

Ambu

Auxiliary Language
Handbook

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April 2018

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Abstract

Ambu is my latest constructed language (conlang) project, in the form of an 'auxiliary' language. Its goals are to be minimal and subsequently easily spoken, understood, and adoptable by anyone of any language. It is *a priori*, meaning its concepts & lexicon are not based upon pre-existing language. However, I have noticed some Germanic/Italic influences slipping in!

This handbook serves as its only grammatical guide, in testimony to its minimalistic approach.

Started in April, 2018.

*Phonology & Orthography

Alphabet

Vowel	IPA
i	/i/
e	/ɛ/
a	/a/
o	/ɒ/
u	/u/
q	/ə/

Loan	IPA
j	/j/

Consonant	IPA
m	/m/
n	/n/
t	/t/
d	/d/
k	/k/
p	/p/
b	/b/
s	/s/
z	/z/
w	/w/

The full alphabet is therefore:

i e a o u q m n t d k p b s z w (j)

Writing

- The initial of a sentence is a capital.
- The initial of a proper-noun is a capital.
- Sentences finish with a period (.), or question mark (?) if a question, or exclamation mark (!) if an exclamation.
- A comma (,) separates clauses.
- Vowels of double length are duplicated, e.g. aa.

*Loan Words

*Morphology

CVCV, VCCV

VmnV

*Features

Pronouns

Person	Glossary	English	Ambu Pronoun
1st	1	I	i
2nd	2	you	e
3rd	3	them/they	a
reflexive	0	self	o
1st + 2nd	1+2	we/us (inclusive)	ie
1st + 3rd	1+3	we/us (exclusive)	ia
2nd + 3rd	2+3	them+you	ea
other	0s	each other	u

Suffixes

Suffix	Glossary	Ambu Pronoun Suffix
of (possessive)	-p	-n
plural	-s	-s
possessive plural	-ps	-ns

Copulas

Tense	Glossary	Ambu Copula
past	[past]	si
present	[pres]	sa
future	[futu]	su

Suffixes

Suffix	Glossary	Ambu Copula Suffix
negative	-(!)	-n

Tense Markers

Tense	Glossary	Ambu Tense Marker
past	(past)	ni
present	(pres)	na
future	(futu)	nu
ever	(ever)	no
forever	(cont)	ne

Articles

English	Glossary	Ambu Article
this (near me)	{ 1x }	pi
that/it/those (near you)	{ 2x }	pe
this/these (near us)	{ 1x2 }	pie
that/it/those (away from us)	{ 3x }	pa
a/an	{ 1def }	po
the	{ def }	pu

Suffixes

Suffix	Glossary	Ambu Article Suffix
of (possessive)	-p	-p

I Descriptors

Question	Glossary	Ambu Question
what	?what	fi
which	?which	fin
where	?where	fe
when	?when	fen
how	?how	fa
why	?why	fan
who	?who	fo
how much	?much	fu
how many	?many	fun

'Who' encompasses animate or once animate beings.

| *Spacials & Chronologicals

Spacials

Travel

here sti	anywhere stie nowhere stien	there ste
source stin	→	destination sten
↑ up sta	● stop stan	↓ down sto
away stu	continue stun → across stuq through stqu	toward stq

Position

in front ski adjacent/beside sku	above ska in skua out skqa	behind ske opposite skq
on/over spa	below/under sko	off spo
left spi	middle/between spu	right spe
beyond swe near/close swq	among spq with swi	around swa far swu

***Chronologicals**

up to now, up to X

eventually

previously

now

later

once, X

since

until

again

while/as, meanwhile, amid

then

consequently

instantly

whenever

during

suddenly

shortly

firstly, Xly

finally

start

finish

<http://www.smart-words.org/linking-words/transition-words.html>

*Chronospacials

Chronospacial	Glossary	Ambu Chronospacial
before, previous	@before	
after, next	@after	

| *Conditionals

if, if not

should, could, would

can, can't

as long as

| *Numbers

| *Measurements

some

all

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/wordlist/time.shtml>

*Grammar

| *Word Order

Genre

- Adjectives follow the noun/verb they describe.

*Features

Feature	Order
Pronoun	pronoun noun
Copula	X copula Y
Tense Marker	sentence/verb tense-marker
Article	article noun/adjective/verb
Descriptor	noun/verb/adjective descriptor
Spacial	(pronoun) spacial noun
Chronological	

Compounds

compound nouns, verbs, adjectives

| *Word structure

*Adjective Superlatives

| Sentence Structure

Question Asking

When asking a question, the possible statement is made (e.g. Are you hungry? Is rather You are hungry?), and the final vowel of words within inquiry is double length. The glossary for a word within inquiry is -?.

Imperative

When declaring an imperative, the possible statement is made (e.g. You clean the bath!).

Verb Transitivity

All verbs can be used transitively (with an object), in which their carrying out is applied to a supplied object (e.g. She sang him, He grew the plant, It rains the car).

*Examples

English	Glossary	Ambu
Peter walks.	Peter walk	Piter ambi.
... is walking.	... walk (pres)	... ambi na.
... walked.	... walk (past)	... ambi ni.
... will walk.	... walk (futu)	... ambi nu.
... is tall.	... [pres] tall	... sa anto.
... was tall.	... [past] tall	... si anto.
... will be tall.	... [futu] tall	... su anto.
The rabbit falls.	{ def } rabbit fall	Pu bune wine.
... is falling.	... fall [pres]	... wine na.
... did not fall.	... fall(!) (past)	... winen ni.
Hello, my name is Patrick.	hello, 1p name [pres] Patrick	Hai, in nama sa Patrik.
Oh, sorry, I didn't know this seat was yours.	oh, sorry, 1 know(!) { 1x } seat [past] 2p	O, hei, i mimin pi bume si en.
It's mine now.	{ 1x } [pres] 1p (pres)	Pi sa in na.
It wasn't ever mine.	{ 1x } [past](!) 1p (ever)	Pi sin in no.

English	Glossary	Ambu
Where are you running?	2 run ?where?	E anbi fee?
The rabbits will eat themselves.	{ def} rabbit(s) eat 0 (futu)	Pu bunes amni o nu.
The rabbits didn't eat each other.	{ def} rabbit(s) eat(!) 0s (past)	Pu bunes amnin ou ni.
They are the dogs who saw us.	3 {def} dog(s) is ?who see 1+3 (past)	U pu kunas sa fo unti ia ni.
The tall one won't eat.	{ def} tall eat(!) (futu)	Pu anto amnin nu.
Have all the leaves fallen from the tree?	{ def} leaf(s) all? fall { def} @from tree	Pu tepas biboo wine pu ti tebu?
You've grown since I last saw you.	2 grow @since	

*Lexicon

Suffixes

Genre	Speciality	Ambu Lexicon Suffix
Verb (v)	By animation	-i
Verb (v)	By nature/physics	-e
Verb (v)	Negative	-in/en
Adjective (a)		-o
Adjective (a)	Negative	-on
Noun (n)		-a/u
Noun (n)	Negative	-an/un
Noun (n)	Plural	-as/us
Noun (n)	Plural negative	-ans/uns

Nouns derived from verbs will generally transform from -i to -a, -e to -u.

*Ambu to English

	Ambu	English
n	amba	walk, journey
v	ambi	walk
v	amna	meal
n	amnu	food
v	amni	eat
v	amsi	feed
a	anto	tall
n	baku	sentence
a	bibo	all
n	dewa	home
n	kaka	madness
v	kaki	angry, mad
a	kako	mad
n	kuna	dog
v	kuni	bark
a	memo	less
a	momo	more
n	nama	name
v	nami	name
a	namo	named

n	paka	work
v	paki	work
n	pepa	gift
v	pepi	give
n	saba	hello
n	tebu	tree
n	teda	interest
a	tedo	interesting
n	tepa	leaf
n	tika	desire, want
v	tiki	want
n	unta	vista, view
v	unti	see
v	wine	fall
a	wino	fallen
n	winu	fall

English to Ambu

English	Ambu	
all	bibo	a
angry, mad	kaki	v
bark	kuni	v
desire, want	tika	n
dog	kuna	n
eat	amni	v
fall	wine	v
fall	winu	n
fallen	wino	a
gift	pepa	n
give	pepi	v
hello	saba	n
home	dewa	n
interest	teda	n
interesting	tedo	a
leaf	tepa	n
less	memo	a
mad	kako	a
madness	kaka	n
meal	amna	v
more	momo	a

name	nama	n
name	nami	v
named	namo	a
see	unti	v
sentence	baku	n
tall	anto	a
tree	tebu	n
vista, view	unta	n
walk	ambi	v
walk, journey	amba	n
want	tiki	v
work	paka	n
work	paki	v

I *Proper Nouns

*Glossary

Copula

Phonology

Orthography

Loan

Lexicon

IPA

Online

My email: phun@pm.me

More works: github.com/phunanon/conlangs

Conlanging community: reddit.com/r/conlangs