

ightharpoonup imes imes

9 /p/	CL) 6 /b/	o /g/	1 d /d/	2 r /r/	√ t t /t/
4	ß	6	le	2	\forall
X k /k/	1 f /f/	5 h* /h/	X	(1) y /j/) m /m/
7	П	5	X	е	9
n /n/]-//	5 > />/	∫ j /dʒ/	-L z /z/	5 /s/
8	N	ঠ	Ne	L	Ž

^{^ &#}x27;áká ọṣọ' nọ na okpuru || ^ 'áká ọṣọ' (quickhand) is underneath

mkpuru ákágu ne enweghi áká oso || akagu without quickhand letters (diagraphs)

gb /gb/	gw /gw/	ch /tʃ/	% % %	½ , kw /kw/	mm /əm/	nn /ən/
nw /ŋʷ/	7 ny /ɲ/	\$h /\$/	4 × /3/	9h /Y/	hnw /n̥w/	## /ŋ/

nnòmi jiri /a/ || example of diacritics using /a/

¥	4°	ぜ	Y .	ЬК
á	à	à	а	ā
/ɑ1/	/a\/	/a/	/p/	/ɑʔ/

a /a/	e /ε/	H = /4/	& - ≥	° /o/
Y	1	H	e	\bigcirc
(aa) /a:/	ਵ (ee) /e:/	(uu) /u:/	(ii) /i:/	(00) /0:/

*àkpàti òkpòntụ zịrị nà ó nwẹrẹ ólú ne jeghạlí || grey boxes indicate tonality

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ogìdì ákágụ | akagu ligatures

√% hny /nj/	45 ea /3/	ie /iɛ/
uo /uɔ/	ao /a:w/	io /jɔ/
ue /uɛ/	eu /#/	ae /æ/

The akagu script is an alphabet used for the writing of the Igbo language and was developed from the nsibidi writing system in 2010. Akagu is composed of graphemes that were created to best suit the majority of phonemes in the Igbo language. Because there is no perfect writing system, akagu had gone through a series of renovations; it was originally a syllabary which was scraped due to its cumbersome nature. Akagu's rules are to be taught in this document for the benefit of Igbo speakers and writers. The rules themselves are half of the effectivity of the whole writing system and are therefore very important. The most significant difference between akagu and the Latin alphabet Igbo currently uses is that akagu will be able to be used alongside the ancient indigenous semi-logographic script known popularly as nsibidi, but among Igbo speakers as nsibiri. The nsibiri logographs can be used interchangeably with akagu for words, this allows users to easily identify the semantics of a word in a language that has multiple homonyms. This tutorial is designed primarily for Igbo speakers who already have a grasp of the current Igbo orthographies.

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The akagu alphabet works like most alphabets in the sense that each character represents a sound and is written from left to right. The fundamental difference with akagu is that it uses superscript (e.g A®) and vertical ligatures to indicate vowel assimilation, whether fully or partially. For example if you were to write 'rihe' to mean "eat something", a transliteration of akagu would be 'rie'he' meaning the same thing but with the two words being easily identifiable. Other example are "your ones" 'which would be hkèúnù', or "know a name" which would be 'måáhà'. As you can see the completely assimilating vowel is usually in the beginning of the second word and all the letters still retain their diacritics (tone indicators). With the ligatures, the vowel is always under the

previous consonant to show that the particular assimilating vowel has been modified with the assimilated as well as taking the assimilated letter out of the concentration of the main line of writing.

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Diacritics are used to show the intonation of a word. The marks used in akagu include the upward sloping line on the left side of the letter which indicates a high tone; the opposite is the downward sloping line on the letter which is on the right side of the letter which indicates a low tone. The upward facing 45° angle on the right indicates a high nasal tone, the downward is low nasal, and the 125° right facing angle is a mid or normal nasal tone. The markers can be used with any of the letters in the chart that is in a grey box.

Ш

There are also the vowels shown on the lower side of the chart that feature two bars at the top. These are long vowels, and for the 'o', there is a sperate character indicating the long 'o' vowel. The long vowel are vowels held for more than one beat such as the 'oo' in 'moor'. These characters can have two diacritics on them, the rising line, and the dipping line.

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Quick-hand akagu (under the main characters) are akagu specifically to be used with the Igbo language, while the larger characters shown above the quick-hand akagu is used for non-grammatical words like exclamations, noises, and other sounds not related to specific words; it is also used for non-Igbo languages. The two were made in order for Igbo and non-Igbo

words to be easily distinguishable. One of the key differences is that the quick hand doesn't feature bars at the ends of its tips.



The ligatures work just like other ligatures; they are two letters with two different sounds in the combined as the same letter, the difference in akagu is that they are vertical. They are used only with quick-hand, or Igbo akagu. The ligatures are for the ease of reading by reducing the amount of letters the user has to skim over. They are simply two letters that should be read as the two letters, the difference is that they have been compressed into a smaller space. The ligatures are learnt because they are combined to form specific sounds that would not be easily identifiable if not taught. These sounds are not represented by any single letter in akagu.



