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*Modern Rymakonian, the language of Rymako*

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uruwi

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*A complete grammar*

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*Dedicated to Gufferdk.*

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## 0.1 | Introduction



# 1 | Phonology and orthography

## 1.1 | Diachronics

### 1.1.1 | L-recession: Kasnepy 430 – 490

The first set of sound changes involves the loss of /l/.

$$\begin{aligned} ? &\rightarrow \emptyset \\ C_1[+ap]l &\rightarrow C_1 \\ C_1[+na]l &\rightarrow \eta \\ rl &\rightarrow r \\ C_1[+lb]l &\rightarrow C_1[+velarised] \\ C_1[+ve]l &\rightarrow C_1 \\ C_1[+lf]l &\rightarrow C_1 \\ C_1[+whistled]l &\rightarrow C_1[+lf, -whistled] \\ C_1[+affricate]l &\rightarrow C_1 \\ C_1l &\rightarrow C_1[+pharyngealised] \\ V_1l &\rightarrow V_1[+lateralised] \\ l &\rightarrow d^{\text{h}} & (\square \blacklozenge) \\ \{\Lambda, u\} &\rightarrow \{o, u\} & \neg(w \blacklozenge) \\ u &\rightarrow i \end{aligned}$$

(The observant reader might notice the short timespan of these changes. This is not an error.)

### 1.1.2 | Vocaleœxodus: Kasnepy 660 – Nihel 50

At this point, vowels start to be lost. The first one to be lost is /u̥/:

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{ɥ} &\rightarrow \emptyset & (\blacklozenge \square \vee \square \blacklozenge) \\
\text{ɥ} &\rightarrow \text{u} & (C_1[+lb]\blacklozenge) \\
\text{wu} &\rightarrow \text{u} \\
\text{jɥ} &\rightarrow \text{i} \\
\text{ɥ} &\rightarrow \text{o} & (C_1[+ve]\blacklozenge) \\
\text{ɥ} &\rightarrow \text{e} & (C_1\blacklozenge) \\
\text{ɥ} &\rightarrow \emptyset \\
\text{ɥ}^l &\rightarrow \text{ɹ}
\end{aligned}$$

This is followed by vowel merging:

$$\begin{aligned}
V_1 V_1 &\rightarrow V_1[+l] \\
iV_1 &\rightarrow jV_1 \\
uV_1 &\rightarrow wV_1
\end{aligned}$$

After this change, *lateral rotation* takes place: lateralisation transfers from one vowel to the next within a word, wrapping back to the first vowel from the last. Thus, /to<sup>h</sup>u/ becomes /tou/ – the lateralisation transfers from the first vowel to the second. (Short) /u/ is the next vowel to be lost:

$$\begin{aligned}
\{\text{u}, \text{u}^l\} &\rightarrow \emptyset & (\square \blacklozenge) \\
\{\text{u}, \text{u}^l\} &\rightarrow \text{v} & (V_1 \blacklozenge) \\
C_1\{\text{k}, \text{g}, \text{x}, \text{ɣ}, \text{ŋ}\} V_1\{\text{u}, \text{u}^l\} &\rightarrow C_1\{\text{p}, \text{b}, \text{f}, \text{v}, \text{m}\} V_1\{\text{a}, \text{a}^l\} \\
C_1\{\text{fx}, \text{vɣ}, \text{θx}, \text{ðɣ}\} V_1\{\text{u}, \text{u}^l\} &\rightarrow C_1\{\text{f}, \text{v}, \text{θ}, \text{ð}\} V_1\{\text{e}, \text{e}^l\} \\
C_1\{\text{s}, \text{z}, \text{ʃ}, \text{ʒ}\} \text{u} &\rightarrow C_1\{\text{ʃ}, \text{z}, \text{ʒ}, \text{ʒ}\} \text{e} \\
C_1\{\text{s}, \text{z}, \text{ʃ}, \text{ʒ}\} \text{u}^l &\rightarrow C_1\{\text{ʃ}, \text{ʒ}, \text{ʃ}, \text{ʒ}\} \text{e} \\
\text{u} &\rightarrow \emptyset \\
\text{u}^l &\rightarrow \text{ɹ} \\
\text{w} &\rightarrow \text{v}
\end{aligned}$$

After /u/, /i e ʌ/ (and their lateral counterparts) are lost:

$$\begin{aligned}
\{\text{i}, \text{e}, \text{ʌ}\} &\rightarrow \emptyset & (\blacklozenge \square) \\
\{\text{i}^l, \text{e}^l, \text{ʌ}^l\} &\rightarrow \{\text{l}, \text{l}, \text{ɫ}\} \\
\{\text{i}, \text{e}, \text{ʌ}\} C_1 &\rightarrow \emptyset & (C_1 \blacklozenge) \quad [\#\delta > 3] \\
\text{e} &\rightarrow \emptyset & (C_1[+whistled]\blacklozenge) \\
\{\text{i}, \text{e}, \text{ʌ}\} &\rightarrow \{\text{ç}, \text{s}, \text{θx}\}
\end{aligned}$$

/o/ is the next vowel to be lost:

$$\begin{aligned}
o^l &\rightarrow t \\
C_1[+na]o &\rightarrow C_1[+nareal] \\
\{p, t, c\}o &\rightarrow \{\emptyset, l, t\} \\
\{b, d, j, g\}o &\rightarrow \{p, t, c, k\} \\
\{m, n, \eta, \eta\}o &\rightarrow \{b, d, j, g\} \\
\{f, v\}o &\rightarrow p & (\blacklozenge\{\square, C_2[+ap], C_2[+la]\}) \\
\{\theta, \delta, s, z, \text{ʃ}, \text{ʒ}\}o &\rightarrow t & (\dots) \\
\{\text{ç}, \text{ʃ}, \text{ʒ}, \text{ʒ}, \text{ʒ}, \text{x}, \text{y}\}o &\rightarrow k & (\dots) \\
\{f, v, \theta, \delta\}o &\rightarrow \{\text{ʃ}, \text{h}, \text{ʁ}, \text{x}\} \\
o &\rightarrow C_1[+fr] & (\square\blacklozenge C_1[+pl]) \\
o &\rightarrow \gamma
\end{aligned}$$

Finally /a/ is lost:  $\{a, a^l\} \rightarrow \emptyset$ . The long vowels can subsequently be reanalysed as being short.

It should be noted that epenthetic vowels are allowed between consonants.

### 1.1.3 | Cluster reduction: Nihel 70 – 130

The consonant clusters resulting from the previous vocaloëxodus turn out to be quite complex. Let  $f$  be as such:

$$f(p) = \begin{cases} 3 & p \text{ is voiced or pharyngealised} \\ 2 & p = k \text{ or } p \text{ is velarised} \\ 1 & p = t \\ 0 & p \in \{p, c\} \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}
C_1[+pl]C_2[+pl] &\rightarrow C_1 & \neg(V_1\blacklozenge V_2) & [f(C_1) \geq f(C_2)] \\
C_1[+pl]C_2[+pl] &\rightarrow C_2 & \neg(V_1\blacklozenge V_2) & [f(C_2) > f(C_1)] \\
C_1\{l, t, \text{ʔ}\}C_2[+pl] &\rightarrow C_2C_1 & (C_3\blacklozenge) \\
C_1[+na] &\rightarrow C_1[pa = x] & (C_2[-na, pa = x]) \\
C_1[+click]C_2[+pl, -ve, -v] &\rightarrow C_2[+click] \\
C_1[+pl, -ve, -v]C_2[+click] &\rightarrow C_1[+click] \\
C_1[+click]C_2[+pl, -ve, +v] &\rightarrow C_2[+implosive] \\
C_1[+pl, -ve, +v]C_2[+click] &\rightarrow C_1[+implosive] \\
C_1[+nareal] &\rightarrow C_1[+fr, +v]
\end{aligned}$$

## 1.2 | Phoneme inventory

Thus the following phonemes are present in Modern Rymakonian:

Table 1.1: The consonants of Modern Rymakonian.

	Bilabial	Dental	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyngeal
Nasal	m		n	ɲ	ŋ		
Plosive	p b		t d	c ɟ	k ɡ		
	pʲ bʲ		tˢ dˢ	cˢ ɟˢ			
Fricative	f v	θ ð	s z	ʃ ʒ	x ɣ	χ ʁ	ħ ʕ
	fʲ vʲ	θˢ ðˢ	sˢ zˢ	ʃˢ ʒˢ			
(coarticulated)	fx vy	θx ðɣ	θ ʒ̥	fʃ vʒ			
				fʃʲ vʒʲ			
(whistled)			ʃ ʒ				
Affricate			ts	tʃ			
Lat. fricative			ɬ ɮ				
Approximant			ɹ				
Lat. approximant			l		ɭ		
Tap			r				
Trill			r				
Click	ǀ			ǃ			

Table 1.2: The vowels of Modern Rymakonian.

	Front	Central	Back
High	i		u
Mid	e		o
Low		a	

1.3 | Hacmisation

These are hacmised as such:



Table 1.3: The consonants of Modern Rymakonian.

	Bilabial	Dental	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyngeal
Nasal	ɒ		n	nʲ	nʷ		
Plosive	d b		ɾ ɳ	ɽ ɳʲ	ɭ ʋ		
	dʱ bʱ		ɾʱ ɳʱ	ɽʱ ɳʲʱ			
Fricative	ɑ u	ʝᵃ zᵘ	ʝ z	ɭ s	ɭː ʋːˢ	ɭː ʋː	ħ ħˢ
	ɑʱ uʱ	ʝᵃʱ zᵘʱ	ʝʱ zʱ	ɭʱ sʱ			
(coarticulated)	ɑʰ uʰ	ʝʰ zʰ	ɑʷ uʷ	ɑː uʷ			
				ɑːʱ uʷˢʱ			
(whistled)			ʝᵒ zᵒ	ɭᵒ zᵒ			
Affricate			ɾ	ɽ			
Lat. fricative			ɭː sː				
Approximant			ɹ				
Lat. approximant			ɭ		ɭʱ		
Tap			ɾ				
Trill			ɾᵀ				
Click	dˀ		ɾ	ɭ			

Table 1.4: The vowels of Modern Rymakonian.

	Front	Central	Back
High	ɕ		ə
Mid	e		ɔ
Low		ɪ	