

Núú'etaa Pronunciation Guide: Vowels

Short Vowels:

	Sound key	Example	English Translation
a	as in cot	atá	Listen! (speaking to a male)
e	as in bed	xté	big
i	as in beet	itáhu	oak
o	as in bolt	pó	fish
u	as in boot	íruhere	cane

Short Nasal Vowels:

ɤ	as in honk	xɤhé	grass
j	as in ink/mean	istáhj	eyebrow
ɥ	as in moon	hɥpé	shoe

Long Vowels:

aa	as in father (held out long)	hááre	cloud
ee	as in hey (held out long)	ééxi	stomach
ii	as in bead (held out long)	koosíire	pumpkin
oo	as in code (held out long)	tóóp	four
uu	as in food (held out long)	kúúpa	seven

Long Nasal Vowels:

ɤɤ	as in wrong (held out long)	páɤhj	porcupine
jj	as in thing/need (held out long)	íjxaa	alone
ɥɥ	as in moon (held out long)	húúshi	leggings

Accented Vowels:

á, é, í, ó, ú: marks the vowel with the most prominence (pitch) in a word

as in	mííhe	woman	numá'k	man
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Núú'etaa Pronunciation Guide: Consonants

<u>Consonants:</u>		Sound key	Example	English Translation
p	as in	spot/bog	pirák	ten
t	as in	stop/dot	ahkíte	shoulder
k	as in	scatter/got	kééka	raven
s	as in	soon	seréhe	bloom
sh	as in	shut	wáátashe	money/iron
x	as in	loch (raspy)	xaráte	wolf
h	as in	hot/bleh/blah	hó	voice

Interchangeable Consonants:

Many times, in Núú'etaa when a nasal vowel is present, it changes the pronunciation of /w/ to /m/, and /r/ to /n/

r	as in	butter/ladder	weróke	buffalo bull
n	as in	none	miní	water

Pronounced **n** near a nasal vowel and usually at the beginning of words; pronounced **r** otherwise

w	as in	walk	wóórute	food
m	as in	moon	mááhsi	eagle

Pronounced **m** near a nasal vowel; pronounced **w** otherwise

Glottal Stop: A short pause/catch in the throat

' or '̣	as in	uh_oh	máá'aak	earth/land
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