Manual for the quetta (ຊ່ອໍ່) module

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version 0.0.1

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1. Introduction

1.1. 'Quetta'?

'Quetta' ($\dot{\eta}\dot{\ddot{p}}$) means 'word' in Quenya [1], one of the fictional languages invented by British writer and philologist J. R. R. Tolkien. It thus seemed fitting for a module aimed at making the process of typing these languages easier.

Words are also, loosely speaking, the base units this module works on, as we shall see in more detailes below. While its general philosophy is to map each symbol used in Tolkien's elvish languages to letters from the Latin alphabet, a few word-wise substitution rules were implemented so that, in *most* (but probably not all) cases the correct spelling can be obtained by typing the word phonetically. For the same reason, the mapping generally works on groups of letters when there is no natural one-to-one mapping between individual symbols.

1.2. The Tengwar script

A proper introduction to Tengwar is way beyond the scope of this document. We refer interested readers to Appendix E of Reference [2] and online references such as wikipedia tolkiengateway.net, omniglot.com, or tecendil com

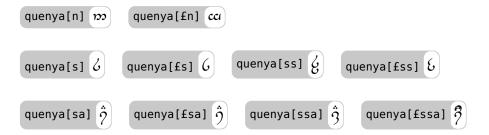
In short, Tengwar (ρτῶρ in Quenya mode) is one of the scripts invented by Tolkien, primarily consisting of 36 letters (called tengwar; singular: tengwa (ρτῷ)) and diacritics (tehtar (ρτθρρ singular: tehta (ρτθρ))). There are several ways to relate tengwar to sounds, called modes. This module primarily focuses on the Quenya (ἡπὸ), or 'classical', mode, in universe the original way to write tengwar. Support for the other modes described by Tolkien is planned for a future version.

2. How to use

2.1. Design principles

The module provides one main command for each supported mode (in the curr).

Alternative glyphs, when they exist, can be obtained with the symbol \mathfrak{t} . For instance, typing \mathfrak{n} produces the tengwa \mathfrak{w} (numen) while typing $\mathfrak{t}\mathfrak{n}$ produces $\mathfrak{c}\mathfrak{u}$ (noldo):



2.2. Quenya

The implementation of the Quenya mode follows Reference [3].

2.2.1. Basic examples

- 2.2.2. N mode
- 2.2.3. H mode
- 2.2.4. Y mode
- 2.2.5. S mode
- 2.2.6. L mode

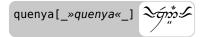
2.2.7. Punctuation

End-of-paragraph symbols can be obtained by combining commas and periods:

$$quenya[.-] : \sim quenya[..] :: quenya[..] :: quenya[...] ::$$

Note: Generally, parentheses in Quenya are denoted by the single symbol ፆ—there is no distinction between opening and closing parentheses. We deviate from this convention by mabbing the symbol '(' to (and ')' to). The proper Tengwar parenthesis is mapped to '/'.

The decorations ≈ and ≤ are obtained using the French quotation marks '»' and '«':



The symbol ':' is used to prevent glyph combination: quenya[nn n:n] mmm

2.2.8. Number system

Example: quenya[123] ws

2.2.9. Example: Namárië

One of the most famous texts written in Quenya is the poem Namárië (nɔ̈g), originally written in [2]¹ and available for instance in Reference [4]. Below we show the same text without (left) and with (right) the #show: quenya command. We use a spacing between line of 0.7em to clearly separate them (some tengwar have a relatively large vertical extension).

Namárië

Ai! laurië lantar lassi súrinen, yéni únótimë ve rámar aldaron! Yéni ve lintë yuldar avánier mi oromardi lisse-miruvóreva Andúnë pella, Vardo tellumar nu luini yassen tintilar i eleni ómaryo airetári-lírinen.

Sí man i yulma nin enquantuva?

An sí Tintallë Varda Oiolossëo ve fanyar máryat Elentári ortanë, ar ilyë tier undulávë lumbulë, ar sindanóriello caita mornië i falmalinnar imbë met, ar hísië untúpa Calaciryo míri oialë. Sí vanwa ná, Rómello vanwa, Valimar! Namárië! Nai hiruvalyë Valimar. Nai elyë hiruva. Namárië!

2.3. Sindarin—Mode of Gondor

Not yet implemented

2.4. Sindarin—Mode of Beleriand

Not yet implemented

က်ဘျှံဘုံ

သို့ ၁ဝဲဗုဂ္ဂ် င်ဘို လည်း ကိုလိုင်း လည်း ပျက် ရှိကျိုက် ထံ ပျိုက်က ဒီဗိုးကျ ပျံကဲ ထို ကိုက် ထိုင္ခ်ာ ပြဲစုံကဲ့ပြဲက က် ၊ို့တို့ကပါ ငှဲ့ရှ-က်ပို့တို့တို့ îpာျက် ဗုင်္ငံ င်္ဂာဝါ ဗုင်္င်ကာ က် ကိုက် ထိုကာ မှတ်ဘုံး ပြည် ကြွ် သို့မှာပြီ-ကျွဲတော်း ပ် ထား i ရှိဘုဏ် ကဲက ကော်ထိုတ်နှိ ຳໝ ປ່າ ເຂົ້າ ເລື່ອນຕໍ່ ຄົນຕໍ່ ລຳວົດງຳ က်ရှိကျဲ မျှံကြဘုဲ ရပ္ပို့ထာ ရထူရီ ထဲ عَرْضُ مُرْكُ مِنْ اللَّهُ مُنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللَّالِي مِنْ اللَّهُ مِلَّمُ مِنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللَّهُ مِنْ ال în ဂုံကိုကျွန်၊ ဆို ကိုက်ကျွန်း ရှိသည်။ أورَن مُن بَعْن اللهِ اللهِ اللهِ عَنْ اللهِ اللهِ اللهِ عَنْ اللهِ اللهِ اللهِ اللهِ اللهِ اللهِ اللهِ اللهِ اَكُمْ اَنْ اللَّهُ اللَّا اللَّهُ اللَّا اللَّا اللَّهُ اللّلْمُلْمُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ රු තිහස් හා වර්ණ සිහස් සිප්සාග ກໍ່ກ່າງຂໍາໃ ກາລື ໃຊ້ກໍ່ສຸ້. ກໍ່ວ່າກໍ່ກາ: ຫລື ຳຂູ້, ໄດ້ຕໍ່: ຫຼືຫຼືງ ທ່າ

¹Book 2, ch. 8 "Farewell to Lórien"

2.5. Black Speech

Not yet implemented

Although the Black Speech is not implemented yet, the One Ring inscription can be reproduced using the Quenya mode as follows: 2

ေငီကသို့ထျားက်ညာနီ-မြီ ငီကသို့ထျထည်နီ-နှီ ငီကသို့ထျက်မျှာ် မြီး ထိုညာသို့ ကာင်ကြမျှာ်

 $^{^{2}}$ This is obviously a bit of a hack, meant only to show how the limitations of hwving only one mode implemented can be circumvented. This example is not supposed to be stable and might render differently in a later version.

3. How to contribute

Any kind of contribution is warmly welcome! Here are a few ways you can help:

- Bug reports: Some text rendering incorrectly in Tengwar? Unexpected formatting? Any other issue with the code or documentation? Please report it! This module was only tested on a very small corpus so far, and identifying any corner case where it does not work as intended is very useful!
- Language help: My knowledge of Tengwar and the languages invented by J. R. R. Tolkien is quite superficial, and I may well have missed or misunderstood some of the rules for writing in Tengwar. If you spot anything that looks wrong, please let me know!
- Implementation: The Typst code is likely not quite as efficient as could be. If you can see better ways to implement something, please feel free to let me now or to submit a pull request with an improved version!
- Feature requests: Any feature request is welcome. I can't promise I'll have the time and knowledge to implement everything that would be nice to have; but if you'd like to see something implemented please let me know—or submit a pull request if you've already implemented it!

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Bibliography

- [1] "elfdict.com." [Online]. Available: https://www.elfdict.com/
- [2] J.R.R. Tolkien, The Lord of the Rings.
- [3] "Quenya Tengwar A mini course by Eruantalincë." [Online]. Available: https://www.councilofelrond.com/languages/QTL.htm
- [4] "Namárië." [Online]. Available: https://tolkiengateway.net/wiki/Nam%C3%A1ri%C3%AB