

4.10.3 Vowels

The basic features for vowels (shown in table 4.9 by the basic IPA symbols rather than the diacritics) are [round], [high], [low], [front], and [back]. [labial] is predictable, occurring only in [+round] vowels. All other features are invariant; unless overridden by a diacritic, all vowels are [+syllabic, –consonantal, +sonorant, +continuant, 0delayed release, +approximant, –tap, –trill, –nasal, +voice, –spread glottis, –constricted glottis, –labiodental, –coronal, 0anterior, 0distributed, 0strident].

Table 4.9 Vowels

	high tense						high lax			mid tense					
	i	y	ɨ	ʉ	ɯ	u	ɪ	ʏ	ʊ	e	ø	ɘ	ɵ	ɤ	o
[high]	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	–	–	–	–	–	–
[low]	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
[tense]	+	+	+	+	+	+	–	–	–	+	+	+	+	+	+
[front]	+	+	–	–	–	–	+	+	–	+	+	–	–	–	–
[back]	–	–	–	–	+	+	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	+	+
[round]	–	+	–	+	–	+	–	+	+	–	+	–	+	–	+

	mid lax						low				
	ɛ	œ	ə	ɜ	ʌ	ɔ	æ	œ	a	ɑ	ɒ
[high]	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
[low]	–	–	–	–	–	–	+	+	+	+	+
[tense]	–	–	–	–	–	–	0	0	0	0	0
[front]	+	+	–	–	–	–	+	+	–	–	–
[back]	–	–	–	–	+	+	–	–	–	+	+
[round]	–	+	–	+	–	+	–	+	–	–	+