Hän Alphabet

These are the symbol and symbol combinations used to represent the phonemes of Hän in the Yukon Native Language Centre Orthography. Phonemes that have restricted use are indicated in brackets.

Consonants

← front of mouth . . . . back of mouth →

	labial	dental	alveolar	retroflex	lateral	palatal	velar	glottal
aspirated plosives (stops)	(p)		t				k	'
unaspirated plosives (stops)	b		d				g	
voiced plosive (stop)			d̠					
ejective plosives (stops)			t'				k'	
nasals	m		n					
voiceless nasal			nh					
prenasalized plosives	mb		nd				nj	
voiceless fricatives		th	s	sr	ł	sh	kh	h
voiced fricatives		dh	z	zr	l	zh	gh	
aspirated affricates		tth	ts	tr	tl	ch		
unaspirated affricates		ddh	dz	dr	dl	j		
voiced affricate						j̠		
ejective affricates		tth'	ts'	tr'	tl'	ch'		
voiced approximants	w			r		y		
voiceless approximants	wh			rh		yh		

Vowels

- Nasalized vowels are written with a nasalization hook under the vowel, as for example ų.
- High tone vowels are unmarked, as for example u.
- Low tone vowels are indicated with a grave accent, as for example ù.
- Rising tone is indicated with a caron (hachek) over the vowel, as for example ǔ.
- Falling tone is indicated with a circumflex over the vowel, as for example û.

Vowels

	front	central	back
high	i		u
mid	e	ë	o
low	a		ä

Diphthongs

	front	central	back
high	iw		
mid	ey, ew		oy
low	ay, aw		äw

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Consonants

← front of mouth . . . . back of mouth →

	labial	dental	alveolar	retroflex	lateral	palatal	velar	glottal
aspirated plosives (stops)	(p), /pʰ/		t, /tʰ/				k, /kʰ/	', /ʔ/
unaspirated plosives (stops)	b, /p/		d, /t/				g, /k/	
voiced plosives (stops)			d̠, /d/					
ejective plosives (stops)			t', /t'/				k', /k'/	
nasals	m, /m/		n, /n/					
voiceless nasals			nh, /n̥/					
prenasalized plosives	mb, /ᵐp/		nd, /ⁿt/				nj, /ᵑk/	
voiceless fricatives		th, /θ/	s, /s/	sr, /ʂ/	ł, /ɬ/	sh, /ʃ/	kh, /x/	h, /h/
voiced fricatives		dh, /ð/	z, /z/	zr, /ʐ/		zh, /ʒ/	gh, /ɣ/	
aspirated affricates		tth, /tθʰ/	ts, /tsʰ/	tr, /t̠ʂʰ/	tl, /tɬʰ/	ch, /tʃʰ/		
unaspirated affricates		ddh, /tθ/	dz, /ts/	dr, /t̠ʂ/	dl, /tɬ/	j, /tʃ/		
voiced affricates						j̠, /dʒ/		
ejective affricates		tth', /tθ'/	ts', /ts'/	tr', /t̠ʂ'/	tl', /tɬ'/	ch', /tʃ'/		
voiced approximants	w, /w/			r, /ɻ/	l, /l/	y, /j/		
voiceless approximants	wh, /w̥/			rh, /ɻ̥/		yh, /j̊/		

Vowels

- Nasalized vowels are written with a nasalization hook under the vowel, as for example ų.
- High tone vowels are unmarked, as for example u.
- Low tone vowels are indicated with a grave accent, as for example ù.
- Rising tone is indicated with a caron (hachek) over the vowel letter, as for example ǔ.
- Falling tone is indicated with a circumflex over the vowel, as for example û.
- The voiced fricatives and the approximant /l/ which patterns with the fricatives, start voiceless then become voiced ([θð], [sz], [ʂʐ], [ɬl], [ʃʒ], [xɣ], [ɬɮ]).
- The /l/ phoneme is [ɬɮ] stem initially or between vowels (intervocalically). The /l/ phoneme is fully voiced [l] at the end of a syllable (the corresponding phoneme at the end of syllables in the Eagle dialect is /w/).
- <nj> is used to represent the nasal plosive (stop) /ŋ/ as well as the pre-nasalized plosive (stop) /ᵑk/ which occurs syllable finally and as an allophone of /n/ before velar consonants.
- The /k/ and /g/ phonemes are strongly uvularized at the beginning of syllables (in syllable onsets) [kʁ], [gʁ].
- In the Eagle dialect /ᵐp/, /ⁿt/, and /ᵑk/ are /p/, /t/, /k/, written as <b, d, g> (like the unaspirated plosives (stops)).
- Jonathan Manker's thesis on Hän was useful for the preparation of this chart. Additional information and clarifications were graciously provided by Dr. Willem de Reuse.

Manker, Jonathan. 2011. An Acoustic Study of Stem Prominence in Han Athabaskan. Unpublished Masters Thesis. University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Vowels

	front	central	back
close	i, /i/		u, /u/
mid	e, /e/	ë, /ə/	o, /o/
open	a, /æ/		ä, /ɑ/

Diphthongs

	front	central	back
close	iw, /iu/		
mid	ey, /ei/ ew, /eo/		oy, /oi/
open	ay, /æi/ aw, /æo/		äw, /ao/

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