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# **How to Read and Write Dagbani**

***An Open Educational  
Resource (OER)***

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## 1. Introduction

The purpose of this course is to guide beginners to be able to read and write in Dagbani fluently. Dagbani is a Mavia language spoken in Ghana. It is a compulsory subject in Primary and Junior High School in the Dagbon Kingdom. Dagbani is the most widely spoken language in Northern Ghana especially among tribes overseen by the King of Dagbon, the Yaa Naa.

It is closely related to and mutually intelligible with the Mampruli language spoken by Mamprusis, in the North East Region of Ghana. Dagbani is also similar to the other languages of the same subgroup spoken in Northern Ghana; the Dagaare and Waala languages, spoken in the Upper West Region of Ghana, and the Frafra language, spoken in the Upper East Region of Ghana.

Spellings in the Dagbani language follow the sounds produced by letters used in the language. To be able to read and write in the Dagbani Language, one needs to acquaint themselves with the **sounds of the letters** of the Dagbani language. This probably makes reading and writing in Dagbani quite easy. Reading and writing in Dagbani is not as complex as it is in some other languages such as the English Language, where the reading of some words are phonic (i.e the sound of each letter in a word counts) while others are not. For instance, in the English Language, words such as **cat, band, ring, tank, net, in**, etc are phonic whereas words such as **through, sight, science, country, court, photo**, etc are not. Thus in the English language, a letter may sound differently depending on where it is used. This is not the case in reading and writing in the Dagbani language. You just need to grasp the sound each letter makes and you are good to go.



This self paced course takes about ten hours to complete and learners are expected to be able to read and write fluently after committing themselves to going through all the sections of the course.

## 2. Dagbani Language Alphabets (Dagbani Bachikɔba)

The focus of this section is to guide learners, especially beginners, to be able to identify the letters in the Dagbani language, the sound each letter makes and how to blend these sounds to form words. Letters of the Dagbani language are grouped into two: Vowels (Vaawulinima) and Consonants (konsonantinima).

### 2.1. Vowels (Vaawulinima)

Dagbani vowels, just like vowels of the English language, are the sounds, the production of which there is no obstruction in the passage of air. They are called **vaawulinima** in Dagbani.

#### 2.1.1 Types of Vowels

There are two types of vowels; short vowels (vaawuli jihi) and long vowels (vaawuli wayila).

**Note:** the brackets [ ] are used to enclose letter sounds. Thus, this differentiates inscription of **sounds** of letters from writing the letters themselves. Eg. The sound of the letter **a** is written as **[a]**.

##### 2.1.1.1. Short Vowels (Vaawuli Jihi)

Dagbani uses seven(7) short vowel sounds in writing. The following are the short vowel sounds:

[a]	[e]	[ɛ]	[i]	[o]	[ɔ]	[u]
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----



These vowels are used in the following word examples:

[a] - la (lough)

[e] - ye (wear)

[ɛ] - yɛlim(salt)

[i] - di (eat)

[u] - du (climb)

[o] - go (travel)

[ɔ] - gɔm (sleep)

### 2.1.1.2. Long Vowels (Vaawuli Wayila)

The following are the long vowels in the Dagbani language. They are described as long because the two vowels combine to give one sound. They are five in number.

[aa]	[ee]	[ii]	[oo]	[uu]
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**Note:** *there are no long vowels for [ɛ] and [ɔ] in Dagbani. These sounds are not used in native Dagbani words.*

The long vowels are used in the following examples:

[aa] - baa (dog)

[ee] - leemu (orange)

[ii] - liiga(shirt)

[uu] - duu (room)

[oo] - noo (fowl)

**Note:** *one needs to be very mindful of where to use either a short or a long vowel. They are **not** interchangeable at all! For example "ba" means "father" whiles "baa" means "dog". So you can imagine the blunder one would be causing if they interchange [aa] for [a] or vice versa.*



### 3. Dagbani Consonants (Kɔnsɔnantinima)

Consonants can be described as speech sounds that are not vowels. They are sounds, the production of which there is some obstruction in the passage of air. Dagbani consonants are 27 in number and are grouped into two.

#### 3.1. Types of Consonants

The two types of consonants are Single Consonants (Kɔnsɔnanti Gansi) and Double Consonants or Digraphs (Kɔnsɔnanti Jɛba).

##### 3.1.1. Single Consonants(Kɔnsɔnanti Gansi)

They are:

[b]	[d]	[f]	[g]	[ɣ]	[h]
[j]	[k]	[l]	[m]	[n]	[ŋ]
[p]	[r]	[s]	[t]	[v]	[w]
[y]	[z]	[ʒ]			

The letters **c**, **q**, and **x** are not included in the Dagbani alphabets. They are not used in spelling Dagbani words.

*Note: In Dagbani, the letter ‘c’ does not exist as a single letter. It however combines with ‘h’ as a double consonant [ch].*

Single consonants can be used in the following examples. Emphasis here is on the single-letter consonant:

**[b]** - **ba** (father/ride)

**[d]** - **dɔɣu** (stick)

**[f]** - **fo** (quite)

**[g]** - **galli** (egg)



- [ɣ]** - paɣa (woman) (**Note:** the **[ɣ]** sound does not begin a word in Dagbani)
- [h]** - hali (even)
- [j]** - jaŋa (monkey)
- [k]** - kom (water)
- [l]** - lɛm (umbrella)
- [m]** - mana (okra)
- [n]** - nahu (cattle)
- [ŋ]** - ŋamli (hippopotamus)
- [p]** - puli (stomach)
- [r]** - kuriga (bowl) (**Note:** there is no native Dagbani word beginning with the sound **[r]**)
- [s]** - sala (charcoal)
- [t]** - tia (tree)
- [v]** - vari (leaves)
- [w]** - wahu (horse/snake)
- [y]** - yuŋ (night)
- [z]** - zabiri (hair)
- [ʒ]** - ʒim (blood)

Among the single consonants used in Dagbani, the ones that may pose difficulty in pronouncing to non-natives are **[ɣ]**, **[ŋ]** and **[ʒ]** sounds. This is more especially in the case of **[ɣ]** whose sound hardly exist in English. Although the consonants **[ŋ]** and **[ʒ]** do not exist as single consonants in English, their sounds are used in English. For instance, **[ŋ]** is found in words such as **sing, long, wrong, king, etc.** Also, **[ʒ]** is found in words like **pleasure, measure, pressure, etc.** (Pazzack, 2017)

### 3.1.2. Double Consonants (Konsonanti Jɛba)

A double consonant is made up of a pair of different consonants that make one sound. They are also called digraphs. They include:

<b>[ch]</b>	<b>[gb]</b>	<b>[kp]</b>	<b>[ny]</b>	<b>[ŋm]</b>	<b>[sh]</b>
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Among these consonants, English readers are familiar with **[ch]** and **[sh]** as in **church** and **shoe** respectively. Diagraphs are used in the following Dagbani words:

- [gb] - **gb**ali (leg)
- [kp] - **kp**am (oil)
- [ɲm] - **ɲ**mami (calabash)
- [ch] - **che**che (bicycle)
- [sh] - **sh**ia (bee)
- [ny] - **ny**uli (yam)

**Note:**

*Both the single and double consonants add up to the total of 27 consonants in Dagbani.*

#### 4. Special Dagbani characters

Among the vowels and consonants mentioned above, there are some alphabets that are not among English alphabets but are among the Dagbani alphabets. These alphabets are:

ɛ	ɔ	ɣ	ɲ	ʒ
---	---	---	---	---

These characters are used in the following English word examples:

**[ɛ]** (as in bell)

**[ɔ]** (as in not)

**[ɣ]** (as in paya) Note: the [ɣ] sound does not exist in English language.

**[ɲ]** (as in sing) and

**[ʒ]** (as in pressure)

**Note:** **[ɛ]** and **[ɔ]** are vowels while **[ɣ]**, **[ɲ]** and **[ʒ]** are consonants.





## 5. Capital and Small Letters

The way the capital and small letters are written in the English Language is not different from how they are written in the Dagbani Language. However, special attention needs to be paid to how the capital and small letters of the Dagbani special characters are written.

Aa	Bb	Dd	Ee	ƐƐ	Ff
Gg	Hh	ƳƳ	li	Jj	Kk
Ll	Mm	Nn	ŋŋ	Oo	ƆƆ
Pp	Rr	Ss	Tt	Uu	Vv
Ww	Yy	Zz	ƷƷ		

**Note:** Again, it is worthy of notice that the letters **c**, **q** and **x** are not among the Dagbani alphabets as single letters.

## 6. Vowel-Consonant Combination

Now take a look at the sounds made by combining vowels and consonants.

**Note:** Focus here is on **sound** and not **meaning**.

		a	e	ɛ	i	o	ɔ	u
1	[b]	Ba	Be	Bɛ	Bi	Bo	Bɔ	Bu
2	[d]	Da	De	Dɛ	Di	Do	Dɔ	Du
3	[f]	Fa	Fe	Fɛ	Fi	Fo	Fɔ	Fu



4	[g]	Ga	Ge	Gɛ	Gi	Go	Gɔ	Gu
5	[h]	Ha	He	Hɛ	Hi	Ho	Hɔ	Hu
6	[j]	Ja	Je	Jɛ	Ji	Jo	Jɔ	Ju
7	[k]	ka	ke	kɛ	ki	ko	kɔ	ku
8	[l]	la	le	lɛ	li	lo	lɔ	lu
9	[m]	ma	me	mɛ	mi	mo	mɔ	mu
10	[n]	na	ne	nɛ	ni	no	nɔ	nu
11	[ŋ]	ŋa	ŋe	ŋɛ	ŋi	ŋo	ŋɔ	ŋu
12	[p]	pa	pe	pɛ	pi	po	pɔ	pu
13	[r]	ra	re	rɛ	ri	ro	rɔ	ru
14	[s]	sa	se	sɛ	si	so	sɔ	su
15	[t]	ta	te	tɛ	ti	to	tɔ	tu
16	[v]	va	ve	vɛ	vi	vo	vɔ	vu
17	[w]	wa	we	wɛ	wi	wo	wɔ	wu
18	[y]	ya	ye	yɛ	yi	yo	yɔ	yu
19	[z]	za	ze	zɛ	zi	zo	zɔ	zu
20	[ʒ]	ʒa	ʒe	ʒɛ	ʒi	ʒo	ʒɔ	ʒu

### 7. Vowel Sequence (Vaawuli Gansi Doni Pa Taba).

The Dagbani orthography spells out the accepted vowel sequence in Dagbani writing. They are [ua], [ia], [io] and [ɔi]. Here are some word examples:

[ua] - bua, pua, sua, naanzua, etc.

[ia] - tia, bia, pia, etc.



[ɔi] - pɔi, ayopɔin, etc.

[io] - pio, etc

Vowel sequences like [ea], [ie], [oa] and [ae] hardly exist in Dagbani even though they do exist in English.

## 8. Combining Letter Sounds to Form Dagbani Words

The letter sounds, both vowels and consonants combine to form most Dagbani words. There however, are some few words which are formed by one consonant or vowel. Thus, Dagbani words could be made up of one, two, or more letters.

### 8.1. Single Letter Words

I. **n/m** (I/Me/My) i.e. *1st person singular pronoun.*

Examples:

1. **N** yuli Musah.
2. **M** ma chaŋ daa.
3. **M** buku m-bala.
4. **M** pa da cheche.
5. **N** naba biɛrimi.
6. **N** cheche maa sayimmi.

**Note:** *m* is used for I/Me/My where the next word begins with a bilabial sound [b], [m], or [p]. *n* is used where the next word begins with any other letter/sound.

(Source: Approved Dagbani Orthography).

II. **a** (you) *ie 2nd person singular pronoun.*

Examples:

1. **A** gba dim sayim maa.
2. Baamunu ni bu **a** pam.

III. **O** (him/her/he/she) *i.e. 3rd person singular pronoun.*

Examples:



1. **O** kana shikuru zuṅɔ.
2. Tim **o** maha maa sheli.

*Note: Do not join the single letter words with other words when writing. For example do not write “**Okana** shikuru zuṅɔ” or “**Agba** dim sayim maa.” it is supposed to be written as “**O kana** shikuru zuṅɔ” and “**A gba** dim sayim maa.” respectively.*

## 8.2. Two Letter Words

Examples:

Ba (father/ride)

Be (in)

Bε (they)

Bu (beat)

Bo (find)

Da (buy)

Di (eat)

Do (lay)

Du (climb)

Fa (snatch)

Fo (quite)

Go (travel)

Gu (protect)

Ja (Crush)

Je (refuse)

Ka (have not)

Ku (kill)

La (laugh)

Lo (tie)

Le (fill)

Ma (Mother)

Mo (struggle)

Me (build)

Ne (awake)



ŋɔ (this)  
Pa (not)  
Pe (arrange)  
Pu (group)  
Sa (plant)  
Su (bathe)  
So (wear/someone)  
To (bitter/pound)  
Ti (we/vomit)  
Va (collect/wrestle)  
Vo (pull)  
Vi (shy)  
Wa (dance)  
Ya (where)  
Yu (love)  
Za (guinea corn)  
Zo (run)  
Zu (steal)

### 8.3. Three Letter Words

Examples:

Bam (odour)  
Dam (alcohol)  
Gɔm (sleep)  
Kam (everything)  
Lɛm (umbrella)  
Mam (lover)  
Nam (leadership)  
Paŋ (borrow)  
Sam (mash)  
Tam (forget)  
Yum (sore/wound)



#### 8.4. Four Letter Words

- Bana (them)
- Dira (eating)
- Fali (inheritance)
- Gala (eggs)
- Jera (fools)
- Kuli (hoe)
- Luṅa (drum)
- Mana (okro)
- Nɔŋa (scorpion)
- Paɣa (woman/wife)
- Sala (charcoal)
- Toli (mortar)
- Vari (leaves)
- Wɔla (fruits)
- Yoli (nothing)
- Zama (crowd)

**Note:**

1. Dagbani words could be in as many letters as possible
2. There is no native Dagbani word that starts with [r]. There are, however, some borrowed words or names that begin with [r]. When pronouncing such words or names, the [r] is replaced with [l]. For example “**Rubaaba**” and “**Raabi**” are pronounced as “**Lubaaba**” and “**Laabi**” respectively. Also, “**rubber**” is pronounced as “**loba**”.

#### 9. Breaking words into syllables

A syllable is a part of a word that contains a single vowel sound that is pronounced as a unit (*collinsdictionary.com*). For example, there are two syllables in **water** and three in **important**. Reading Dagbani is usually easier when syllables in words are identified and clearly pronounced accordingly.

Word Example	Syllables	Number of
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		Syllables
1. Ma	Ma	One
2. Daa	Daa	One
3. Luŋa	Lu + ŋa	Two
4. Gbali	Gba + li	Two
5. Nyingoli	Nyin + go + li	Three
6. Ashili	A + shi + li	Three
7. Bachinima	Ba + chi + ni + ma	Four
8. Bɔyusapim	Bɔ + yu + sa + pim	Four
9. Tolotolo	To + lo + to + lo	Four
10. Sapashinnim	Sa + pa + shin + ni + ma	Five
a	Ba+chi+niŋ+di+li	Five
11. Bachiniŋdili	Yɛl+tɔ+yɪ+ta+yɪ+ma+li+si	Eight
12. Yɛltɔyitayimali		
si		

## 10. Punctuation Marks (Sabbu Bibahira)

Just as it is in reading and writing in other languages such as English, reading and writing texts in Dagbani requires correct usage of punctuation marks.

The usage of the full stop (.), comma (,), question mark (?), exclamation mark (!) and the quotation marks ("") in English are not so different from how they are used in Dagbani. However special attention needs to be paid to how the hyphen (-) and the apostrophe/deletion sign (') are used in Dagbani.

### I. Full Stop/Zanibu Bia (.)

- Placed at the end of a sentence.
- Eg. Karimba dala loori palli.

### II. Comma/Vuhim Bia (,)

- Usually placed in between a list of items.



- Eg. N ni yuri bindir' sheŋa n-nyɛ sayim, tuubaani, gɔra, ni nyɔŋbeeka.

### III. Question Mark/Bohigu Bia(?)

- Placed at the end of a question.
- Eg. Ya ka a lee chana?

### IV. Exclamation Mark/Yekpeeni Bia (!)

- Usually used after interjections or sentences that indicate strong feelings or show emphasis.
- Eg. i. Woi! Saa maa bieni!  
ii. Kuui! O yɛn ku ma!

### V. Hyphen (-)

Aside from being used as it is used in English, the hyphen is also used in between an **auxiliary** verb and a **main** verb. Examples:

- Zaŋmi buku maa **m-pa** teebuli zuyu. [**pa (to place)** is the main verb, **m** acts as an **auxiliary**(helping) verb]
- Kpaŋmi a maŋa **m-me** yili. [**me (build)** is the main verb, **m** acts as an **auxiliary**(helping) verb]
- Niŋma yoma **m-boli** bia maa. [**boli (call)** is the main verb, **m** acts as an **auxiliary**(helping) verb]
- Liiga la **n-doya** la. [**doya(lay)** is the main verb, **n** acts as an **auxiliary**(helping) verb]
- Ti mini o **n-kana**. [**kana(came)** is the main verb, **n** acts as an **auxiliary**(helping) verb]
- O tola noo maa **n-yiyi**. [**yiyi(fly)** is the main verb, **n** acts as an **auxiliary**(helping) verb]
- Abu dala sayim **n-di**. [**di(eat)** is the main verb, **n** acts as an **auxiliary**(helping) verb]
- Kookali lana **n-wumdi** jɛbɔbigu kumsi. [**wumdi(listening)** is the main verb, **n** acts as an **auxiliary**(helping) verb].

**Note:** Special attention needs to be paid to the usage of the **m** and **n** in these instances. As already explained earlier





(section 8.1), **m** is used where the following word begins with a **bilabial** like **[b]**, **[m]** or **[p]**.

## VI. Apostrophe/Deletion Sign/ηmaabahi Bia (')

This punctuation mark comes at the end of the shortened form of a word to indicate that a letter or letters of the root word has been omitted or deleted. This usually applies to nouns followed by its qualifier adjective. It's known as an apostrophe in English and its usage in Dagbani is completely different from how it is used in English.

Examples:

- Bua + kurili = **bu'** kurili. (**a** in **bua** has been deleted)
- Zuyu + bila = **zuy'** bila. (**u** in **zuyu** has been deleted).
- Noo + bila = **no'** bila. (**o** in **noo** has been omitted)
- Tim + tɔyɔ = **ti'** tɔyɔ. (**m** in **tim** has been omitted)
- Bindirigu + shɛli = **Bindir'** shɛli. (**igu** in **bindirigu** has been omitted).
- Guli + piɛlli = **Gu'** piɛlli. (**li** in **guli** has been omitted).

*Note: one or more letters of the parent word could be omitted.*

## 11. Reading Sentences

*Now let us read some sentences:*

- 1) N yuli Musah.
- 2) Naporoo be duu.
- 3) M ma chaŋ daa.
- 4) Karimba dala loori palli.
- 5) O bi kana shikuru zuŋɔ.
- 6) Sohila ka ti sa kuna.
- 7) Azindoo yɛla liiga zee.
- 8) Abu ni o zuyu n-yaara.
- 9) Danaa kpuyila pay' palo.



10) Bɛ sa yaa kpɛla loori n-chaŋ Ankara.

## 12. Reading Passages

*Let's read the following passage:*

Naama yidana Nayi m-bɔŋɔ. Nayi malila ɲariŋ. O ɲariŋ m-bɔŋɔ. Nayi malila o ɲariŋ maa n-duhiri niriba. O sɔŋdi niriba pam.

Dariŋ duhirila kom ni. Nayi mi ɲariŋ duhibu pam. Nayi ɲariŋ bara ka du. Dariŋ duhira bela ɲariŋ nyaanga ka ban be di ni mi be di tooni.

Dariŋ duhibu to ka mali barina dama ɲariŋ yi be kom ni di laanimi. Dizuyu ka Dagban' kpamba yɛra ni "ban kpe ɲariŋ bi lari kpiimba".  
*(An extract from the book "Karimmi Dagbani Buku 1" by Literacy and Development through Partnership (LDP), a Tamale based local NGO)*

## 13. Reading and Comprehension

*Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:*

Zuŋɔ nyɛla Katiŋ Daa. Katiŋ Daa bela Toliŋ. Daabihi nyɛla ban yiri Dagbaŋ bɔba ni yaya n-kanna nti diri Katiŋ Daa. Hali sheb' yirila Zabay' nua n-kanna nti diri daa maa.

Kɔhimma ni damma balibu zooya Katiŋ Daa ni pam. Da sheŋa n-nyɛ kariwana, shinkaafa, chi, za, sima, yaayari, dasayim, koko, gbambihi, guli, ziegban, kpakahili, kpihi, zuna, gɔra, yɔna, nyombeeka, ni ɲan pahi.

Mba Azindoo gba diri Katiŋ Daa. O bi nayira ɲa dibu. O nyɛla naansar' koha. O ni chaŋ Katiŋ Daa ni zuŋɔ. O malila tab' gbula ayi ni o zaŋ chaŋ nti kɔhi. O yi chaŋ nti kɔhi ɲa naai, o yɛn dala o



maɲmaɲa yaayari daliya ni jinjem, ka da yɔna mini gɔra m-mali bihi yiɲa.

*Questions:*

1. Zuɲɔ nyɛla tinkani daa?
2. Ya ka daabihi yirina nti diri daa maa?
3. Kɔhimma ni damma dini m-be daa maa ni?
4. Duni gba n-yɛn chan Katij Daa?
5. Bɔ ka o yɛn kɔhi daa maa ni?
6. Bo ka o yɛn da nti o maɲa?
7. Ka bɔ ka o yɛn da m-mali bihi yiɲa?

*Answers:*

1. Katij Daa
2. Dagban bobba ni yaya ni Zabay' nua.
3. kariwana, shinkaafa, chi, za, sima, yaayari, dasayim, koko, gbambihi, guli, ziegban, kpakahili, kpihi, zuna, gɔra, yɔna, nyombeeka, ni ɲan pahi.
4. Mba Azindoo
5. Tab' gbula ayi
6. Yaayari daliya mini jinjem.
7. Yɔna mini gɔra

## 14. Common Mistakes in Dagbani Writing

Let's be mindful of the following common mistakes in writing Dagbani and avoid them:

### 1. Combining separate words.

It is common to see people combine two or more words as if they are one word. This can change the intended meaning or form non-existing words. This is mostly the case where one letter words are involved.

Examples:

1. **Ama** kuna. (*wrong*).  
**A ma** kuna. (*correct*).



2. **Otima** liyiri. (*wrong*).  
**O ti ma** liyiri. (*Correct*)
3. **On** kana zuṅɔ. (*Wrong*)  
**O ni** kana zuṅɔ. (*correct*)

## 2. Separating single words.

Other times too, people separate the syllables in a word making them look like multiple words.

Examples:

1. **Zu ṅɔ** (today) - *Wrong*  
**Zuṅɔ** (today) - *correct*
2. **Tu ma** (work) - *wrong*  
**Tuma** (work) - *correct*
3. **Nangban yini** (unity) - *wrong*  
**Nangbanyini** (unity) - *correct*
4. **Karim ba** (teacher) - *wrong*  
**Karimba** (teacher) - *correct*
5. **Cha ma** (go) - *wrong*  
**Chama** (go) - *correct*

## 3. Use of long vowels instead of short vowels and vice versa.

Examples:

1. **A maa** (mother) kuna. - *Wrong*  
**A ma** (mother) kuna. - *Correct*
2. **Do** (man) maa kuliya. - *Wrong*  
**Doo** (man) maa kuliya. - *Correct*



3. M **baa (father)** yuli Abukari - *Wrong*  
M **ba (father)** yuli Abukari - *correct*

4. Ti cham **da (market)**. - *Wrong*  
Ti cham **daa (market)**. - *correct*

#### 4. Wrong Usage of Deletion Sign (‘).

Example

1. **Tum’tumdiba** maa kana. (*wrong*)  
**Tumtumdiba** maa kana. (*correct*)
2. **Yuŋ’ la** ka Abu sa kuna. (*wrong*)  
**Yuŋ la** ka Abu sa kuna. (*correct*)
3. **So’kam** kulimi o yiŋa (*wrong*)  
**Sokam** kulimi o yiŋa (*correct*)

#### 5. Wrong usage of the hyphen (-).

1. **N-sa** chanja daa. (*Wrong*)  
**N sa** chanja daa. (*Correct*)
2. **N-yɛn** dala buku (*Wrong*)  
**N yɛn** dala buku (*Correct*)



3. Bε kul-la yiηa. (*Wrong*)  
 Bε kulila yiηa. . (*Correct*)

## 15. Assessment

### Assessment 1.

*Say the following sounds:*

[a]	[b]	[d]	[e]	[ε]	[f]	[g]	[γ]	[h]	[i]
[j]	[k]	[l]	[m]	[n]	[o]	[ɔ]	[p]	[r]	[s]
[t]	[u]	[v]	[w]	[y]	[z]	[ʒ]			

### Assessment 2.

*Identify the vowels from the following and write them down:*

[ε]	[d]	[i]	[r]	[e]	[h]	[b]
[a]	[η]	[u]	[k]	[ɔ]	[k]	[n]

### Assessment 3.

*Identify the consonants from the following sounds and write them down:*



[k]	[s]	[ɔ]	[gb]	[u]	[e]	[ʒ]	[g]
[a]	[kp]	[ɛ]	[p]	[l]	[ny]	[o]	[ŋm]
[n]	[ɣ]	[ch]	[j]	[w]	[f]	[z]	[v]

#### Assessment 4.

*Try to pronounce the following syllables on your own:*

Ba	ka	laa	da	daa	ma	fa	faa
be	fe	dee	me	le	pe	dee	fee
di	pi	yi	mi	mii	fi	pii	li
dɛ	fɛ	gɛ	pɛ	lɛ	gɛ	jɛ	zɛ
lo	fo	doo	po	noo	zo	ko	ʒo
sɔ	mɔ	pɔ	lɔ	yɔɔ	zɔ	ʒɔ	ŋɔ
bu	duu	lu	ku	fuu	ʒu	ŋu	guu

#### Assessment 5.

*Try to pronounce the following words on your own:*

Ba Bua Pii Chim Zuŋɔ	la Jɛm laa Gbam Nahu	Fe ʒim Noo ŋme	Je Fɔŋ Gaa Nyam Paya
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Arizichi Nyɛrifu Zukɔyili	Nyuli Zilinsi ɲmambila	Tuma Buɲa Ɗarima Yɛlitɔyili	Nyingoli Kpalɔɲa Yɛlimanɲi
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### Assessment 6.

*Translate these words into Dagbani and write them down:*

English	Dagbani
1. Lough	.....
2. Dog	.....
3. Chair	.....
4. Honey	.....
5. Chest	.....
6. Profit	.....
7. Head	.....
8. Health	.....
9. Grandmother	.....
10. Ignorance	.....

### Assessment 7.

*Read the following sentences:*

1. Adam bala cheche.
2. Payawuni kɔhirila kooshe.
3. Ziblim nyɛla bundana.
4. Biɛyuni n-sa nye Tamale Daa.
5. Damba goli ni ka bɛ daa dɔyi Zanjina.
6. M ma yaa duyirila bindirigu.





7. Wumpini kulila o ya ni o ti puhi chuyu.
8. Naporoo gbaala nmambila.
9. Sohi maa n sa bi gbihi dama n sa ka alaafée.
10. Jerigu n̄un ʒi gbɛligu, nayila zukoyili.

### Assessment 8.

***Try to read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:***

Di daa yaa nin̄la lala ka nin̄ lala, ka Kpatindaringa lo nia ni o layim andunia zaa yem n-lee o ko dini.

Di saha ka Kpatindariga go dunia boba ni yaya zaa. O daa go n-kpa dunia tudu polo, saafa polo, wulimpuhili polo n-ti tabili dunia wulinluhili polo. O daa layim dunia yili yem o yaa tariga, n-zan̄ nin̄ chuyu ni. Kpatindariga daa labi yin̄a ka yeli o suhu ni, "n ni zan̄ n chuyu maa n-tam ti' titali zuyu!"

Di saha ka Kpatindariga zan̄ chuyu maa n-yili o tooni, ka mori ni o du ti' titali. O nimmohi maa zaa yoli, o daa bi tooi du tia maa. O bia Dasanpukariga daa ʒi yoma ka yeli "M ba, a yi zan̄ chuyu maa n-labisi a nyaan̄a, di ni che ka a tooi du tia maa ka di bi to!"

Di saha ka Kpatindariga sayi ti o bia maa yeltɔya maa. Ka daa zan̄ chuyu maa n-labisi o nyaan̄a ka naan n-tooi du tia maa. Dasanpukariga daa bohi o ba ni bo n-lee be chuyu maa ni. Ka Kpatindariga daa yeli ni o zan̄la duniya zaa yem n-nin̄ chuyu maa ni, ka o bia maa daa bohi o ba ni di yi shiri nin̄ ka di nyela o zan̄la duniya zaa yem n-nin̄ chuyu maa ni, ni ka ya ka n̄un bi' maa nya yem. Ka Kpatindariga suhi daa yiyisi ka o zan̄ chuyu maa luhi tin̄' na ka di daa wurim zaa.

Ka o bia maa daa yeli o ni yem yayi nin' yino malibu.

1. Nia dini ka Kpatindariga daa lo?
2. Ya ka o daa kpa?
3. Bo ka o daa gili layim?
4. Duni n-daa lee wuhi Kpatindariga o ni yen nin̄ shem?
5. Bo zuyu ka Kpatindariga suhi daa yiyisi?
6. Bomi yuli n-ti karim n̄ɔ.

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