

Organised Phonology Data

Boiken Language [BZF] Wewak – East Sepik Province

Sepik-Ramu Phylum; *Middle Sepik Stock;* Ndu Family

Population census: 35,000 (1981)

Major villages: Kwolyik, Bam, Salimbua, Soli, Niagombi, Paparqam, Passam, Sauri

Linguistic work done by: SIL (based on 11 years work)

Data checked by: checked by Allen and Marlene Freudenburg 1994

Phonemic and Orthographic Inventory

a æ ə e ø γ x i i tʂ k ɭ ɮ m n o ə p r s t u w j
 a á e ei f g h i i j k ɭ,ɮ l m n o ó p r s t u w y
 A E F G H J K L M N P R S T W Y

Consonants

	Bilab	LabDen	Dental	Alveo	Postalv	Retro	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyn	Glottal
Plosive	p			t				k			
Nasal	m			n							
Trill				r							
Tap/Flap											
Fricative	ø			s				x γ			
Lateral Fricative											
Approx							j				
Lateral Approx											
Ejective Stop											
Implos											

/w/ voiced labial-velar approximant

/ɭ/ voiced dental lateral

/ɮ/ voiced alveolar flapped lateral

/tʂ/ dental grooved affricate

p	pa	'stone'	m	mák	'rain'
	fapak	'something'		hama	'bush knife'
	-			-	
	plara	'to leave'		simpa	'tomorrow'
	mapwa	'possum'		hukma	'ground'
	pimpi	'some'			

∅	fak	'something'	r	rafia	'to break'
	yafa	'father'		muró	'alligator'
	-			-	
	fru	'wall'		fru	'wall'
				hunkrin	'to hold in position'
w	wa	'tree spec.'	l	-	
	yawi	'garden'		wala	'grass'
	-			-	
	kwik	'door'		hla	'to get'
				nunklik	'cold'
l	le	'to sit'			
	wulla	'go inside'			
			k	ka	'house'
t	ta	'to go down'		naka	'chicken'
	sihliten	'to finish'		kumpik	'wet'
	-			hukma	'ground'
	tuentue	'men'		hanku	'hand drum'
				kwa	'to pick up'
n	nafa	'one'	x	hun	'star'
	nane	'we two'		mahu	'corn'
	men	'foot'		-	
	ninti	'middle'		hweik	'a bird'
				sihliten	'to finish'
s	simpi	'morning'	ɣ	gi	'to see'
	hase	'to peel'		-	
	-			-	
tʂ	jinka	'morota'			
	woje	'to show'	j	yawi	'garden'
	-			-	
	manji	'rope'			

Vowels

i	i	u			
e		o			
	ə	ɔ			
	æ				
		ɑ			
i	-		e	eli	'special friend'
	win	'blood'		weifa	'female bird'
	yawi	'garden'		sakwei	'tobacco'
	kia	'come down'		rueihi	'second wife'
i	-		ə	hempe	'bush'
	tifek	'small'		wune	'I'
	nimpi	'hair'		kenie	'tail'

u	-		æ	mák	'rain'
	hukma	'ground'		ninká	'sister'
	ku	'water'			
	sua	'pitpit'			
o	-		ɑ	ara	'to carry'
	pofó	'moon'		yalle	'stomach'
	lopo	'fence'		ka	'house'
				suhua	'sleep'
ɔ	-		ai	ai	'you go!'
	ró	'woman'			
	-		au	auri	'to go uphill'
				yau	'garden'

/ai/ /au/

Suprasegmentals (tone, stress, length)

Syllable Patterns

V	a.fa 'bone'				tam.pi.a 'stagnant'
VV	ai 'you go'	au.ri 'go uphill'	ru.ei.hi 'second wife'		
VC			mi.em.pen.ke 'tree bark'		he.ni.ek 'how many'
CV	ró 'woman'	ma.ja 'now'	sih.li.ten 'to finish'		po.lle 'pig'
CVV	hei 'hang up'	sai.he 'cassowary'			ma.hei 'hang up!'
CVC	win 'blood'	kum.pik 'wet'	ma.llem.pi 'seat of emotions'		ke.llem.pen.kel 'lips.'
CCV	fru 'wall'	pla.ra 'to leave'			
CCVV	hwei 'flood'				
CCVC	kwik 'door'				pu.fu.nIn.klik 'back side'

Conventions: Phonological

The plosives / p t k ts / are voiceless initially and intervocalically. The voiced allophones [b d ɣ dz] occur following their nasal counterpart.

/k/ is phonetically a glottal [ʔ] when occurring word finally./ ɸ s x / are voiced [β z ɣ] word medially.

/ ɣ / is phonetically a voiced lenis velar fricative.

/ ɔ / occurs only word final and never in vowel clusters./ æ / occurs word final and preceding a word final [ʔ].

Conventions: Orthographic

/ l / is written intervocalically < ll > but initially < l >.

Transcription of a recorded passage

/

wunərə si təmon || wunərə wiərə si kwaxwiə || poβərə si mə || matʂa wunə təmon juarə po'ə juampari jarir
 ə xwaɸu wune wəxwiə wərə jo || suək juampari ti kwənisik || tirə waikarə po'ə nən wu'a wən tirə waikarə
 po'ərə nənən tiə xəmpəmpa rik || ririin ti kwənisik | jəxə jə na minan po'ə naɸa jiə həonik juampari mak
 kwənisirə ti kiə nanku ɣi'ək /

< Wunere si Demon. Wunere wiare si Kwahwie. Pofore si Me. Maja wune Demon Yuare polle Yuampari
 yarire hwafu wune wehwe werá yo. Suek Yuampari ti kwenisik. Tire waikare polle nen wulla wen tire

waikare pollere nenen tie hempempa rik. Ririin ti kwenisik, Yehe yá na minan polle nafa yia heonik?
Yuampari mak kwenisirá ti kiá nanku gillek.>

Bibliography

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