



mini-language
handbook

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0. Introduction

ki is a constructed language, described oligosynthetic, with the primary goal of being the fastest-to-speak language in the world. I have taken care to keep the language easy-to-learn, with a small grammar. This handbook helps learners, and is essentially an abridged version of the documentation. Always looking for feedback on lexicon!

Email: phun@pm.me

Works: github.com/phunanon/conlangs

Community: reddit.com/r/conlangs

Dedicated to: [Mikhailah Yap Rañada](#)



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0. Introduction.....	2
1. Alphabet & Script.....	4
2. Sentence Construction.....	6

1. Alphabet & Script

- It is important to memorise the numeric values of the alphabet

1.1. Consonants

#	Ch	IPA	#	Ch	IPA
0	p	/p/	8	b	/b/
1	t	/t/	9	d	/d/
2	k	/k/	A	g	/g/
3	f	/f/	B	v	/v/
4	r	/θ/	C	x	/ð/
5	s	/s/	D	z	/z/
6	c	/ʃ/	E	j	/ʒ/
7	w	/w/	F	l	/l/

1.2. Vowels

#	Ch	IPA	#	Ch	IPA
0	i i	/i/	8	ii í	/í/
1	y y	/e/	9	yy ì	/é/
2	e e	/ε/	A	ee é	/É/
3	a a	/a/	B	aa á	/á/
4	q q	/o/	C	qq ò	/ó/
5	o o	/ɔ/	D	oo ó	/ó/
6	u u	/u/	E	uu ú	/ú/
7	h h	/ə/	F	hh ù	/á/

1.3. Native Script

- Each native character represents either a consonant or a vowel

pi ɥ	rq ɤ	bii ɭ	xqq ʋ
ty ʋ	so ɤ	dyy ɭ	zoo ʋ
ke ɭ	cu ɤ	gee ɭ	juu ʋ
fa ʋ	wh ʋ	vaa ʋ	lhh ʋ

2. Sentence Construction

Constructing a sentence has a strict pattern of nouns, verbs, and adjectives:

... (noun) noun (adj) verb, (adj) noun ...

It is recommended that a comma is placed after verbs.

Words in parenthesis are optional. Example 2.1:

I eat food

I eat, food

pi cu, cu

Notice how <cu> can be both "eat" and "food" - this is because it is following the pattern of {noun verb noun}.

All words in ki begin with the consonants <p> through to <w>. However, when we want to use the optional part of a pattern, we use the other half of the alphabet. E.g. <p> becomes , <t> becomes <d>, <s> becomes <z>.

- Notice how most of these changes are from "unvoiced" consonants to "voiced" consonants - try saying each pair and how they differ!
- Refer to Table 1.1. Consonants

Example 2.2:

█	Food becomes cold
█	food become, 'cold
█	cu tú, zù

"cold" as a noun is <sù>, but it became <zù> to act as an adjective.

- Notice that an apostrophe - e.g. ['cold] - is used to denote optional parts of the pattern

If you have this inflection more than once in a row, it continues the optional part of the pattern. Example 2.3:

Food becomes easily cold

food become, 'cold 'easy

cu tú, zù gá

Because both <sù> “cold” and <ká> “easy” have been inflected to <zù> and <gá>, at this part of the pattern, both are adjectives.

- Notice how adjectives follow the noun, and other adjectives, they describe.

The pattern repeats until a period, or a pause between sentences. Of repeating, Example 2.4:

I watched a teacher who teaches cooking

I watch, 'past person-education teach cooking

pi fí, dó xira ra, ch

{noun verb, (adj) noun noun verb, noun} is the pattern employed here.

- Notice how two nouns can sometimes have a compound meaning, and are wrote together: "person education" becomes "teacher"
- Notice how <ra> is both "education" and "teach". Many words in ki have very related noun, verb, and adjective meanings

Example 2.5 shows a complex pattern:

I met a little village girl who says hello
I meet, 'past female 'house-house 'little
say, hello
pi ry, dó rh vúfú za ki, py

Here, “female 'house-house” make up a {noun (noun) noun} part of the pattern.

[house-house] <vúfú> is a Multi-Root meaning “village”, and notice how, in order to construct it, we had to use the optional noun part of the pattern. Learning how to do this fluently is important to speaking ki.

This example also illustrates an adjective after a noun - [meet 'past"].