

YALA VOWEL

There are seven yala vowel sounds. The first vowel is the letter /a/

Yala Vowel “a” and “ε”

The Yala Vowel “a”

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1. abā | Master |
| 2. atā | Pepper |
| 3. adā | Father |
| 4. akataata | Dancing group |

The Yala vowel sound / ε/

The / ε/ vowel sound is another important vowel sound in yala. This vowel sound is used in the following words

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. yeje | Leopard |
| 2. εji | Boundary |
| 3. εbe | Place |
| 4. εmiye | Mosquito |

The Yala vowels “I” and “ɔ”

The vowel / ɔ/

This sound of the symbols is found in the yala word “ɔga” meaning male name. This is the same sound as in the English words: ball, all, caught, hawk. The / ɔ/ vowel is pronounce in English as /or/ example /order/ and /ordain/.

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1. ɔgɔdɔ | Walking stick |
| 2. ɔrɔ | Soup |
| 3. ɔlɔɔbahe | Gun |
| 4. ɔchwɔle | Chief |
| 5. ɔkɔ | Neck |
| 6. wɔgɔ | Hawk |
| 7. yenɔ | Sun |

The sound in yala is similar to the following sound found in English language awful, caught, and sought.

The vowel / i/

The vowel sound /i/ is similar to me, see, eat and beat in English.

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|-------------|-----------|
| 1. Ihí | Yam |
| 2. Ichi | To suffer |
| 3. Ich'ichi | Tomorrow |
| 4. Market | lihī |

The vowels /o/ and /ɔ/

The vowel /o/ and /ɔ/ are different vowels in yala

Examples of “o” vowel sound

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|--------------|----------------|
| 1. Oko | Parrot |
| 2. Okpoo | Money |
| 3. Oromu | Orange |
| 4. Ororigo | Praying mantis |
| 5. Ogo | Calabash |
| 6. Okojo | Man's name |
| 7. Obijo | Cane rat |
| 8. Obubu | Dust |
| 9. obri'bri' | Basket |

Examples of vowel sound /ɔ/

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. ɔ'gɔ'dɔ' | Walking stick |
| 2. ɔrɔ' | Soup |
| 3. ɔlɔ'ɔbahe | Gun |
| 4. ɔchwɔle | Chief |
| 5. ɔkɔ' | Neck |
| 6. wɔgɔ' | Hawk |
| 7. yenɔ | Sun |
| 8. ɔchi | Tree |
| 9. ɔwɔ | God |
| 10. ɔne | Evening |

The Yala vowel /e/ and /ɛ/

The sound /e/ and /ɛ/ is not separated in English. But in Yala it is written separately to make it easier to read.

Example of vowel “e” in yala

1. Yēkpē Bottle
2. Yeje' Brukutu/brickity
3. ehe' No

The two vowel sound /e/ and /ɛ/ can be contradicting in some words like:

1. eje Beans
2. yeje Tears
3. ɛje Male name
4. yɛje Leopard

Summary on the seven (7) vowel sounds in Yala

Vowel	Yala word	English word
a	as in ábagalā	Fishing net
i	as in ihí	Yam
e	as in eje	Beans
ɛ	as in Yɛhe	A community in Yala
o	as in ogorigo	Praying mantis
ɔ	as in wɔrɔ̄	Ear
u	as in unu	Fight

The capital letter for /o/, /e/, /ɔ/ and /ɛ/ are written /O/, /E/, /ɔ/ and /ɛ/ respectively