka	lo, na	n	
ŋopso	ŋopon	lo	n	fig
ŋuri	sek	lo, na	n	person
ŋübürï 	nobora 	lo	n	horn
ŋün	ŋünän	lo	n	god
Оо				
olot	ulusan	na	n	flour
Pр				
parat	paratan	lo	n	ax
pataso	pata	na	n	rope
pädä	pädänï	na	n	gold
pärï	päriät	na	n	bed
perek	perekon	na	n	fish spear
peya	peyani	lo	n	gun
pïrït	pïrïtän	na	n	place
pürüso	pürü	lo, na	n	flea
Rr				
	rima	kune	n.pl	blood
rïŋït	rïŋïtän	na	n.pi	power
	ro, rojin	kune	n.pl	word, matter
rube	rübäkä	lo, na	n.pr	sorcerer
rüäkä	Tuoaka	na	n	darkness
Tuaka		11a	11	darkiicss
Ss				-4
seranso	seran	na	n	star
sokare	sokareni	lo, na	n	otter
	soŋ	kune	n.pl	water
suri	soro	lo, na	n	chicken
süät	süätän	lo	n	side
süät	süä	lo	n	ear
T t				
taba	tabani	na	n	tobacco
tär	tärän	na	n	island
telemeso	talama	lo, na	n	red monkey
titi'it	titi'itan	lo, na	n	sparrow (bird type)
tïränso	tïrän	na	n	produce, goods
tokot	tokoti	na	n	field
tolokso	tolok	na	n	egg

tome tore tos ture tülü tümünït	tomia tola turia tülüät tomok	lo, na lo, na lo lo lo lo lo na	n n v n n	elephant son, daughter pick, shell, husk stick ax slave
tumumt	tomok	lo, na	n	siave
Üü				
üsür	üsürän	lo	n	tax
W w				
wale	walia	lo	n	knife
welet	wilisan	na	n	oil
wor	woron	lo	n	stream
woroso	woro	na	n	dung
wuyut	wuyi	lo	n	buttock
würï	würïät	lo, na	n	warthog, pig
Yу				
	ya, yajin	kune	n.pl	wine
yapa	yapani	lo	n	moon, month
yaru	yaruni	lo, na	n	hippo
yini	yïnïkä	na	n	co-wife
yümü	yümïen	lo	n	heart
'Y 'y				
'yalet	'yaletti	na	vn.actn	credit, loan
'yuddu			v	planting
'yut			V	plant

Glossary

Word	Example	Definition
syllable	so ka re in	The parts of a word that can be divided
	sokare 'hare'	according to beats.
consonant	k b r in	Letter sounds that begin or end syllables; a
	kïbär 'anthill'	consonant cannot be a syllable by itself.
vowel	ï ä in	Letter sounds in the middle and sometimes end
	kïbär 'anthill'	of a syllable; a vowel can be a syllable by itself.
heavy vowel	ä in jäny	Vowel letters / ä , ï , ü / with dots.
	'dangerous person'	
light vowel	a in	Vowel letters /a, e, i, o, u/ without dots.
	dan 'time'	

Answers to Exercises

Answers to the exercises of this book are given below.

Exercise 1

a	<u>ama</u>	j	<u>jurak</u>	r	<u>rima</u>
ä	<u>äpü</u>	k	<u>kïbär</u>	S	<u>suri</u>
b	<u>banduk</u>	1	<u>likiro</u>	t	<u>tolokso</u>
d	<u>düät</u>	m	<u>manta</u>	u	<u>kuŋu</u>
'd	<u>'dioŋ</u>	n	<u>nukuanit</u>	ü	<u>üsür</u>
e	Eke!	ny	<u>nyajua</u>	W	<u>würï</u>
g	<u>gü</u>	ŋ	<u>ŋobora</u>	y	<u>yaru</u>
i	<u>kidi</u>	o	<u>olot</u>	' y	<u>'yuddu</u>
ï	<u>kïdï</u>	p	<u>parat</u>	1	<u>la'at</u>

Exercise 2

numbe	r of syllables	divided	into sylla	ables	
<u>2</u>	güreny	<u>gü</u>	<u>reny</u>		cat
<u>1</u>	mony	mony			mother-in-law
<u>1</u>	düät	<u>düät</u>			bull
<u>2</u>	jame	<u>ja</u>	<u>me</u>		word
$\frac{\frac{1}{2}}{\frac{2}{3}}$	mürüt	<u>mü</u>	<u>rüt</u>		neck
	ŋobora	<u>ŋo</u>	<u>bo</u>	<u>ra</u>	horns
$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{3}{2}$ $\frac{2}{2}$ $\frac{3}{2}$	guek	guek			raven
<u>2</u>	peya	<u>pe</u>	<u>ya</u>		gun
<u>3</u>	marate	<u>ma</u>	<u>ra</u>	<u>te</u>	somebody
<u>2</u>	waria	<u>wa</u>	<u>ria</u>		wives
<u>2</u>	boroŋ	<u>bo</u>	<u>ron</u>		harmful animal
<u>3</u>	lokore	<u>lo</u>	<u>ko</u>	<u>re</u>	meat
<u>2</u>	manta	<u>man</u>	<u>ta</u>		field, garden

Exercise 3

Consonants have been underlined instead of circled.

g ü <u>l</u> ä <u>m</u>	grave
<u>k</u> ä <u>y</u> ï <u>n</u>	hand
<u>m</u> a <u>r</u> i <u>n</u>	fence
<u>п</u> е <u>'d</u> е <u>р</u>	tongue
<u>t</u> o <u>l</u> o <u>k</u>	eggs
<u>w</u> ü <u>r</u> ï	warthog
<u>s</u> e <u>r</u> a <u>n</u>	stars
<u>d</u> ü <u>'d</u> e	cloud, sky
j a <u>'</u> e	rainy season

Exercise 4

Light		Test	Word	Heavy		Write correctly
kak	earth	у ä	wine	mäk	waist	<u>ya</u>
kak	earth	p ä d ä	gold	mäk	waist	<u>pädä</u>
kak	earth	k a kat	door	mäk	waist	<u>kakat</u>
kak	earth	t a r	island	mäk	waist	<u>tär</u>
kak	earth	y a pa	moon	mäk	waist	<u>yapa</u>
kidi	well	m i ji	mouse	kïdï	arm	<u>mïjï</u>
kidi	well	dïlï	hole	kïdï	arm	<u>dïlï</u>
kidi	well	kinyjiri	bird	kïdï	arm	<u>kïnyjïrï</u>
kidi	well	t ïtï'i t	sparrow	kïdï	arm	<u>titi'it</u>
kidi	well	y i ni	co-wife	kïdï	arm	<u>yini</u>
ju	friend	j u r	village	gü	granary	<u>jür</u>
ju	friend	m u ny	body	gü	granary	<u>muny</u>
ju	friend	k ü'ü	shield	gü	granary	<u>kü'ü</u>
ju	friend	p ü r ü	fleas	gü	granary	<u>pürü</u>
ju	friend	m u nu	snake	gü	granary	<u>münü</u>

Exercise 5

Test Wo	<u>ord</u>	Write correctly	Test Wo	<u>rd</u>	Write correctly
marïŋ	wall	<u>mariŋ</u>	gülam	grave	güläm
mërök	enemies	<u>merok</u>	gürëny	cat	güreny
tome	elephant	tome	kiro	scorpion	<u>kiro</u>
tïrän	goods	<u>tïrän</u>	jakü	animal	<u>jaku</u>
kä'di	pumpkin	<u>kä'dï</u>	dü'de	cloud	<u>dü'de</u>
mïjök	mice	<u>mijok</u>	'duŋït	herd	<u>'düŋït</u>

Exercise 6

Test W	ord	Write correctly	Test Word	d	Write correctly
swät	ear, side	<u>süät</u>	dyaŋ	famine	dian
guek	raven (bird type)	<u>guek</u>	kwa	thorns	<u>kua</u>
kwere	Tamarind tree	<u>kuere</u>	warya	wives	<u>waria</u>
atiaŋ	night	<u>atiaŋ</u>	kwändïä	wife	<u>küändïä</u>
rwäkä	darkness	<u>rüäkä</u>	kueny	<i>birds</i>	<u>kueny</u>
'dyoŋ	dog	'dioŋ	nyajwa	gazelle type	nyajua

Exercise 7

Test Word		Write correctly	Test Word		Write correctly
kärüe	widow	<u>kärü'e</u>	boi	net	<u>boyi</u>
ku'u	bones	<u>kuyu</u>	la'u	piece of clothing	<u>la'u</u>
layat	clothes	<u>la'at</u>	titi'it	sparrow (bird type)	<u>titi'it</u>
wuyut	buttock	wuyut	kiyo	boat	<u>ki'o</u>
ko'i	road	<u>koyi</u>	pea	gun	<u>peya</u>
käyïn	hand	<u>käyïn</u>	nyäyet	spoon	<u>nyä'et</u>

Exercise 8

Test Word		Write correctly	Test Word		Write correctly
ku'dad	bread	<u>ku'dat</u>	_	crowd	<u>buluk</u>
lütek	roof	<u>lütek</u>	kak	earth	<u>kak</u>
kurug	mouth	<u>kuruk</u>	parad	ax	<u>parat</u>
düäd	bull	<u>düät</u>	a rob tokot	paid	<u>a rop</u>
a kuaj	begged	<u>a kuas</u>	tokot	field	<u>tokot</u>

Exercise 9

Test Word		Write correctly	Test Word		Write correctly
käji	town, cattle camp	<u>käjï</u>	ku'dät	bread	ku'dat
kibär	anthill	<u>kïbär</u>	jurak	bag	<u>jurak</u>
kärü'e	widow	<u>kärü'e</u>	tïränsö	produce	<u>tïränso</u>
gwek	raven (bird type)	guek	kwändyä	wife	<u>küändïä</u>
'dioŋ	dog	<u>'dioŋ</u>	kwe	eye	<u>kue</u>
atyaŋ	night	<u>atian</u>	ŋäwŋ	hyena	<u>ŋäüŋ</u>
layu	piece of clothing	<u>la'u</u>	niyo	my	<u>nio</u>
ki'o	boat	<u>ki'o</u>	boyi	net	<u>boyi</u>
käïn	hand	<u>käyïn</u>	jae	rainy season	<u>ja'e</u>
a tos	picked	<u>a tos</u>	pereg	fish spear	<u>perek</u>
'düŋïd	herd, group	<u>'düŋït</u>	ŋe'deb	tongue	<u>ŋe'dep</u>
banduk	sword	<u>banduk</u>	gümät	wind	gümät