aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa

aaaaaaaaaaaaa, the language of ???

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een^{g}s.-meibpelbe-kona

A complete grammar

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Dedicated to pecan.

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0.1 | Introduction

1 | Phonology and orthography

1.1 | Phoneme inventory and romanisation

aaaaaaaaaaaauses the following phonemes:

Table 1.1: The consonants of aaaaaaaaaaaa.

	Linguolabial	Alveolar	Palatal
Plosive	p b /t̪ d̪/	t d /t d/	k g /c ɟ/
Fricative	f /θ̪/	þ /θ̪/	
(sibilant)		s /s/	
(lateral)	ḟ /ɬ̪/	ṡ ż /ɬ ɮ/	
(nareal)		h /ɦ̊/	
Approximant		r /ɻ̊/	j /j/
Nasal	m /n̪/		n /ɲ/

Table 1.2: The vowels of aaaaaaaaaaaa.

	Front	Central	Back
High	i î /i iː/		u û /u uː/
Mid			o ô /ɔ oː/
Low		a â /a aː/	

In addition, short vowels other than /i/ can be diphthongised with /i̯/ = /j/ to form, for instance, ⟨aj⟩ /ai̯/ or ⟨ja⟩ /i̯a/. However, at the start of a syllable, /j/ is treated as a consonant.

1.2 | Phonotactics

Syllables are composed of:

- An onset – either:
  - any consonant other than ⟨m⟩ /n̪/
  - one of ⟨sþ tþ tr þr sr hr þt ht rt þd rṡ rḟ þtr htr⟩ /sθ̪ tθ̪ tɻ̊ θ̪ɻ̊ sɻ̊ ɦ̊ɻ̊ θ̪t ɦ̊t ɻ̊t ɻ̊ɬ̪ θ̪d ɻ̊ɬ̪ θ̪tɻ̊ ɦ̊tɻ̊/

  - at the beginning of the word, nothing at all, but any medial syllables with an empty onset will receive an epethentic [ʟ̥] at that position.

- A rime – one of:
  - A long vowel or diphthong, and nothing else (diphthongs with onglides are not allowed if the onset is ⟨j⟩ /j/)
  - A short vowel followed by one of ⟨þ m r⟩ /θ̲ n̪ ʟ̥/

Double instances of a consonant between syllables are resolved as such:

- /θ̲.θ̲/ → [θ̲.t]
- /θ̲.θ̲t/ → [θ̲.t’]
- /ʟ̥.ʟ̥/ → [ʟ̥.l̥]

These are not respelt.

1.3 | Allophony

The following rules are applied:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\{\text{u}, \text{u}\text{ː}\} &\to \{\text{y}, \text{ʉ}\text{ː}\} && (C_1\{+ll\}\blacklozenge) \\
\{\text{ɔ}, \text{o}\text{ː}\} &\to \{\text{ɔ̯}, \text{o̯u̯}\} && (C_1\{+ll\}\blacklozenge) \\
\text{ʟ̥} &\to \text{l̥̪} && (\blacklozenge C_1[+ll]) \\
\{\text{t}, \text{d}\} &\to \{\text{t̪}, \text{d̪}\} && (\text{n̪}\blacklozenge) \\
\text{n̪} &\to \text{n} && (\blacklozenge C_1[+av]) \\
\text{θ̲} &\to \text{θ̲ə} && (\blacklozenge C_1[+ll]) \\
\text{θ̲} &\to \text{θ̲ʲ} && (\blacklozenge\{\text{a}, \text{a}\text{ː}, \text{ɔ}, \text{o}\text{ː}\}) \quad \left[\text{frac}\left(\sqrt{\#\sigma + \#C}\right) < 0.5\right] \\
\text{θ̲} &\to \text{ð̲} && (\blacklozenge C_1[+v]) \\
C_1[-v] &\to C_1[+a] && (\blacklozenge V_1[+s])
\end{aligned}
$$

1.4 | Stress

Much like Ḋraħýl Rase, aaaaaaaaaaaaa has the concept of natural stress. That is, if syllables with short vowels are considered short and those with long vowels or diphthongs are long, then:

- if the penultimate syllable is long, then it is stressed
- if the antepenultimate syllable is long, then it is stressed
- if the ultimate syllable is long, then it is stressed
- otherwise, the penultimate syllable is stressed

However, aaaaaaaaaaaaa is less free with deviations from this pattern. Notably, if the last three syllables are short, then the antepenultimate syllable can receive the stress instead. In the romanisation, this is marked with an acute accent.

2 | Syntax

The basic word order of aaaaaaaaaaaaa is one of $\{N_1VN_2, N_1N_2V, VN_1N_2, N_1V, VN_2\}$. N_1 and N_2 are the "subject" and "object" of a verb, in either order.

Adjectives are placed farther from the verb than their antecedents. If an adjective A modifies an N, then the onsets of A and N are switched. Adverbs occur at either the beginning or the end of the clause.

2.1 | Pivots

When two clauses α and β are joined by a clausal conjunction, some arguments may be omitted in the second clause.

- If $\beta.N_1$ is omitted, then it defaults to $\alpha.N_2$ (inner pivot).
- If $\beta.N_2$ is omitted, then it defaults to $\alpha.N_1$ (outer pivot).
- If $\beta.V$ is omitted, then it defaults to $\alpha.V$ (verb pivot).

Noun phrases joined by nominal conjunctions work differently. The rules for those that occur after the verb are listed:

$$N_1^i A_1^i + N_2^j A_2^j \to N_1A_1 + N_2A_2 \tag{2.1}$$
$$N_1^i A_1^j + N_2^j A_2^i \to (N_1 + N_2)(A_1 + A_2) \tag{2.2}$$
$$N_1^i A^i + N_2 \to N_1A + N_2A \tag{2.3}$$
$$N_1A^i + N_2^i \to (N_1 + N_2)A \tag{2.4}$$
$$N^i A_1^i +^j A_2^j \to NA_1 + NA_2 \tag{2.5}$$
$$N^i A_1^j +^j A_2^i \to N(A_1 + A_2) \tag{2.6}$$
$$N_1 + N_2^i A^i \to N_1A + N_2\varnothing \tag{2.7}$$

The sequences are reversed before the verb.

For instance, using ⟨ki⟩ *and*[1], ⟨napu⟩ *fish*, ⟨pjiko⟩ *cat*, ⟨karaha⟩ *fast* and ⟨dombu⟩ *heavy*, we have the following (assuming that these NPs follow the verb):

[1] There are two meanings that correspond to English's *and*. The first is a bundle of both arguments present; the second is an object that has the properties of both arguments. Consider *The dog and bird are a mammal and₁ bipedal* versus *The human is a mammal and₂ bipedal*. ⟨ki⟩ uses the former interpretation for nouns and the latter for adjectives. ⟨aþ⟩ uses the latter interpretation for both nouns and adjectives.

- ⟨kapu naraha ki djiko pombu⟩ *the fast fish and the heavy cat*
- ⟨dapu paraha ki njiko kombu⟩ *the (fast and heavy) (fish and cat)*
- ⟨kapu naraha ki pjiko⟩ *the fast fish and the fast cat*
- ⟨napu paraha ki kjiko⟩ *the fast (fish and cat)*
- ⟨kapu naraha di kombu⟩ *the fast fish and the heavy fish*
- ⟨kapu daraha ni kombu⟩ *the (fast and heavy) fish*
- ⟨napu ki kjiko paraha⟩ *the (fast fish) and the cat*

3 | Nouns

3.1 | Conceptualisation

Nouns are declined for the following categories:

- number-emergence
- similitude
- specificity

3.1.1 | Number-emergence

Number and emergence (cf. *The Avonian Language* 8.13.1 40) describes not only the quantity of an object but also any additional properties borne by the group.

- *Unmarked* is the default form of the noun.
- *Reduced* is closest to English's plural form and confers no additional properties to a group of objects. Compared with the unmarked N-E, the reduced N-E is used the most often with human nouns, less often with other animates and rarely with inanimate nouns. With uncountable nouns, the unmarked form is always used.
- *Emergent* describes a group of objects with properties extending beyond its components but also individual qualities.
- *Coherent* describes an entity that cannot be meaningfully divided into its individual parts.

3.1.2 | Similitude

Similitude (cf. *The Avonian Language* 8.13.2 41) describes the differences among different objects of a group. This category is not marked in unmarked-NE nouns.

- *Identical* means that a similar group with n elements as the one mentioned fall into $O(\log \log n)$ identities (to a margin of error) – e. g. a pile of candies or an orchard of apple trees.
- *Similative* means that the members of the group in question are similar in name only – e. g. a forest with different species of plants.

- *Related* means that at least one entity is the item in question and the others are related to it – e. g. spoons and other utensils.

3.1.3 | Specificity

This refers to whether a noun phrase is unique in a given context and has two values: *specific* and *nonspecific*.

3.2 | Application

In aaaaaaaaaaaaa, the default form of the noun is the *unmarked similative specific* form.

3.2.1 | The stem and the ending

The ending of a noun is the rime of the last syllable, and the stem everything before that. For instance, the ending of ⟨napu⟩ *fish* is ⟨-u⟩ and its stem ⟨nap-⟩.

3.2.2 | Stem alternation

If the noun is not stressed on the last syllable, then the consonant cluster after the stressed vowel is lenited as shown in table 3.1 in the weak form of the stem.

Table 3.1: Lenitions of consonant clusters.

Onset \ Coda	Ø	þ	m	r	Onset \ Coda	Ø	þ	m	r
p	b	f	mb	rb	n	h	þn	n	n
b	b	þ	ḟ	f	sþ	s	þþ	f	rþ
f	ḟ	f	mb	rf	tþ	þ	þþ	mþ	rþ
ḟ	ḟ	ḟ	mḟ	rḟ	tr	g	þr	mþr	rr
t	d	þ	md	rd	þr	r	þr	mþ	rþ
d	r	þ	md	r	sr	r	þr	md	rr
þ	þ	þ	f	rd	hr	r	þr	mr	rr
s	ṡ	þ	f	r	þt	þ	þt	mþ	rþ
ṡ	ż	ṡ	mż	rż	ht	t	þt	mt	rt
ż	r	ż	mż	r	rt	rd	þr	md	rd
h	n	þn	n	r	þd	þ	þþ	mþ	rþ
r	r	dr	r	r	rṡ	rż	þż	mż	rż
k	g	þg	n	rg	rḟ	rḟ	þḟ	mḟ	rb
g	g	þg	n	r	þtr	þr	þtr	mþr	rþr
j	j				htr	tr	þtr	mtr	rtr

For instance, the weak form of the stem for ⟨napu⟩ is ⟨nab-⟩.

3.2.3 | Declension tables

Table 3.2: Nouns that end with ⟨-a⟩.

Specificity	Nonspecific			Specific		
N-E \ Similitude	Identical	Similar	Related	Identical	Similar	Related