

# Kyeze - A Language Reference

Version 2.0

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## Phonology:

	Bilabial	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Nasals	m	n	ny		
Stops	p b	t d	c gy	k g	
Affricates			ch j		
Fricatives	f v	s z			h'
Liquids		r	y	w	

	Front	Central	Back
High	i		u
Mid	e	û	o
Low		a	

### Abbreviation Key:

C = Consonant

N = Nasal

O = Obstruent

S = Stop

V = Vowel

Stress: Second Syllable (with exceptions)

If the first syllable is OV, it may be stressed (if it originally began with a nasal)

If the first syllable is ONV, it must be stressed

Syllable Shape: CV (with exceptions)

CVS is an option before plosive sounds

ONV is an option as first syllable

CVC is available for last syllable of some polysyllabic words, provided the last C is not a nasal.

All sounds voiced between vowels

[k], [c] and [w] palatalize to [ch] and [y] before [i] ([j] is used between vowels so [ch] can only exist at the start of a word)

[a] is [û] when unstressed and before a nasal

No vowels between stops [CVS] before [SV]

CVSVSV -> CVSSV

Diphthongs exist too, mainly with vowels and [w]

Syntax:

Subject-Verb-Object

Noun-Adjective

Noun-Postposition

Possessee-Possessor

Auxiliary-Verb

Grammar

	Imperfective	Perfective
Past	“yu” + verb	“kyo” + verb
Present	Unmarked	
Almost Done	“o” + verb	
Future	“so” + verb	

Plural: -makyu (sound changes usually shift it to just -gy although -gyu may occur on rare occasions like monosyllables)

Active: unmarked

Passive: “yu” + verb

Causative: “ni” + verb

Phonological History:

- 1) Fricatives voiced between vowels
- 2) k and w palatalized to c and y before i
- 3) Vowels lost between stops
- 4) uu becomes u: and diphthongs appear
- 5) a becomes ə [û] before nasals
- 6) hr becomes r
- 7) c becomes ch before i
- 8) Word-initial h lost
- 9) Unstressed vowel loss between nasals and obstruents
- 10) Nasals lost before obstruents
- 11) Stops and affricates voiced between vowels
- 12) Polysyllabic word-final unstressed vowel loss
- 13) Word-final nasal loss; compensatory lengthening of preceding vowel

Dictionary:

**a:** to fail  
**aba:** to hope  
**abi:** to make  
**abid:** to shelter-make/build  
**abit:** to catch fire/create fire  
**abo:** to harm  
**ade:** stone; pebble  
**adeh':** dice  
**adō:** fingernail/toenail  
**ado:** word  
**adogy:** name  
**age:** nose  
**agya:** cold  
**ah'e:** water  
**ah'egy:** sky  
**ah'egy:** rain  
**ah'egy:** river  
**aji:** to say  
**aji:** quiet  
**aro:** to find  
**aroz:** to learn  
**azi:** foot  
**azimûû:** rabbit foot; good fortune  
**chi:** unclear  
**chira:** voice  
**chive:** short (height)  
**eba:** new, strange, exciting  
**ebo:** darkness  
**ebogy:** dusk/dawn  
**ebogy:** dark night; new moon  
**ebi:** to listen to  
**egyu:** robe  
**eh'a:** to prepare  
**eh'i:** hot  
**ejj:** to mock  
**enyo:** shadow  
**evi:** tall  
**evo:** to bring  
**ewa:** arm

**ewo:** to save  
**ewu:** to climb  
**eya:** to cut  
**eyah'ikch:** to write  
**eyi:** clay  
**eza:** ear  
**fe:** they  
**fih'a:** outlandish, strange  
**firi:** to run  
**firiid:** to shake (ground)  
**fnyi:** to attack  
**foyi:** to look like/resemble  
**h'i:** skin  
**h'i:** perfect  
**h'iyazwaroz:** to teach (notice: stress first syllable)  
**h'o:** to choose  
**i-:** object  
**ide:** to hide  
**iey:** knife  
**ieyah'ikch:** cactus knife  
**ieyah'ikkyky:** stylus  
**iga:** horizon  
**igaj:** cactus  
**igu:** loud  
**ih'ev:** sandstorm  
**ih'ev:** bringer  
**ih'iv:** campfire  
**ih'oj:** sender  
**ih'okykyah'ikch:** dart blower  
**ima:** to put  
**ime:** brave/valiant  
**imegy:** nothing  
**imu:** to sense/feel  
**imūg:** to taste  
**imuh'ag:** to smell  
**imwez:** to hear  
**inyi:** person  
**inyikyu:** tribe  
**ior:** info/intel

**iorāj:** secret  
**iow:** sundial  
**ira:** hard  
**ite:** beneath  
**ivu:** to cook  
**iwoy:** stool  
**iya:** to see/look at  
**iyaz:** spear  
**iyazwaroz:** to train  
**iyi:** protective  
**iyī:** boot  
**iyih'ikch:** cactus glove  
**iyinyumûmō:** scorpion boot  
**izi:** leather  
**izi:** bag  
**izi:** afraid  
**iziah':** waterskin  
**izu:** true/real  
**kaji:** to sting (cactus)  
**kayi:** food  
**kayigy:** feast  
**ko:** dune  
**ko:** to want  
**ko:** big  
**kogy:** mountain  
**kmi:** short (length)  
**-kya:** small  
**kya:** empty  
**kyah'ikch:** cactus poker  
**-kye:** strong  
**kye:** world  
**kyeji:** rope  
**kyeze:** tongue, language  
**kymōzeoragygy:** great golden light  
**kymo-:** X-colored  
**kymō:** tan  
**kymoh'ikch:** green  
**kymomeb:** blue  
**kymowy:** gray  
**kymowyioragy:** golden

**kymowz:** black  
**kymoy:** brown  
**kymu:** blind  
**kyna:** line  
**kynār:** tracks  
**kyna:** to plan  
**kyna:** before  
**kyo:** to come  
**kyu:** to believe  
**kyu:** many  
**kyuri:** long  
**kyuwe:** peace  
**ma:** creature  
**mado:** pet, animal companion  
**māh':** plant (creature of the water)  
**māh'ezed:** medicine  
**maid:** creature who hides (small shrew-like animal that hides in the sand)  
**mawgy:** creature that drags (sand predator who drags prey into its mouth with tentacles)  
**mawûû:** pack animal  
**monye:** to sting (scorpion)  
**mowo:** to serve  
**mûmō:** scorpion  
**mûnyi:** rabbit  
**muro:** to lead  
**muyu:** to be able to  
**na:** to be  
**nere:** mute  
**ni:** to give  
**niah':** to water-give  
**no:** soft  
**nonu:** to burn  
**nu:** he/she/it  
**nuna:** hand  
**nuna:** sad  
**nyi:** to hop  
**nyiya:** to know  
**nyu:** sand

**nyuh'ir:** sandstone  
**o:** to approach  
**o:** to  
**ode:** source  
**oh'i:** finger  
**oji:** to send  
**ojigy:** to throw  
**ojigyeh'iyaz:** to cast (spear)  
**onotky:** air  
**onu:** mean  
**ora:** light  
**oragy:** star  
**ore:** deaf  
**owa:** moment of time  
**owaboy:** day  
**owaboyugy:** holiday  
**owarûû:** journey  
**owawy:** night  
**owe:** to lead  
**owe:** in front of/before  
**oyi:** to eat  
**oza:** old  
**oze:** stone  
**oze:** simple  
**ozeoragy:** gold  
**ози:** wrong/false  
**pi:** head  
**pi:** to hate  
**poyu:** bright  
**ra:** to walk  
**ragyo:** wrong  
**rechi:** face  
**ri:** unclear  
**rimo:** joint  
**rimoew:** shoulder  
**rimoewah'ikch:** shoulder cover  
**riru:** complicated  
**rivi:** to feel  
**riviragy:** to regret  
**rizo:** to leave

**rizo:** from  
**rugô:** leg  
**rugy:** to have  
**rûme:** to break  
**rûnyu:** to travel  
**rûnyu:** across  
**ruve:** calm  
**sa:** story  
**sagye:** myth; legend; ancient epic  
**sah'oj:** message  
**sede:** chest  
**sedi:** to heal  
**sevo:** to live/come alive  
**si:** to hold  
**sieb:** to hold the darkness  
**sigye:** to keep  
**sih'iorāj:** to secret-keep; to deceive  
**siragy:** to be wrong  
**siuw:** to be correct  
**sma:** to drink  
**snu:** mind  
**snu:** to stand  
**snu:** similar, like-minded  
**snu:** at  
**snyo:** sick, ill, in bad straits  
**so:** to go  
**su:** you-all  
**subu:** confused  
**suyo:** good/just  
**suyu:** to think/suggest  
**ta:** rock  
**ta:** to carry/wear  
**tayo:** desperate  
**tazah'oj:** to message-send (could be used in modern times for texting?)  
**tazu:** kind  
**te:** shelter  
**te:** to help  
**tegu:** to start  
**teh'agy:** temple/chieftain's hut

**tmamō:** scorpion den  
**tme:** fire  
**tmeg:** lava  
**tnyi:** eye  
**to:** to follow  
**to:** rain cloud  
**tō:** sandstorm cloud  
**to:** behind  
**to:** we  
**togy:** storm (regular, not sandstorm)  
**uga:** mouth  
**ugya:** to drag  
**uh'a:** pride  
**ûma:** to stop  
**ûmat:** to quench  
**ûmu:** one  
**ûmu:** sun  
**umu:** angry  
**unyi:** flesh  
**unyimûû:** rabbit hide  
**ûnyo:** to capture  
**ûnyojj:** to bind  
**ûnyoky:** round about  
**uve:** heart  
**uvo:** to fall  
**uvu:** person  
**uvud:** priest or second to the chief  
**uvudazah'oj:** messenger  
**uvugy:** believer/follower of a faith  
**uvuh'abid:** shelter maker; skilled person  
**uvuh'abit:** One Who Catches Fire  
**uvuh'iv:** cook  
**uvuh'iyazwaroz:** trainee; apprentice  
**uvumur:** chief  
**uvuniah':** water giver; kind person  
**uvuowe:** chief  
**uvurûû:** traveler  
**uvūvo:** fallen warrior; spirit  
**uvuvī/uvuv:** attacker  
**uvuy:** defender

**uvuyaz:** hunter  
**uvuyazugy:** Great Hunter  
**uvuyiy:** storyteller/worldsinger  
**uvuz:** guard  
**uvuzieb:** Wielder of Darkness  
**uvuzih'iorāj:** Deceiver  
**uvwar:** finder/scavenger  
**uvwew:** climber  
**uwa:** to disagree with  
**uwo:** correct  
**uyi:** dark  
**uza:** moon  
**uzayib:** taboo; nightmare  
**uze:** obsidian (stone)  
**va:** the ground  
**va:** weak  
**weh'e:** to work  
**wo:** I/me  
**woyu:** to sit  
**woyu:** in  
**wûnu:** to obey  
**ya:** dead bush  
**yawu:** to dwell/reside/live  
**yazu:** to hunt  
**ye:** you  
**yebi:** to need  
**yeze:** full  
**yi:** to defend  
**yiba:** bad  
**yigo:** to look for  
**yinyi:** solid, stern  
**yivi:** toe  
**yiya:** to recount  
**yiwigy:** to teach  
**yoh'i:** tumultuous  
**yu:** to do  
**yu:** to take  
**yuh'e:** happy  
**yumi:** to agree with  
**zi:** to ask