

Vai (2010 version)

Syllables

English	Latin	IPA	English	Latin	IPA	English	Latin	IPA
e	e	/e/	i	i	/i/	a	a	/a/
ẽ	ẽ	/ẽ/	ĩ	ĩ	/ĩ/	ã	ã	/ã/
he	he	/hɛ/	hi	hi	/hi/	ha	ha	/ha/
			hĩ	hĩ	/hĩ/	hã	hã	/hã/
we	we	/wɛ/	wi	wi	/wi/	wa	wa	/wa/
wẽ	wẽ	/wẽ/	wĩ	wĩ	/wĩ/	wã	wã	/wã/
pe	pe	/pɛ/	pi	pi	/pi/	pa	pa	/pa/
be	be	/bɛ/	bi	bi	/bi/	ba	ba	/ba/
be	be	/bɛ/	bi	bi	/bi/	ba	ba	/ba/
mbe	mbe	/mbɛ/	m6i	m6i	/m6i/	m6a	m6a	/m6a/
kpe	kpe	/kpɛ/	kpi	kpi	/kpi/	kpa	kpa	/kpa/
						kpã	kpã	/kpã/
mgbe	mgbe	/mgɛ/	mgbi	mgbi	/mgbi/	mgba	mgba	/mgba/
gbe	gbe	/gbɛ/	gbi	gbi	/gbi/	gba	gba	/gba/
fe	fe	/fɛ/	fi	fi	/fi/	fa	fa	/fa/
ve	ve	/vɛ/	vi	vi	/vi/	va	va	/va/
te	te	/tɛ/	ti	ti	/ti/	ta	ta	/ta/
de	de	/dɛ/	di	di	/di/	da	da	/da/
le	le	/lɛ/	li	li	/li/	la	la	/la/
re	re	/rɛ/	ri	ri	/ri/	ra	ra	/ra/
dẽ	dẽ	/dẽ/	dĩ	dĩ	/dĩ/	dã	dã	/dã/
nde	nde	/ndɛ/	ndi	ndi	/ndi/	nda	nda	/nda/
se	se	/sɛ/	si	si	/si/	sa	sa	/sa/
ze	ze	/zɛ/	zi	zi	/zi/	za	za	/za/
che	che	/tʃɛ/	chi	chi	/tʃi/	cha	cha	/tʃa/
je	je	/jɛ/	ji	ji	/ji/	ja	ja	/ja/
nje	nje	/njɛ/	nji	nji	/nji/	nja	nja	/nja/
ye	ye	/jɛ/	yi	yi	/ji/	ya	ya	/ja/
ke	ke	/kɛ/	ki	ki	/ki/	ka	ka	/ka/
						kã	kã	/kã/
nge	nge	/ngɛ/	ngi	ngi	/ngi/	nga	nga	/nga/
ge	ge	/gɛ/	gi	gi	/gi/	ga	ga	/ga/
me	me	/mɛ/	mi	mi	/mi/	ma	ma	/ma/
ne	ne	/nɛ/	ni	ni	/ni/	na	na	/na/
je	je	/jɛ/	ji	ji	/ji/	ja	ja	/ja/

u	u
ũ	ũ
hu	hu
hũ	hũ
wu	wu
wũ	wũ
pu	pu
bu	bu
bu	bu
m̐bu	m̐bu
kpu	kpu
m̐gbu	m̐gbu
gbu	gbu
fu	fu
vu	vu
tu	tu
du	du
lu	lu
ru	ru
du	du
ndu	ndu
su	su
zu	zu
chu	chu
ju	ju
nju	nju
yu	yu
ku	ku
ngu	ngu
gu	gu
mu	mu
nu	nu
nu	nu

o	o
õ	õ
h̐o	h̐o
ho	ho
h̐õ	h̐õ
hõ	hõ
w̐o	w̐o
wõ	wõ
p̐o	p̐o
bo	bo
bo	bo
m̐bo	m̐bo
kp̐o	kp̐o
m̐gb̐o	m̐gb̐o
gb̐o	gb̐o
gb̐õ	gb̐õ
f̐o	f̐o
v̐o	v̐o
t̐o	t̐o
d̐o	d̐o
l̐o	l̐o
r̐o	r̐o
d̐o	d̐o
nd̐o	nd̐o
s̐o	s̐o
z̐o	z̐o
ch̐o	ch̐o
j̐o	j̐o
nj̐o	nj̐o
y̐o	y̐o
k̐o	k̐o
ng̐o	ng̐o
g̐o	g̐o
m̐o	m̐o
n̐o	n̐o
ng̐o	ng̐o

ε	ε
ẽ	ẽ
h̐ẽ	h̐ẽ
he	he
h̐ẽ	h̐ẽ
w̐e	w̐e
wẽ	wẽ
p̐e	p̐e
be	be
be	be
m̐be	m̐be
kp̐e	kp̐e
kp̐ẽ	kp̐ẽ
m̐gb̐e	m̐gb̐e
gb̐e	gb̐e
gb̐ẽ	gb̐ẽ
f̐e	f̐e
v̐e	v̐e
t̐e	t̐e
d̐e	d̐e
le	le
re	re
d̐e	d̐e
nd̐e	nd̐e
se	se
ze	ze
che	che
je	je
nje	nje
ye	ye
ke	ke
ng̐e	ng̐e
ng̐ẽ	ng̐ẽ
ge	ge
gẽ	gẽ
me	me
ne	ne
ne	ne

Syllabic nasal

ŋ

Syllabic lengthener

= [preceding vowel, repeated]

Notes:

1. The use of extended Latin characters in this document leverages use of the Unicode standard, as approved by the NDMSO office of the Library of Congress in December, 2007, while remaining usable for libraries using MARC-8 as well. Within a strictly MARC-8 environment, the double underscore may continue to be applied to a base character, following LCRI 1.0E for the characters 6, d, e, n, and o: b, d, e, n, n and o. The resulting ambiguity of n, however, illustrates the advantage of extended Latin, the use of which is longstanding in the Vai tradition of transcribing the script.

2. Four categories of rarely used Vai characters have not been included in the current table: archaic logograms, innovations by Momolu Massaquoi circa 1911, digits, and punctuation. In the case of logograms, not all of the semantic values have yet been determined. Massaquoi's innovations were proposed primarily for representing foreign sounds, and are rarely attested in texts. For the latter two categories, Western characters are usually preferred in practice. If usage were to warrant addition of these characters to the table in the future, the table may be revised to include some or all of these categories with no impact on the phonetic values presented in this version.