

Organised Phonology Data

Anuki Language [AUI]**– Milne Bay Province**

Oceanic; Papuan Tip Cluster ; Anuki

Population census: 800+ (2012, Anuki Statistician)

Major villages: Nuwabiina, Yogowa, Tapio, Tarabanana, Woruka, Pem, Tototo, Tapiyasanu, Kariwapana

Linguistic work done by: SIL: Lyn Landweer, during village ADW in 2000, and Hanna Schulz, during an Alphabet Review Workshop in 2012 and in consultation with VITAL participants.

1.1 Phonemic Inventory:

a b d e g i k m n o p r, s t u v w j ɣ g^w k^w ii m:
r

a b d e g i k m n o p r s t u v w y gh gw kw ii mm
A B D E G I K M N O P R S T U V W Y Gh Gw Kw Ii Mm

1.1.1 Consonants

	Bilab	LabDen	Alveo	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Plosive	p b	t d			g k	ʔ
Nasal	m m:	n				
Trill		r				
Tap/Flap		r				
Fricative		v	s		ɣ	
Approx				j		

/w/ voiced labio-dental approximate

/k^w/ voiceless labialised velar plosive

/g^w/ voiced labialised velar plosive

p	popoku	‘dust’	[po'poku]
	aepewa	‘I walked’	[ape'pewa]

b	binama	‘hornbill’	[bi'nama]
	gabudara	‘sun’	[gabu'dar.a]
m	meni	‘ripe’	[¹meni]
	tamumu	‘sin’	[ta¹mumu]
	matam	‘tomorrow’	[ma¹tam]
mm	mma	‘here’	[¹m̥:a]
	mmkodi	‘these ones’	[m̥:¹kodi]
w	woye	‘paddle’	[¹woye]
	wasikuwaya	‘bend down’	[wa,siku¹waja]
v	vivira	‘fruit fly’	[vi¹vira]
	inaveni	‘took away’	[ina¹veni]
t	takura	‘banana leaf’	[ta¹kura]
	katowa	‘sago leaf’	[ka¹towa]
d	dabu	‘wallaby’	[¹dabu]
	midimidi	‘bat’	[midi¹midi]
n	nuwa	‘island’	[¹nuwa]
	epamana	‘cave’	[epa¹mana]
ɾ, r	rarima	‘water’	[ra¹rima] [ra¹rima]
	arurubo	heron	[aru¹rubo] [aru¹rubo]
s	serebo	‘cat’	[se¹rebo]
	wasike	‘girl’	[wa¹sike]
j	yayoyo	‘coming down’	[ja¹jojo]
	yikwatu	‘he calls’	[ji¹kʷatu]
k	kata	‘today’	[¹kata]
	okokowa	‘clam shell’	[oko¹kowa]
kʷ	kweru	‘frog’	[¹kʷeru]
	kwakwakwa	‘type of grass’	[kʷa¹kʷakʷa]
g	gegha	‘no’	[¹geɣa]
	waga	‘canoe’	[¹waga]
gʷ	gwagha	‘crab’	[¹gʷaɣa]

	gwagwara	top plate (in a building)	[g ^w a'g ^w ara]
ɣ	ghagu	'string bag'	['ɣagu]
	reigha	'ginger'	['re'iɣa]

1.1.2 Vowels

i		u	
		ʊ	
e		o	
	a		
ɑ	aru	'reef'	['aru]
	arara	'tobacco'	[a'rara]
e	enoura	'python'	[e'nʊ'ra]
	pepeya	'baby'	[pe'peja]
	mabe	'wing'	['mabe]
i	iyuwa	'meat'	[i'juwa]
	kikira	'beach'	[ki'kira]
	bari	'stingray'	['bari]
o	obari	'breadfruit'	[o'bari]
	popoku	'dust'	[po'poku]
	yuto	'close friend'	['juto]
u	uwa	'cloud'	['uwa]
	giruma	'write'	[gi'ruma]
	basu	'seed'	['basu]
ʊ	touna	'he/she/it'	['tʊ'na]
	wouna	'new one'	['wʊna]

1.1.3 Diphthongs and Vowel Sequences

ii	ae	ai	au	ei	eo	eu	iu	oe	oi
i ⁱ		miisena		'good one'					[mi ⁱ 'sena]
		kirakii		'very'					[ki'raki ⁱ]

a ^e	gae	‘go up’	[ga ^e] *
a ⁱ	taina	‘ear’	[^l ta ⁱ na]
	pai	‘sling’	[^l pa ⁱ]
a ^u	nau	‘clay pot’	[^l na ^u]
	bubau	‘green coconut’	[^l buba ^u]
e ⁱ	pei	‘seed’	[^l pe ⁱ]
	reigha	‘ginger’	[^l re ⁱ ya]
e ^o	kweo	‘sound of axe hitting wood’	[^l k ^w e ^o]
e ^u	mimeu	‘dream’	[^l mime ^u]
i ^u	niuna	‘drink’	[^l ni ^u na]
	iuwagha	‘bear fruit’	[^l i ^u waya]
o ^e	poe	‘white’	[^l po ^e]
	kapoe	‘famine’	[^l kapo ^e]
o ⁱ	sitoi	‘drip’	[^l sito ⁱ]
	kasitowoi	‘tap, touch’	[kasi ^l towo ⁱ]

*At the 2012 workshop some community members considered ‘gae’ a one syllable word [^lga^e] others said [^lga^eje]. This word was the only example of /ae/ as a vowel sequence.

1.1.4 Suprasegmentals (tone, stress, length)

Stress is generally on the penultimate syllable and does not need to be indicated orthographically. Tone is not phonemic. Tone falls at the end of a sentence and rises at the start of a question.

1.1.5 Syllable Patterns

Syllable patterns observed are CV, V, CVC.

CV This is the most common syllable pattern in Anuki.

Word initial	CV.CV	bata	‘two’
	CV.CV.CV	binama	‘hornbill’
Word medial	V.CV.CV	abagi	‘I worked’
	CV.CV.CV.CV	bonuvina	‘full’
Word final	CV.CV	kipu	‘dive’
	CV.CV.CV.CV.CV	tamotatara	‘open’

V V syllables occur word initially and only occasionally word medially or finally.

Word initial	V.CV	iyō	‘arrow’
	V.CV.CV	obari	‘breadfruit’
Word final	CV.V	tui	‘lime’

CVC Does occur but limited to /m/ as final consonant. In Maiadomu (Fergusson Island, Milne Bay Province) speakers often delete the vowel following a nasal, but maintain an underlying CV pattern. The Anuki do not recognize any vowel after m, which is consistent with other Papuan Tip languages such as Ghayavi.

Word Initial	CVC	pom	‘night’
	CVC.CV	kimta	‘age group’
Word Medial	CV.CV.CVC.CV	muridamdi	‘followers’
	CV.CVC.CV.CV	matamketa	‘door’
Word Final	CV.CVC	maram	‘tomorrow’
	CV.CVC	tenam	‘pool’

One word with a word medial and a word final [n] was identified

Word Final	CV.CVC.CVC	kiikonkon	‘banana hanger for feasts’
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1.1.6 Conventions: Phonological

In fast speech both vowels and consonants are at times dropped.

Word	Fast Speech	Slow Speech	Meaning
pepepewa	[pe [•] 'pewa]	[pepe'pewa]	'walking'
kasitowoi	[kas'towo ⁱ]	[kasi'towo ⁱ]	'tap, touch'

Labialisation can be caused by [ii] as well as by stress.

miisena	[m ^w i'sena] [mi ⁱ 'sena]	'good one'
poe	[po ^e]	'white'
poepoena	[po ^e p ^w ena]	'white ones'

Labialisation also occurs following rounded vowels and has been included in the orthographic representation of words as it helps maintain the CV pattern of the language.

ivinuwanuwana	[ivi ₁ nuwa ₁ nuwa'neda]	'he is having compassion on us'
okokowa	[ʔoko'kowa]	'clam shell'

Palatalisation occurs following unrounded vowels and has been included in the orthographic representation of words.

pepeya	[pe'peja]	'child'
tayina	[ta'jina]	'pull'
wasikukaya	[wa ₁ siku'waja]	'bend down'

There is free variation of [ɾ] and [r]. The tap is more common than the trill.

rarima	[ra'rima]	[ra'rima]	'water'
arurubo	[aru'rubo]	[aru'rubo]	heron

1.1.7 Conventions: Orthographic

A. Distinguishing the syllabic lengthened [m:] sound and the typical non-lengthened [m] sound.

Problem: the ‘m’ sound is ‘pulled’ so that it would be phonetically written [m:] in a few words. Two words, the marker for location [-ma] and the word for ‘here’ [m:a] are identical except for this lengthened m.

Solution: To differentiate these words the ‘m’ alphabetic symbol is doubled to indicate the extra length when the sound is ‘pulled’. Hence the syllabic sound is written /mm/ and typical non-lengthened sound is written /m/.

Reason: The two words must be differentiated. Doubling the letters represents graphically the lengthened sound.

Note: This digraph only occurs in two words /mma/ ‘here’ and /mmko/ ‘this’. These can have suffixes added /mmkodi/ ‘these ones’. The [m:] is distinctly syllabic and can be recognized as such in both speech and song.

B. Differentiate the two ‘i’ sounds.

Problem: There are two distinct ‘i’ sounds in Anuki with a limited number of alphabetic symbols available to represent the two. The first and most common is phonetic [i]. The second sound is phonetically [i̯]. Because the Anuki [i̯] is always paired with the [i] the unique vowel combination is really diphthong [ii]. Similarly to the distinctive [m:] represented by /mm/ the [ii] diphthong is perceived by Anuki speakers to be ‘pulled’.

Solution: Represent this sound similarly to that which was decided in neighbouring Gapapaiwa, with /ii/

Reason: This orthographic decision has worked well for the Gapapaiwa, it graphically represents the ‘pull’ of the ‘i’. The diphthong is significant as it separates two object markers;

i-ruvi-mii ‘3s- hit-1pl(excl) ‘he/she/it hit us(excl)’

i-ruvi-mi ‘3s-hit-2pl’ ‘he/she/it hit you(pl)’

C. Differentiate the two ‘g’ sounds’

Problem: There are two distinct ‘g’ sounds, [g] and [ɣ]. These sounds occur in identical environments so an alphabetic distinction was necessary. ie [gamo] ‘language’ and [ɣamoyamo] ‘animals’.

Solution: As with neighbouring Gapapaiwa, the community decided to represent the ‘soft g’ [ɣ] with the diagraph /gh/. The hard g [g] is represented by /g/.

Reason: The alphabetic symbol ‘h’ is not needed for any other single sound in Anuki. In English the ‘h’ is a breathy sound and [ɣ] is a ‘breathy g’. As such, those who have learned to spell in English may be assisted in associating breathiness by attaching the ‘h’ symbol to the ‘g’. This diagraph has worked well in the Gapapaiwa orthography.

D. Differentiate ‘g’ and ‘k’ sounds from their labialised counterparts.

Problem: Both [g] and [k] sounds in Anuki have labialised counterparts that occur in identical or analogous environments, thus a graphic distinction is required.

[kɛru]	‘taro’	[k ^w ɛru]	‘frog’
[gari]	‘fence’	[aɡ ^w ari]	‘I speared/shot’

Solution: The grapheme ‘w’ was added to both stops [k] and [g] to form the diagraphs /kw/ and /gw/ to represent the labialised form.

Reason: This was a decision based on the intuitions of Anuki writers. Digraphs for a single sound were already established. The most commonly perceived syllable pattern (CV) is maintained by the consonant digraphs /kw/ for [k^w] and /gw/ for [g^w].

E. The close-back-rounded vowel sounds [u] and [ʊ]

Problem: In 2000 Lyn Landweer suggested a need for a distinction between [u] and [ʊ] in Anuki. In 2012 it was observed that not all Anuki make this distinction, but the community decided to return to the 2000 decision to use /ou/. In recorded word lists, it is difficult to separate the two sounds. In general use, context separates the meaning of all minimal pairs.

Solution: /ou/ is used for the ‘pulled’ sound.

Reason: The [u] /ou/ is ‘proper Anuki’ and should be represented specifically. The nearby Ghayavi also use /ou/ for a similar sound, including in their pronouns like Anuki do.

F. Lyn Landweer suggested a need to separate [e] and [ɛ]. Discussion with Anuki speakers showed that only a few distinguish the separate sound. The community decided in 2012 to use /ee/ to represent [ɛ]. The community struggled to come up with more than a few examples of the sound and in the words lists recorded at that workshop did not say them any differently beyond the effects of stress. The words which Lyn Landweer had suggested in 2000 demonstrated the different sounds were not considered distinct by the community in 2012. I expect that the /ee/ shall fall out of use.

Word	2000 transcription	2012 transcription	Meaning
kekeri kekeri	[kekɛrikekɛri]	[keˌkeri keˈkeri]	‘willy wag-tail bird’
menameni	[mɛnameni]	[ˌmenaˈmeni]	‘black and red parrot’
amakee	[amake]	[aˈmake]	‘I am walking’
kee	nil	[ˈkeː]	‘deny’
eeke	nil	[ˈeːka]	‘okay’

G. Borrowed words

Borrowed words often do not follow Anuki orthographic or phonemic rules. They use letters not in the Anuki orthography, consonant clusters and CVC syllables other than CVm.

Pol	‘Paul’	*no /l/ in Anuki
Mosis	‘Moses’	*no CVs in Anuki
Grik	‘Greek’	*no /gr/ or CCVC in Anuki
Prist	‘Priest’	*no /pr/ or /st/ or CCVCC in Anuki

At the 2012 Alphabet Review workshop it was decided to spell borrowed words using Anuki spelling rules and to keep the borrowed letters and consonant clusters. They also decided to use italics for borrowed words, a decision I expect will rarely be used and soon fall out of use.

Transcription of a recorded passage

ka'tuja kajapi'pi'ka 'geru bi'jadi woru'kama|| ka'tuja kajapi'pi'ka na 'tagu 'kiplin
wa'vi'nena 'teja tomo,yana'kana 'ronol|| kapi'kada da'bine ki'kire ka'make jo'woya| bi
tomo,yana'kina i'wona bo| gu'rubu i'ruyu ki'raki' bi 'tana je'kana 'tami tupotu'pomi na
i'naga^e kaniyo'mije bi tu'mi'na wa'sina||

kasi'pere i'kovi bi 'jeka bi'dina tomo,yana'kina| 'kiplin 'teja 'tudi 'kadi 'gara
sikabitavetave'jana bi sineyetu'tura sivi'kote|| 'tag avira,bora'bobo aja,maka'make na
kiplin wa'vi'nena igeyomi'ri 'kana 'gara ivitu'ki'ni bi 'kana pens ka'waya bi 'kana top
iko'teni. aki'tada tu'padi si'jaru,paru'pama|| ajaki,taki'tana 'tagu 'bada ku'gara avitu'ki'ni
'kutop ka'waya bi pens ka'waya bi 'jama 'kutu ka'juna da ka'gedu||

wa'sina kajo'woya ,kana'jeka tomo,yana'kina 'ronol ivi'nayo mu'rine 'kiplin wa'vi'nena
'teja bi 'tagu|| ka'jeka ka'jowo'yada ka'jaki'tada tomo,yana'kina 'nadi ija'jojo ki'raki'
wawu,tapu'vena i'wona bo| na'boda 'koga^e|| wa'sina tum tu,potu'pomi' na ma,yata'raya
ka'nayo bi 'tudi ,kamo'naga|| kajeka towa'wona ka'nayo da na'wane kaka'biga^e bi no'kona
nuba'basu ka'mone||

ka'noda kaki'biga^e bi 'yama 'kutu ,kaka'wara kape'pewa ka'jano'noda ga,raga'raje 'ruyu
bi'bi'na 'tagu si'nigu si'jara'jara na a'tura bi a'wona bo| 'tagu ani'kote| ba'suna 'tagu
si'nigu sa'jara'jara|| wa'sina ku'gara a,vitu'ki'ni bi avi'kote maya bi ka'tuja ka'nayo da
ba'reje kaka'niba^u||

ja'guto 'kiplin wa've'nena 'tuna ere penpen'sina bi ka'tuja ka'nayo da be'reje kaka'nibu bi
i'wona bo| 'tagu ana'nayo ani'towa bi mu'rije na ani'gara|| wa'sina i'nayo ivi'towa i'kovi bi
i'pi'ka na ivi'kote||

tomo,yana'kina wa'vi'nena i,geyo'mi'ri da ra'rima ivi,muja'muja ti 'kani na i'kovi bi
wa'sina pu'wata 'kakam bi 'nama ja'wata ka'kema|| wa'sina 'nama tuyu'rina||

Wagawaga Waragututuna

Katuya kayapiipiika geru biiyadi Worukama. Katuya kayapiipiika na tagu, Kipling,
wavinena teya tomoghanakina Ronol. Kapiikada Dabine kikire kamake yowogha, bi
tomoghanakina iwona bo, “Guruba irughu kirakii bi tana yekana tami tupotupomi na
inagae kanighomiye bi tumiina wasina.”

Kasipere ikovi bi yeka biidina tomoghanakina,Kipling teya toudi kadi gara
sikabitavetaveyana bi sineghetutura sivikote. Tagu aviraborabobo ayamakamakee na
Kipling wavinena igeghomiiri kana gara ivitukiini bi kana pens kawagha bi kana top

ikoteni. Akitada tupadi siyaruparupama. Ayakitakitana tagu bada kugara avitukiini, kutop kawagha bi pens kawagha bi yama koutu kayuna da kagedu.

Wasina kayowogha kanayeka. Tomoghanakina Ronol ivinagho murine Kipling wavinena teya bi tagu. Kayeka kayowoghada kayakitada tomoghanakina nada iyayoyo kirakii wawutapuvana iwona bo, “Naboda kogae.” Wasina toumii tupotupomii na maghataragha kanagho bi tudi kamonagha. Kayeka towawona kanagho da nawane kakabigae bi nokona nubabasu kamone.

Kanoda kakabigae bi yama koutu kakawara kapepewa kayanonoda garagaraye rughu biidina tagu sinigu siyayarayara na atura bi awona bo, “Tagu anikote, basuna tagu sinigu sayarayara. Wasina kugara avitukiini bi avikote magha bi katuya kanagho da bareye kakanibau.

Yaguto Kipling wavinena tuna ere penpensina bi katuya kanagho da bareye kakanibu bi iwona bo, “Tagu ananagho anitowa bi muriye na anigara. Wasina inagho ivitowa ikovi bi ipiika na ivikote.

Tomoghanakina wavinena igeghomiiri da rarima ivimuyamuya ti kaniuna ikovi bi wasina puwata kakam bi nama yawata kakena. Wasina nama tughurina.

We (excl) set off and came to Woruka to get on a boat. We (excl) set off, me, Kipling and his wife and old man Ronald. When we (excl) came to Dabi beach we sat down and old man Ronald said “The tide is very high. When we (incl) cross you short ones will have the water at your neck but we tall ones will be okay.”

When we finished resting old man and Kipling took off their clothes and they waded in just pants. I was staying quiet, so Kipling’s wife got up and took off her clothes and wore only her underpants and undershirt. I saw all of them taking their clothes off. As I watched I took off my clothes, wore only my top and pants. We carried our string bags on our heads.

Ronald went ahead of us (excl) and I, with Kipling’s wife, came after him. When we waded into the water we saw old man was already in the deep water so he told us to move up a little. We short ones waded in the shallow path while they waded in the deep path. That night we (excl) went across to the other side.

When we (excl) got across we carried our string bags and entered the bush. My skin was hurting so I put my things down and said ‘Because my skin is itching I will change.’ Then the clothes I had taken off, I wore them again and we went to the house.

Kipling’s wife wore only pants and we (excl) went to the house. Then she said that she will go and have her wash then change her clothes. When she finished having her wash she

came back and wore clothes.

Old man's wife prepared food for us to eat and tea to drink and when it was finished we went to sleep there. This is the end.

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