

Hanákana

Lance Pollard

Every time you start to learn a new language, unless you are born speaking it natively, you have to learn how it is written. This takes an enormous amount of effort, days if not weeks. Even if the language uses the Latin alphabet, there are subtle variations in its usage that make it impossible to imply the rules you learned in English to reading Chinese Pinyin or IAST Sanskrit. According to traditional methodology, this is part of the sludge that you must work through in order to get to learning words, and ultimately how to speak a language.

The real secret to learning languages, however, is that there is no need to learn how it is written. All languages use the same basic sounds allowed by the human mouth and vocal chords, in order to construct their words and ultimately to express their information. They may have slight variations on some fundamental sound building blocks, but there are only about 32 very obvious sounds which differ significantly in their quality. You can double that count as a rough estimate for how many sound variations there are (not including tones). Learning just those 60 or 70 sounds is all you need to learn any language in the world. You don't need to learn their writing system or a new Romanization scheme.

Learning to pronounce words is not hard. It does not take weeks of dedicated learning. It takes what we will suggest is only one day of learning the writing system outlined in this book. Once you learn that, you can pick up any Hanákana dictionary for any language on Earth and instantly be able to pronounce those words in the foreign language. From there you can go on to the real difficult task of language learning, learning the grammar. But learning how to pronounce the words does not require learning how to read the language.

This book is a reference guide to the Hanákana writing system, the solution to this problem of learning to pronounce words in any language. In a way it is similar to the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), but it is not as technical. Hanákana does not aim to be the standard for representing exact linguistic utterances. Instead it aims to be a common ground that covers 99% of speaking use cases of any language on Earth, so that you can read, write, and pronounce them with ease.

It begins with the 22 basic consonants, followed by the 10 common verbs, for a total of 32 primitive sound forms. It then goes into the rest of the sound variations and the clicks and silences that give you the full spectrum of human vocal sounds. Once you finish this book, which can be done in one sitting in a day, you will be able to read and write and pronounce any language in the world that you choose.

Note that there are only 3 core symbol forms, the "n" shape, the "m" shape, and the "s" shape. From these we add tails, dots, and arcs to get the sound variations. Knowing this is all you need to know to memorize how to write the language. Mapping the sounds to the letter shapes is what the rest of this books is about.

၇

၈

၉

ጠሀን

mun

The moon in English

ጠፎር

mek

To make in English

ጠፎኔ

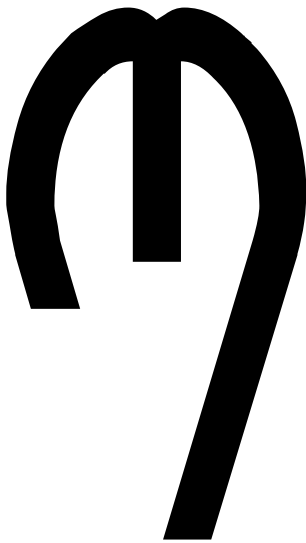
mex

To mesh in English

ጠፈረ

mold

To mold something in English



This symbol is pronounced by closing the lips and making sound subtly through your nose. This is the "m" sound in English.

ገጋፎ

not

A note in English

ገጻፍፎ

nəst

A nest in English

ገሠሮ

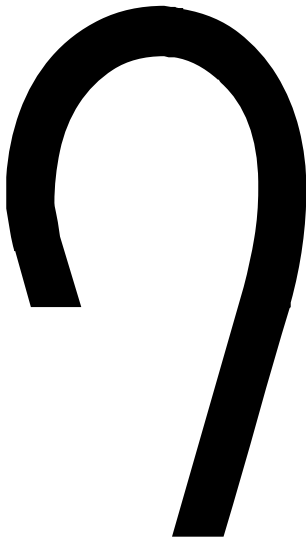
nid

To need in English

ገጋሠጓ

noiz

Noise in English



This symbol is pronounced by putting your tongue on the roof of your hard palette near your teeth, and making the sound subtly through your nose. This is the "n" sound in English.

ᠷᠢᠭ

riq

To ring in English

ᠠ

qa

I in Tibetan

ᠰᠢᠭᠢᠭ

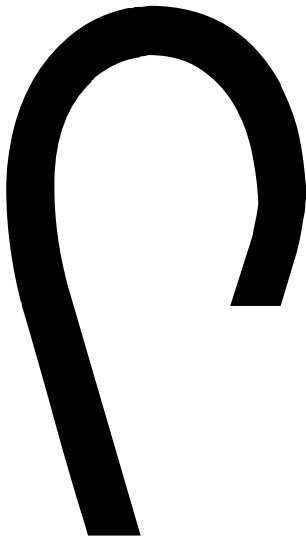
siqiq

Singing in English

ᠠᠷᠲᠢ

qrti

To understand in Indonesian



This symbol is pronounced by putting the back of tongue on the roof of your throat, like you are swallowing, and making the sound subtly through your nose. This is the "ng" sound in English.

ጎጃ

gad

God in English

ጎጭ

gem

Game in English

ጎረባ

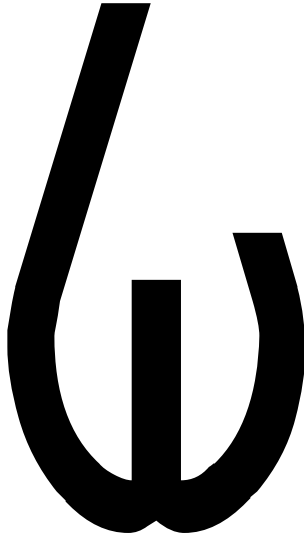
grin

Green in English

ፍጋ

fig

Fig (the fruit) in English



This symbol is pronounced by putting the back of your tongue on the roof of your throat quickly, with your voice. This is the "g" sound in English.

ᐃᓯᐱᓂ

drim

A dream in English

ᐃᓯᓯ

dark

The dark in English

ᐃᓯᓂ

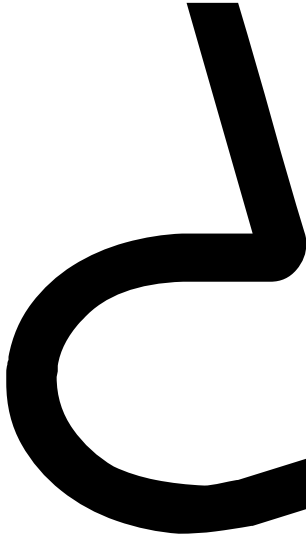
dan

Dawn in English

ᐃᓯᓂᓂ

drum

Drum in English



This symbol is pronounced by putting the tip of the tongue on the roof of your hard palette behind your teeth quickly, with your voice. This is the "d" sound in English.

ᐆᐃᑭ

bok

A book in English

ᐆᐃᐆᑦ

bīd

To build in English

ᐆᑭᐅ

būg

A bug in English

ᐆᐅᑦᐅ

bitx

The beach in English

A large, bold, black lowercase letter 'b' is centered on the page. The letter has a thick vertical stem and a rounded, bowl-like shape at the bottom.

This symbol is pronounced by putting your lips together quickly and releasing, with your voice. This is the "b" sound in English.

ᖅᕈᕐᕐ

pitx

A peach in English

ᖅᕈᕐᕐ

pre

To pray in English

ᖅᕈᕐᕐᕐᕐ

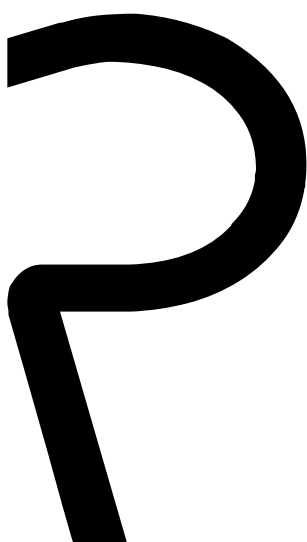
sport

A sport in English

ᖅᕈᕐᕐ

plap

To plop in English



This symbol is pronounced by putting your lips together quickly and releasing, without your voice. This is the "p" sound in English.

Էադ

tim

The team in English

ՔՏԷԷդՆՆ

քտենլ

Potential in English

ԹՆՐԷ

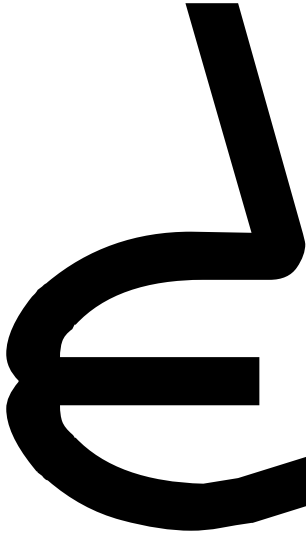
heart

Heart in English

ԷՐԷՆ

trel

A trail in English



This symbol is pronounced by putting the tip of the tongue on the roof of your hard palette behind your teeth quickly, without your voice. This is the "t" sound in English.

ᑭᑦᑭ

kiz

Keys in English

ᑭᑭᑦᑭ

skai

The sky in English

ᑭᑭᑭᑭ

brek

To break in English

ᑭᑭᑭᑭ

klik

To click in English

9

This symbol is pronounced by putting the back of your tongue on the roof of your throat quickly, without your voice. This is the "k" sound in English.

ᲞႈᲗᲐ

hint

A hint in English

ᲞᲡᲡᲡᲗᲗᲐᲗᲐ

hyumaniṭi

Humanity in English

ᲞᲗᲐ

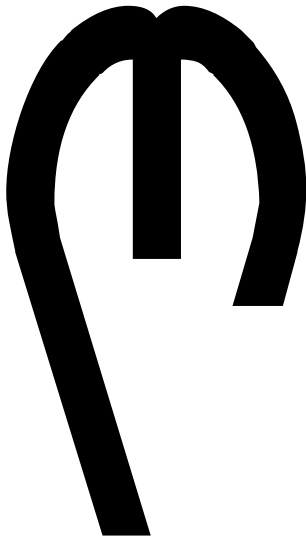
hai

Hi in English

ᲞᲗᲗᲗᲗᲗ

prḥaps

Perhaps in English



This symbol is pronounced by breathing silently without voice or blocking the flow of air. This is the "h" sound in English.

საშ

slip

To sleep in English

თას

tas

Toss in English

პასუხისუფლება

pasubiluti

Possability in English

სა

si

To see in English

A large, bold, black letter 'S' is centered on the page. The letter is thick and has a slightly irregular, hand-drawn appearance. It starts with a horizontal top bar, curves down and to the left, then curves back down and to the right, ending with a horizontal bottom bar.

This symbol is pronounced by breathing silently without voice or blocking the flow of air, while tightening the middle of your tongue to the hard palette of your mouth. This is the "s" sound in English.

፻፲፱

fri

Free in English

፱፻፳፻

inuf

Enough in English

፻፲፱፻

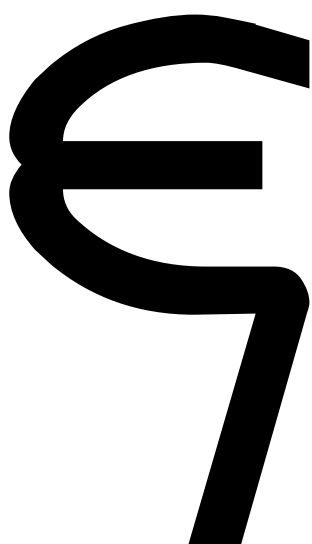
fair

Fire in English

፻፲፱፻፳፻፳፻

snoflek

Snowflake in English



This symbol is pronounced by breathing silently without voice or blocking the flow of air, while pressing your top teeth to your lower lip on the inside. This is the "f" sound in English.

ՆՈՎՆ

vaib

Vibe in English

ԴՐՆՈՂՏ

nrvánų

Nirvana in English

ՆՐԵՆԿՍ

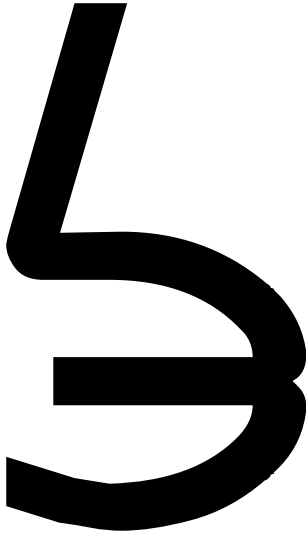
vrtxyu

Virtue in English

ԼՏՆ

lųv

Love in English



This symbol is pronounced by breathing with voice but blocking the flow of air, while pressing your top teeth to your lower lip on the inside. This is the "v" sound in English.

զշո

zon

Zone in English

Երէշ

grez

To graze in English

Ժրձշն

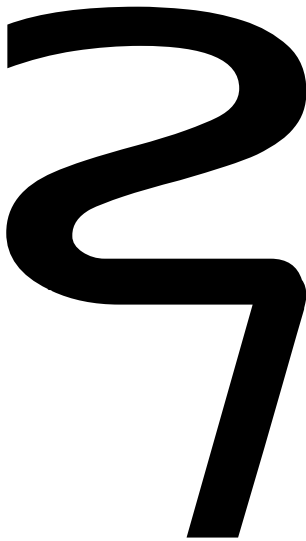
drizl

To drizzle in English

շս

zu

Zoo in English



This symbol is pronounced by with your voice by sort of
clenching your teeth and letting air out above your tongue.
This is the "z" sound in English.

ყელა

yelo

Yellow in English

პლაჟი

plaiyú

The beach in Spanish

კაიაკი

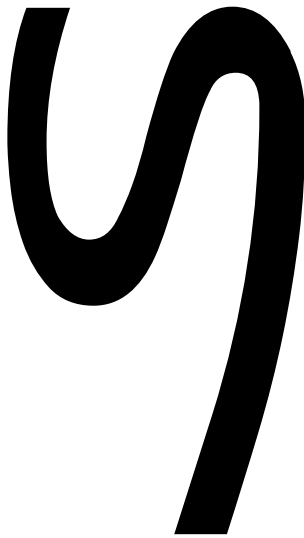
kaiyak

Kayak in English

ჟეს

yəs

Yes in English



This symbol is pronounced by with your voice without clenching your teeth and pushing your tongue toward the roof of your mouth yet letting air out above it. This is the "y" sound in English.

ወጋካሮ

wɪnd

Wind in English

ኔባኛወሾሮኛ

bəkwɜːds

Backwards in English

ወሾኛ

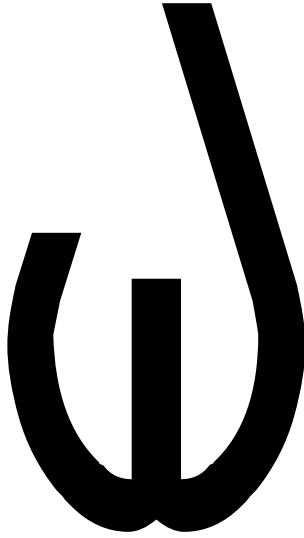
wɜːk

Work in English

ወኤወ

wai

Why in English



This symbol is pronounced by turning your lips into a tight circle and sweeping air through it as it morphs into the next vowel. This is the "w" sound in English.

Տարհ

ciqk

Think in English

Մաճաղ

wıçın

Within in English

Կնոցհաճ

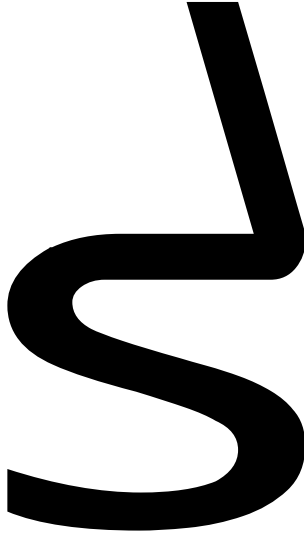
bląksmıç

Blacksmith in English

Տըշս

crou

Throw in English



This symbol is pronounced by putting your tongue up slightly in between your teeth and pushing air through them. This is the voiceless "th" sound in English.

ᖃᖅ

xip

Ship in English

ᖃᖅᖅ

oxin

Ocean in English

ᖃᖅᖅᖅᖅ

florix

Flourish in English

ᖃᖅ

xo

Show in English

A large, bold, black cursive letter 'w' is centered in the upper half of the image. The letter is formed with thick, fluid strokes, characteristic of a cursive script. It starts with a vertical line on the right, curves down and left, then up and right, and finally down and left again to complete the shape.

This symbol is pronounced by pressing air between your tongue and the top of the back of your teeth, like the sound of rushing water. This is the voiceless "sh" sound in English.

րաՇ

rid

Read in English

բշրՅՅր

foręvr

Forever in English

րսՆ

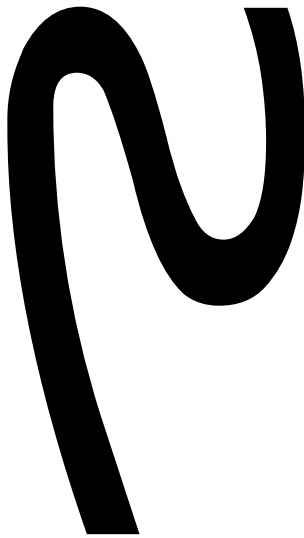
rul

Rule in English

ռՏդԷր

huntr

Hunter in English



This symbol is pronounced by curling your tongue slightly and letting air flow smoothly out of your mouth. This is the "r" sound in English.

ԼՏԵ

luv

Love in English

ՖաՆ

fil

To feel in English

ՖշՆԸ

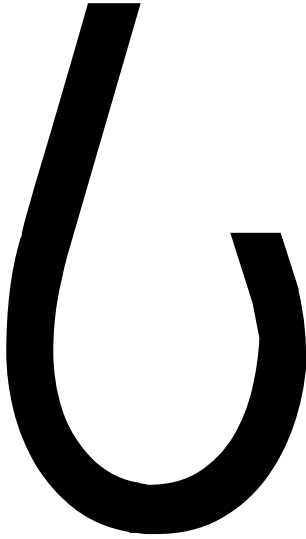
fold

Fold in English

ԼԱՐԳ

liqk

Link in English



This symbol is pronounced by pressing the tip of your tongue firmly on the front roof of your mouth and breathing air smoothly out of your mouth. This is the "l" sound in English.

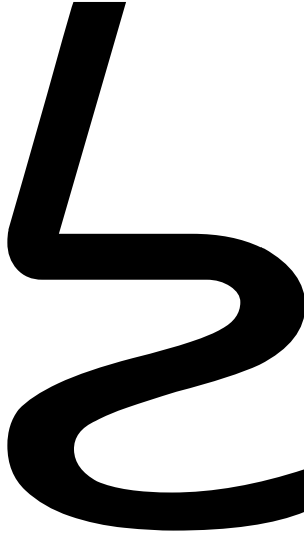
çen

kloç

ęc'kuruu

uci'b

A wolf in Arabic



This symbol is pronounced by putting your tongue up slightly in between your teeth and pushing air through them. This is the voiced "th" sound in English.

ᐃᐅᓐᓴ

djok

A joke in English

ᓄᓐᓴᓂ

męjr

To measure in English

ᓴᓂᐃᐅ

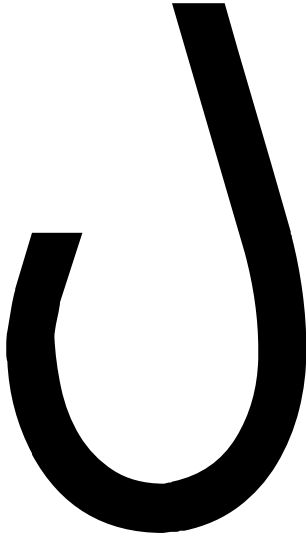
srdj

Surge in English

ᐃᐅᓐᓴ

djẹm

Gem in English



This symbol is pronounced by pressing air between your tongue and the top of the back of your teeth, like the sound of rushing water. This is the voiced "j" sound in English.

ḡɔɔ

fɪd

Smoke of a fire in Navajo

ŋw̄ɣɛn̄hɔ

nîftx'i

Wind, air, gas, or spirit in Navajo

ḡz̄z̄h

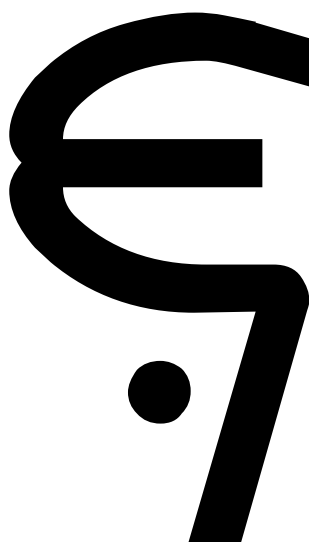
fôô'

A fish (as in a fish in the water) in Navajo

ḡéh̄éɛs̄z̄m̄

fê'êtsoh

Rat (as in a rodent) in Navajo



This symbol is pronounced by putting the tip of your tongue on the arch of your hard palette, and breathing the "l" sound through the sides of your tongue. This is the Navajo "ł" sound.

ႱႰႰႰ

jaala

To eat in Zulu

ႱႱႱႱ

ijazi

Ancestral spirit in Zulu

ႱႱႱႱ

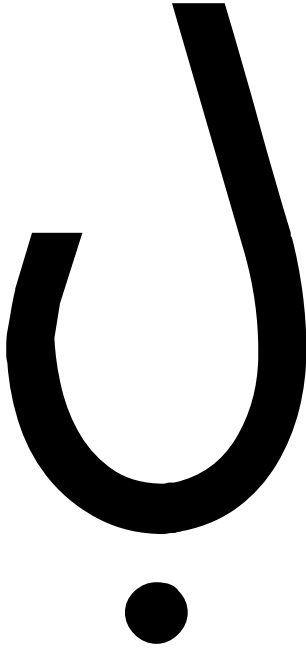
injebe

Ear in Zulu

ႱႱႱႱ

ijaka

Loincloth in Zulu



This symbol is pronounced by putting the tip of your tongue on the arch of your hard palette, and breathing the "l" sound through the sides of your tongue with your voice. This is the Zulu "dl" sound.

ՀՀԹԵՆՆ

k̕hela

To adapt in Xhosa

ՀՀԹՈՊՊՆ

k̕hama

To bear fruit in Xhosa

ՆՀԹԱՆՆ

g̕hiba

To complete in Xhosa

ՀՀԹՍՆՆ

k̕huba

To drive in Xhosa



This is a click sound like making an "l" shape in your mouth,
but letting it snap down like a clock tick.

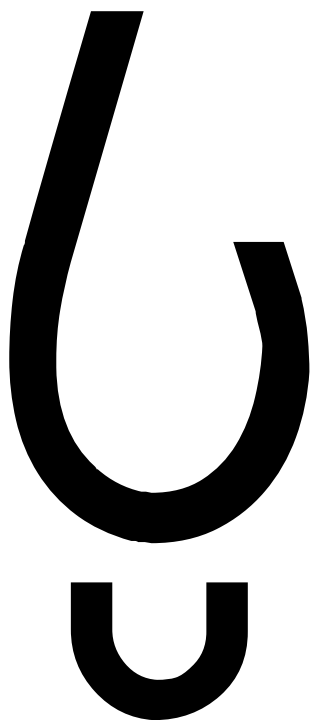
q!hi

q!hola

g!heka

g!huma

To jump in Xhosa



This is a click sound like making sucking sound.

ḙṙḙṙḙ

ṙhore

To prophesize in Khoekhoe

ḙṙḙḙḙ

ṙheta

To be happy in Hadza

ḙṙṙṙṙṙ

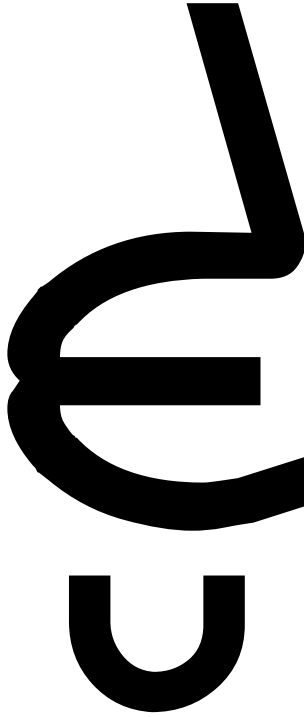
gṙhina

To end in Zulu

ḙṙṙṙṙṙ

gṙhona

To make fun of in Zulu



This is a click sound like making sucking sound with your t shaped mouth.

ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ

kᑭoᑭo

To dream in !Xóǃ

ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ

kᑭôu

Wild cat in !Xóǃ

ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ

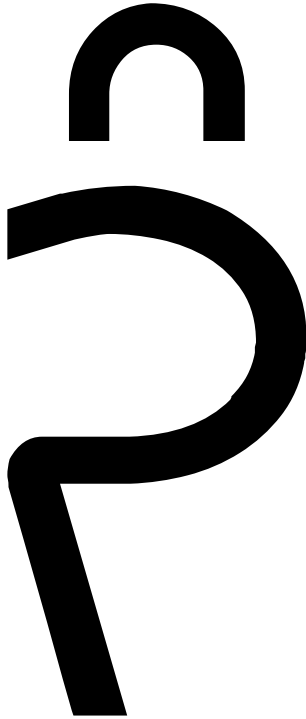
'qᑭaǎje

Tree in !Xóǃ

ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ

gᑭkᑭǎna

To make fire with sticks in !Xóǃ



This is a click sound like making popping sound with your lips.

uhz

u'o

Uh-oh in English

ნების

a'fẹl

Dark in Hebrew

ፎካል

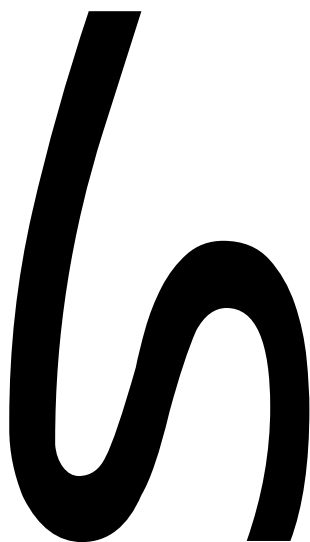
tiv'ii

Natural in Hebrew

ԴՆՆԻՈՒ

ragu'a

Calm in Hebrew



This is the blocking of a sound.

ॡॡॢॣ।

amr

Immortality in Sanskrit

ॢॣॣ

lr

A mother in Sanskrit

ॣॢ।

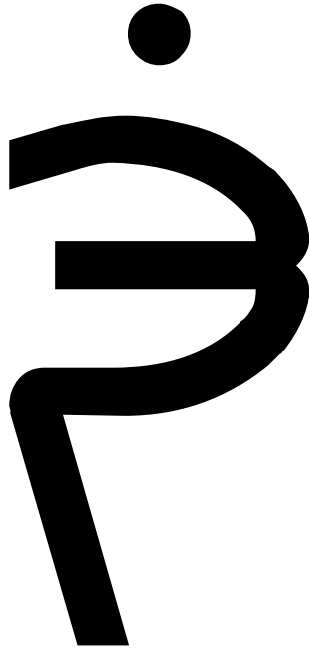
dr

A sight in Sanskrit

ॢ।ॡ

r

A sage in Sanskrit



This is the r sound where you put the tip of your tongue on the highest part of the ridge in the middle of your mouth while you say it. It is the Indian "r" sound.

ሶሀሀ

ruj

Red in French

ፍሩፆሩ

frer

A brother in French

ᐱᓂᓂ

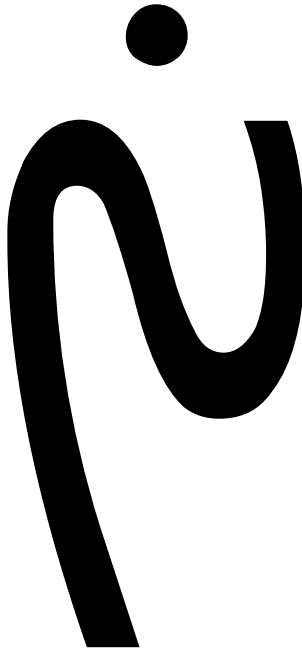
imra

Promise in Hebrew

ሶሀከሶ

ru'ah

Mind in Hebrew



This is the French "r" sound where you make it in the back of your mouth before your throat.

मिमांसा

miimaamsaa

Critical investigation or reflection in Sanskrit

संज्ञा

saṁjnyaa

Perception in Sanskrit

संसार

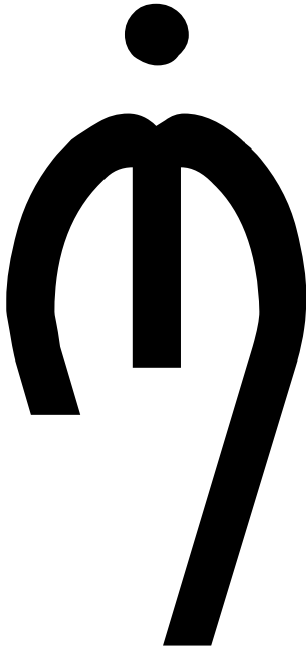
saṁsaara

The world in Sanskrit

अहिंसा

ahimsaa

Nonviolence in Sanskrit



This is the nasal Indian "m" sound.

ज्ञ

ṇa

Knowledge in Sanskrit

ज्जुर्ण

djuurṇi

A blaze in Sanskrit

ननरुर्ण

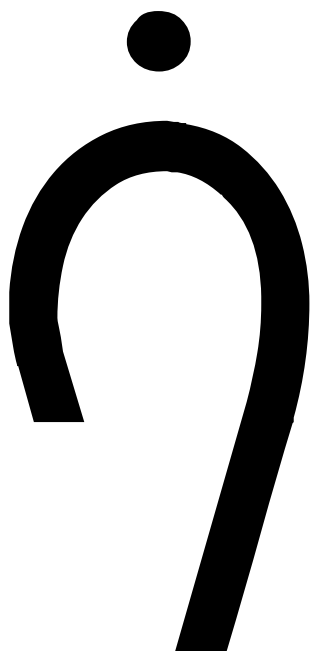
aaraṇa

Depth in Sanskrit

ज्ञा

ṇii

To get in Sanskrit



This is the retroflex Indian "n" sound, where you say the "n" sound with the tip of your tongue high up on the roof of your mouth.

ՆՍԸԹՈՆ

ᵝudha

Holy in Sanskrit

ՆՎՅՆ

ᵝiva

The great god in Sanskrit

ՆԿՆՐ

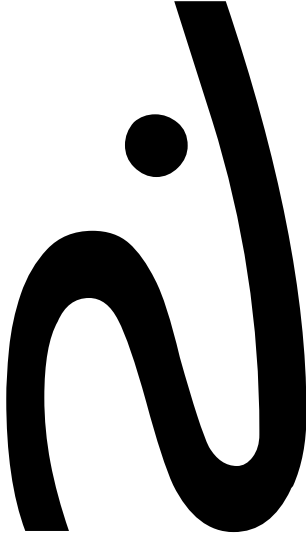
ᵝyâq

Fragrant in Chinese

ՆԿՆՆՆՐ

ᵝyâăâq

To enjoy in Chinese



This is the Chinese or Indian "sh" sound.

अक्ष

akṣa

Sense organ in Sanskrit

अर्खान

arṣaṇa

Moveable in Sanskrit

र

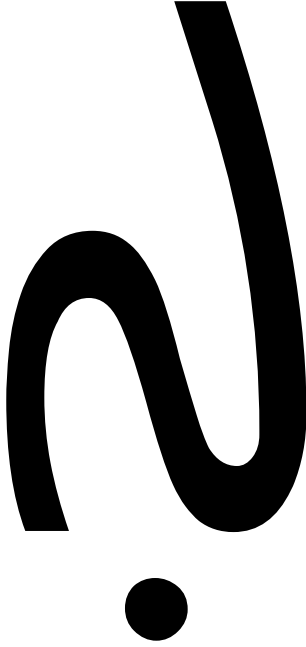
r

To glow in Sanskrit

परुषीश

paruṣīi

A cockroach in Sanskrit



This is the Indian retroflex "sh" sound.

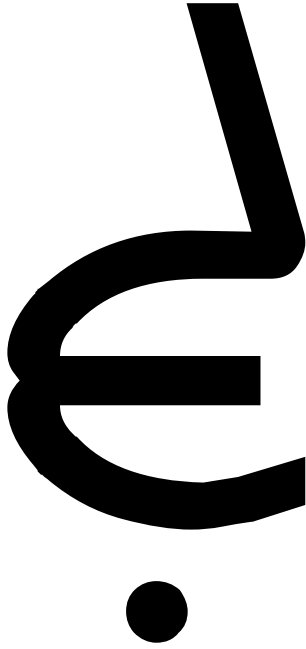
ta

ṭaṭṭura

axti

gox̣thii

A meeting in Sanskrit



This is the Indian retroflex "t" sound.

חַזַּק

ḥaazak

Courage in Hebrew

חַפְּזִי

ḥafer'

To be ashamed in Hebrew

רֶחֶם

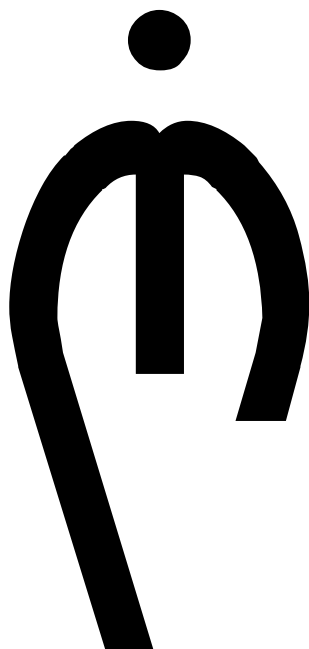
reḥem

Womb in Hebrew

חֶרֶק

ḥerek

Bug in Hebrew



This is the harsh h in Hebrew speech.

ገሠረ

nid

Need in English

ኛሠ

si

See in English

ኛሐጣኞቹ ነፃነት ነፃነት ነፃነት

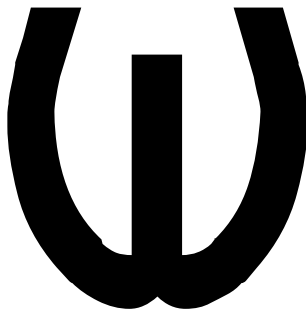
simplisiti

Simplicity in English

ኢሠ

ai

I in English



This is a high English "ee" sound in with the mouth in a smile position.

ԹԷ

he

Hey in English

ԿՏԴԽՐՈՇԿՍՆԷԷ

kungradyulet

Congratulate in English

ՔՆԷ

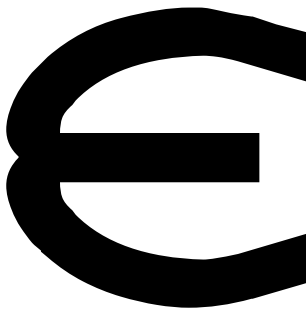
ple

Play in English

ԷԴՇՍՆ

endjl

Angel in English



This is a medium English "ey" sound in with the mouth in a half smile position.

ԹՆՏ

hak

Hawk in English

ՖՆՀՐ

façr

Father in English

ՆՆ

al

All in English

ԷՆՏ

tak

Talk in English

n

This is a deep English "a" sound in with the mouth open in a default position.

ᄇᄃᆫ

bon

Bone in English

ᄃᆫᆫ

onr

Owner in English

ᆫᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃ

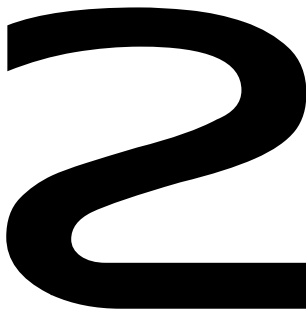
ruport

Report in English

ᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃ

soldjr

Soldier in English



This is a solid English "oh" sound in with the mouth in a circle shape.

სუპ

sup

Soup in English

კულ

kul

Cool in English

პუდლ

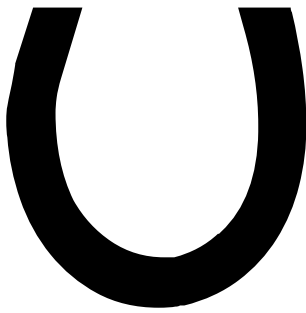
pudl

Poodle in English

დუ

du

Do in English



This is a deep English "uu" sound in with the mouth in a tight circle shape.

ኔጋፎ

bit

bit in English

ኦካ

in

In in English

ክጋጠካጋፍኛካፎ

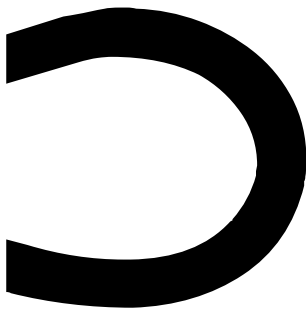
signifuknt

Significant in English

ሠጋካረጊ

windo

Window in English



This is a high but shallow English "ih" sound in with the mouth in a smile position.

ᐅᐅᐅ

pɛt

Pet in English

ᑭᑭᐅᐅᐅ

kᑭᐅᐅᐅ

Credit in English

ᐅᑭᐅ

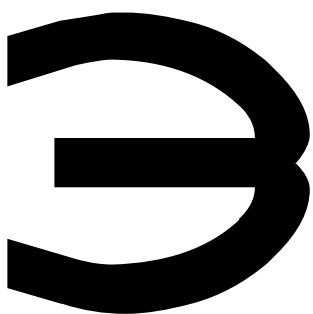
ɛnd

End in English

ᑭᑭᐅᑭ

uᑭᑭ

Again in English



This is a medium English "eh" sound in with the mouth in a half smile position.

ፍባ፣

kəṭ

Cat in English

ፍሌጎፍ

kləṣ

Class in English

ጠባባ

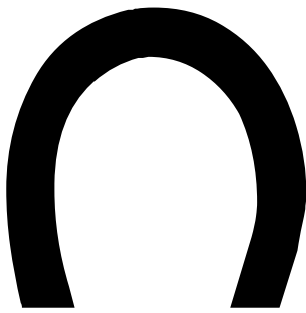
mən

All in English

ጠባ፣

ənt

Ant in English



This is a high English "a" sound in with the mouth open in a default position.

ᐆᓂᓴ

bok

book in English

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ᓂᓴᓂᓴᓂᓴ

Understood in English

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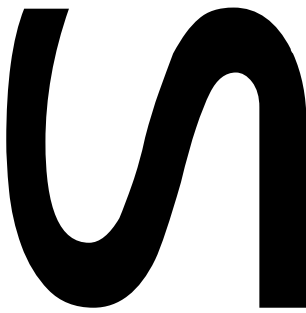
fot

foot in English

ᓴᓂᓴ

pöt

Put in English



This is a pushing English "oo" sound in with the mouth in a circle u shape.

սղժըդաս

սըdrnic

Underneath in English

սբ

սp

Up in English

ոդսհթոնդժս

օսսkhándս

Anaconda in English

թսԷ

հսt

Hut in English

S

This is a shallow English "uh" sound in with the mouth in a relaxed open shape.

İ	Í	Î	Ï	Î	Ï
ı	î	ĩ	í	î	ĩ

€	É	È	È	É	È
e	ê	ě	é	ê	ě

Ɔ	Ć	Č	Č	Ć	Č
a	â	ǎ	á	â	ǎ

Ɔ	Ć	Č	Č	Ć	Č
o	ô	ǒ	ó	ô	ǒ

U	Ú	Û	Ú	Ú	Û
u	û	ů	ú	û	ů

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