

How to  
Read and Write  
Bisã

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# 1. Introduction

The Bisā language has two dialects, the Busa dialect spoken in New-Bussa and surrounding towns, and the Wawa dialect spoken at Wawa and the older surrounding towns and villages.. The Busa dialect has been greatly influenced by Hausa, while the Wawa dialect is the purer form of the language. It is the Wawa dialect that has been put into writing and is described in this booklet. The way of writing a language has to be based on sound principles. It should be accurate, consistent, convenient, standard and acceptable. Let us look at these principles in relation to how we write Bisā.

**1. Accurate.** The writing system must agree with the sound system of the language being written. All sounds which make a difference to the meaning of words in a language by being interchanged should be written differently. For example the words:

(de) father      (dɛ) kill

are pronounced differently and therefore must be written differently or else there will be confusion and ambiguity for the reader of the language.

Minor differences in pronunciation which do not affect the meaning of words should not be written differently. Speakers may not be aware of such small differences and know automatically that they do not change the meaning of words. For example, the word (sī) 'take' can be pronounced in two slightly different ways as (sī) or (shī), but this does not change the meaning of the word and therefore should not be reflected in how we write it.

**2. Consistent** The same sound should always be written the same way. The English language often breaks this principle. For example the sound (f) is written as: fresh, telephone, off, rough. Bisã however, follows this principle so that the same sound is always written the same way.

**3. Convenience** Each sound should be written in the simplest possible way, so that it won't be difficult to type and will be easy to read and write. The simplest way to write sounds is by using one of the letters of the English alphabet found on typewriters. This is done in Bisã for 5 of the 7 oral vowels (a, e, i, o, u), and for all but two of the consonants, (gb) and (kp) which are written with two characters.

**4. Standardization** The way of writing a particular sound should be the same from one language to another. Thus the sound (gb) is written the same way in Yoruba and a host of other languages. This makes it easy for Nigerians to pronounce the names of fellow Nigerians and their places of origin correctly. In Hausa there is no (gb), (kp), (ɛ), (ɔ) or nasal vowels, so Hausa does not have symbols for these. Boko, Bokobaru and Bariba are all written the same way as Bisã.

**5. Acceptability** A good orthography should be familiar and acceptable to the speakers of the language for whom it is intended. It is important to pay attention to people's feelings about the spelling of their language. It is also necessary for speakers who have such feelings to be open-minded and to examine the proposed orthography on its merits. This orthography has been used acceptably by the Boko in Benin Republic for many years and should prove to be an efficient way of writing Bisã as well.

## 2. Vowels

There are 12 Bisā vowels. Seven are oral and five are nasal:

i	e	ε	a	ɔ	o	u
ĩ		ẽ	ã	ɔ̃		ũ

Rule Nasalisation of a vowel is shown by a tilde (~) written over the vowel.

As there are only 5 vowels in the English alphabet, simple symbols cannot be found for all the Bisā vowels. We have to look elsewhere for the two remaining oral vowels and also for a system of marking nasal vowels. The alternatives are:

1. To use the phonetic symbols (ε) and (ɔ).

eg. (tɔ) name                      (mɛɛ) body                      (fute) rise

This is done for many African languages and is accurate and consistent, but as the letters (ε) and (ɔ) are not found on standard typewriters, it is not convenient. However these special letters are not difficult to write and can be added to typewriters and are even more easily added to a computer fonts.

2. To use a dot under a vowel as in Yoruba

eg. (tɔ̣) name                      (mɛ̣ɛ) body                      (futẹ) rise

Nasalisation of the vowel and tone are very common in Bisā. These both have to be shown by modifying the vowel as will be shown below. To add a third modification would be overloading the vowel, Ex. (ɛ̣̃), so we have chosen to use the phonetic symbols.

Five of the Bisā vowels can be nasalized and these nasal vowels can be differentiated from oral vowels as is done in other languages like Yoruba by using a tilde (~), or by adding (n) after the vowel.

i	ε	a	ɔ	u
ĩ	ẽ	ã	õ	ũ
in	en	an	on	un

The last line is not possible in Bisā because of the common occurrence of the syllabic nasal which is also represented by the letter (n). It would be over-loading the symbol to use it for three different sounds - nasal vowel, nasal consonant and syllabic nasal.

In terms of accuracy, the following way of writing the 12 Bisā vowels is fully adequate.

oral	i	e	ε	a	ɔ	o	u
nasal	ĩ		ẽ	ã	õ		ũ

## Pronunciation of oral vowels

(a) sounds like (a) in the English word (hat).

(bàa) rope                      (pa) fill                      (kpá) give

(i) sounds like (ee) in the English word (peep)

(sí) take                      (pípi) wash                      (gbiri) rat

(u) sounds like (ou) in the English word (group)

(su) return                      (aru) blood                      (kú) be there

(ɔ) sounds like (o) in the English word (sock)

(kɔnkɔ) morning                      (kpɔ̀ɔ) fish                      (lògɔ̀ɔ) well

(o) sounds like (or) in the English word (sort)

(ko) chicken                      (do) one                      (poro) untie

(ɛ) sounds like (e) in the English word (pen)

(lé) mouth                      (sète) pick up                      (kɛ) do

(e) sounds like (i) in the English word (pip)

(e) see                      (blèe) goat                      (leemaa) umbrella

## Pronunciation of nasal vowels

(ã) is (a) nasalised. It is not in English.

(kã) hair, feather    (wã) hurry    (sãã) lick

(ẽ) is (e) nasalised. It is not in English.

(sẽẽ) grass    (fẽ) squeeze    (gẽ) enter

(õ) is (o) nasalised. It is not in English.

(dõ) know    (sõsõ) insult    (gbõõ) excreta

(ĩ) is (i) nasalised. It is not in English.

(zĩ) work    (pãĩ) wicked    (vĩ) have

(ũ) is (u) nasalised. It is not in English.

(gũmaa) bedbug    (ũkã) itch    (pũtã) explode

If a word ends in (ũ) it is pronounced as (m) or (ng).

(à zĩ ũ) it is difficult    (gbakũu) baboon

(kũ) to catch    (yãũ) rheumatism

Rule As there is no contrast between nasal and non-nasal vowels that follow directly after the consonants (m) and (n), the tilde (˜) is not written.

(nanɔ) wife    (mèɛ) body    (né) child

(musu) above    (ama) but    (mana) good

Note The vowels (e) et (o) are never nasalised.

(tofe) hunter    (de) father    (koso) knee

Note The consonant (l) never precedes a nasal vowel unless it is part of a consonant cluster (bl, pl, vl, fl, ml)

(vlã) tail    (mlẽẽ) snake    (flãa) whip



## Long vowels

All the vowels can be lengthened and are then written as two vowels.

(sɔɔro) five	(tɛ̃ɛ) reddish	(bee) even
(gwãani) night	(aakɔ̃) three	(siikɔ̃) four
(wèèè) hole	(dòò) soup	(zùu) cow

Rule When nasal vowels follow each other, the tilde is written only on the first vowel.

(gwãani) night	(swèè) heart	(kɔ̃ɔ) mongoose
(fãkɔ̃a) disperse	(ĩa) wind	(gĩa) yesterday

## Lengthening of vowels

1. Nouns and noun phrases ending in low tone.

When the last vowel of a noun or noun phrase has low tone, the vowel is lengthened with rising tone when it is followed by another low tone.

(ma zùu gà) my cow died

(ma dikirii òò nòbòò tùtu kɛ) my boss raises animals

(ma gbè kũ à a lèè è) I saw the person who hit him

When followed by an adjective or noun or a high tone, low tone nouns remain short.

(ma zù né bòròò è) I saw a calf

(gbè tìkisiin dí) that is a heavy rock

2. Questions.

The last vowel of question word question clauses lengthens.

(dín a ũu) who is he?

(bòren à gèè buraa) when did he go to farm?

(Bíó gèè máa) where did Bio go?

### 3. Consonants

There are 20 Bisā consonants:

b	d	f	g	gb	h	k
kp	l	m	n	p	r	s
t	v	w	y	z	'	

Note: (c, j, q, x) do not exist in Bisā. (b, d, f, k, l, m, n, p, t, v, w, z) have the same sound as in English.

(búsu) raw	(bura) farm	(bee) even
(dada) learn	(dígi) mirror	(didi) climb
(fṣ) able	(fute) to rise	(flāa) whip
(kína) chief	(kòtoo) throat	(ke) do
(lá) leaf	(léte) to fall	(lukutē) dust
(mṵ) moon	(mìi) head	(mana) good
(né) child	(nini) shadow	(néne) tongue
(pa) fill	(pèe) mat	(pura) white
(tá) depart	(tofe) hunter	(tó) name
(vú) wake	(vī) to have	(vlā) tail
(wá) bone	(wé) eye	(wisi) salt
(zùu) cow	(zó) honey	(zī) work

(gb) and (kp) are not found in English, but are common in African languages.

(kpé) room	(kpòṵ) fish	(kpi) mountain
(gbèe) stone	(gbṵṵ) excreta	(gbāgbā) stiffen

(g) sounds like (g) in girl, not like (g) in large.

(ga) die	(zàgaa) storm	(gisi) hip
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(s) sounds like the (s) or the (c) in sauce, never like (s) in passion or nose. When (s) is followed by (i) or (e), the (s) may be pronounced like (sh), but it is always written as (s).

(sɔɔro) five            (nɛ̀sɛɛ) stomach    (sãtɛ̃) deceive  
(sĩ) groundnut        (kuse) tortoise     (sí) take

(r) is used only in the middle of words. It is spoken faster than an English (r).

(mare) old man        (bára) skin            (oro) pot

(y) sounds like the (y) in English before oral vowels, but before nasal vowels it is pronounced (ɲ) or (ny).

(yía) sell                (yei) want              (yó) melt  
(yã) word                (yĩ) nose                (yõ) breast

Note Do not write (yã) as (nyã).

(h) only exists in loanwords or sound words:

(haba) surprise!        (kórohũhũ) large owl    (ɛ̃hɛ̃) aha!  
(hee) hey!                (Haruna) Aaron            (Hawau) Eve

## Apostrophe (')

Rule The apostrophe (') is only used in the middle of a word to show a break in sound (glottal stop).

(dò'oro) saucepot	(wé'i) tears	(gbè'a) cassava
(é'ε) break many	(wé'i) shame	(zàga'ia) storm
(yǎ'orii) speaker	(gbǝ'i) slag	(ɔgɔ'i) interest

There are many words which begin with a glottal stop, but it is never written in this position, so these words appear to begin with a vowel. However there is a break in sound before these words in speech.

(ma oro b̀) I made a pot	(o ú bl̀) we ate food
(à ékε t̀) he told a lie	(ò í mi) they drank
(ma annabii è) I saw a prophet	

Pronouns are the only words which begin with a vowel. Take note of the difference in pronunciation, there is no break of sound before a pronoun.

(ma á é) I saw you
(ó a d̃) we know him
(ani n gba) he will give it to you
(o ó z̃ida kai k̀) we risked our lives

## Consonant clusters

There are not many groups of consonants, but words with the following combinations exist and some of the words are very common.

gy	ky			
gw	kw	sw	zw	
ml	bl	pl	fl	vl

(gyã) sickness	(gwa) to look at	(mlèè) snake
(gyaanɔ) widow	(gwe) there	(plèplè) select
(kyã) catarrh	(gwãani) night	(pla) two
(kyate) sandal	(kwã) crocodile	(blèe) goat
(kyó) reading	(kwa) grasshopper	(blá) beans
(swa) river	(zwãne) catfish	(flà) whip
(swèè) heart	(blè) produce	(vlã) tail

The nasal consonants (n) and (m) also form clusters within a word with other consonants. Before (m, b, p) the nasal consonant is written (m), otherwise it is written as (n).

(dãmboroo) spider	(kãmma bo) rest
(sãmpa) bamboo	(Amboside) Amboshidi
(wëndii) life	(anzuree) inlaw
(wëndã) compassion)	(annabii) prophet

## 4. Syllabic Nasal

The syllabic nasal is like the consonant (n) but always has a tone, and can occur alone or as part of a word. It is usually written as an (n) like the consonant (n).

- (má ye ñ gé) I want you to go  
(maten gé ñ bea) I am going to your house  
(ma ñ é) I saw them  
(ma pón gwe) that is mine  
(à dà zén) he began his journey

There are several words which begin with a syllabic nasal. Some are pronoun compounds:

- |                             |                      |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| (mpi) you                   | (nna) sweet          |
| (ndi) you (Habitual)        | (nten) you (Present) |
| (nn) yes!                   | (ngee) of course!    |
| (n'n) expression of disgust |                      |

It also occurs in the middle of a compound word.

- |                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| (yenyĩ) love    | (swèkèngu) shock  |
| (zāngu) hate    | (yā'ūmma) problem |
| (pódamma) spell | (donyĩ) religion  |
| (ísimma) sweat  | (kèndo) nine      |

Compare the above words with the following which have a nasal consonant before another consonant.

- |                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| (Donko) a village    | (wèndii) life      |
| (Ambosidi) a village | (Yangba) a village |
| (kɔnkɔ) morning      | (ōndō) wisdom      |
| (tānka) ring         | (pínki) all        |

The nasal vowel (ū) may sound like a syllabic nasal or an (m), but it should not be written as such.

(kū) to catch Compare: (adi kūro) he didn't catch it  
(gbakūu) baboon (kū gbakūuo) with baboon  
(mèn ūgbaa) how many?

Note The little word (ū) which means 'equivalent to' should not be confused with a syllabic nasal.

(Yurume ma ūro) I'm not Yoruba  
(à zī ū) it is difficult  
(o lè gè ū) we found it dead

### **Pronunciation of the syllabic nasal**

Whether occurring alone or in a word, when the syllabic nasal occurs before (m, b, p) it is pronounced as an (m)

(n mare gèè n bea) your elder went to their house

Before (d, l, n, s, t, z) it is pronounced as (n).

(n su kū gǎao) you returned with guinea fowl

Before (f, g, gb, k, kp, v, w, y, ') or the pronoun (a) it is pronounced as (ng)

(ma n yǎ mà) I heard you

(Bisān a ū) he is Bisā

(n a pó sè) you took his

If before another vowel, it is pronounced and written as (nw).

(kū gbē kū à kú kpénwo) with the person who is in the house

If before another syllabic nasal it is pronounced long.

(Bisān n ū) you are Bisā (n̄ n pó sé) take yours

## 5. Tone

### Lexical tone

There are three level lexical (dictionary) tones: high, mid and low. Every syllable has a tone, but it is only written when necessary to avoid ambiguity.

An acute accent ( ´ ) represents high tone.

A grave accent ( ` ) represents low tone.

Mid tone is not marked.

There are many one syllable words in Bisā only distinguished by lexical tone. So tone is indicated to differentiate these words that would otherwise be written the same.

(gbá) leg	(gba) give	(gbàa) stool
(lé)mouth	(lɛ) thus	(lèɛ) thorn
(kpá) give	(kpa) direction	(kpà) gave
(ó) cry	(ɔ) hand	(zó) honey
(zòɔ) slave		

On longer words, low tone is written on the first syllable of all words that only have low tone, and high tone is written on the first syllable of all words that have only high tone.

(kpása) axe	(kpàsaa) cow-farm
(kàra) cake	(karaa) fence
(kúru) eagle	(kuru) horn
(sòkotoo) pants	(táaru) net

Rule Low tone is written on top of the tilde, but not high tone.

(gbàna) length	(gbāna) power
(bèñɛɛ) bad	(bēñɛ) alive
(zìi) war	(zī) work
(tṣṣ) penis	(tṣ) sow
(wèɛ) year	(wē) beer



## Grammatical tone

Tone in Bisā may be lexical as above or grammatical. Grammatical tone occurs on pronouns and verbs.

### Object and Possessive pronouns

#### Possessive pronouns

my	your	his/her	our	your	their
ma	n	a	ó	á	ń

#### Direct Object pronouns

me	you	him/her	us	you	them
ma	n	a	ó	á	ń

#### Dative pronouns (to, on)

me	you	him/her	us	you	them
-ma	-mma	-a	-wá	-áwa	-ńma

#### Benefactive pronouns (to, for)

me	you	him/her	us	you	them
-mene	-nne	-ne	-wére	-áre	-ńne

#### Accompaniment pronouns (with)

me	you	him/her	us	you	them
kūmao	kūnwo	kāao/-o	kūóo	kāáo	kūńwo

Rule Indirect Object pronouns are joined to the preceding verb:

(ma yā ònɛ) I spoke to him

(ma yā òáre) I spoke to you (plural)

Rule Write high tone on pronouns as shown above.

(ma ń é) I saw them  
 (ma òńε) I told them  
 (ò ó pó è) they found ours  
 (ma kpàńma) I gave it to them  
 (mani gé kǎáo) I will go with you

### Subject pronouns

There are six basic tenses in Bisā, each with its own set of subject pronouns. Tones should always be written on these pronouns as shown:

<u>Tense</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>you</u>	<u>he</u> <u>she</u>	<u>we</u>	<u>you</u>	<u>they</u> <u>one</u>
Past	ma	ma	n	a	o	a
Stative	má	ń	a	ó	á	ò
Subjunc	mà	̀n	à	ò	à	ò
Future	mani	ĩni	ani	óni	áni	oni
Present	maten	nten	àten	óten	áten	òten
Habitual	mađi	ndi	àdi	odi	adi	òdi

Rule Write tone on Subject pronouns as shown.

(má kun) I am here                      (ń kũna) you're holding it  
 (ó vĩ) we have it                          (á yemai) you love me  
 (óni onε) we'll tell him                (áni onε) you will tell him  
 (óten zĩ kε) we're working            (áten zĩ kε) you're working

(mà gé yá) will I go?                    (ò gé) let's go  
 (à zĩ kε) work!                              (òdi nɔ sé) one marries  
 (ò zĩ kè) they worked                    (àdi wē mi) he drinks beer  
 (àten pó ble) he is eating              (áten gé) you are going

## Verb tone

The normal tone on the first syllable of verbs is high, mid or low.

(à tá) depart!	(n̄ gḗ) go!
(à kipa) get down!	(n̄ kátε) put them down!

In the Past tense the first syllable usually becomes low.

Rule Write low tone on the first syllable of verbs in the Past tense.

(kū ma pṓ blè) when I ate	(ma tàta) I closed it
(Bíṓ zī kḗ) Bio worked	(à nana ò) he dreamed

Note There are two exceptions to this rule.

1. In Past tense, if the verb follows an Object pronoun, only verbs following the 'him/her' pronoun will have low tone. The first syllable of the verb after other Object pronouns has the same tone as the Object pronoun.

(ma a è) I saw him	(à ma e) he saw me
(à n e) he saw you	(ma n̄ é) I saw them
(a ó é) he saw us	(ma á é) I saw you

2. In Past tense, if the verb is Intransitive (meaning it does not take an object), only verbs following 'him/her' and 'they' will have low tone. The first syllable of the verb after other Subject pronouns will have the same tone as the Subject pronoun.

### Intransitive

(ma bo) I went out  
(n fṓ) you were able  
(o kã) we are satisfied  
(a bṓtε) you went out

### Transitive

(ma bṓ) I took it out  
(n fṓ) you endured it  
(o kã) we locked it  
(a bṓtε) you took them out

## 6. Compound Words

### Compound nouns

There are seven ways of forming compound nouns

1. A group of words including a verb and a pronoun:

(yenyĩ) love	(ísimma) sweat
(yādannēnaa) teaching	(denla) superiority
(zāngu) hate	(yā'onnenaa) counsel

2. Words consisting of a verb preceded and/or followed by a noun, especially when followed by (gɔɔ) time, (ki) place and (bò) instrument.

(zĩkɛgɔɔ) work time	(takadakēbɔɔ) pen
(ɔsikaki) wrestling place	(zùkūbaa) tether
(gēki) entrance	(gbēde) murder
(igɔɔ) birthday	(gbēke) grace
(ésekegɔɔ) sorghum harvest	

3. Words composed of two nouns of which the first qualifies the second rather than owning it.

(téli) gun	(fēneda) sword	(gbìpete) pillar
(kone) chicken	(gónɛ) pestle	(mlēda) python
(nɔpose) girlfriend	(swabara) riverbank	(be'ɔgɔ) tax
(ùsiwɛɛɛ) dye-pit	(tévura) flame	(gɔgbē) man

Rule In compound nouns the first noun keeps its written tone.

4. All reduplicated words, whether nouns, verbs, adverbs or numbers are written as one word.

(pleple) to select	(súsu) straight
(dodo) one by one	(sāsā) stray
(dasidasi) many	(pāsipāsi) terrible

5. Participles and actor nouns are formed by adding (-naa) and (-rii) to a simple or compound verb.

(zĩ) send	(zĩnaa) sending	(zĩrii) messenger
(f̃ai bo) play	(f̃aibonaa) talking	(f̃aiborii) talker
(zĩ kε) work	(zĩkenaa) working	(zĩkerii) worker
(bú ba) farm	(búbanaa) farming	(búbarii) farmer
(kõ kakara) gather	(kõkakaranaa) gathering	

6. Nouns are formed by adding the proprietor affix (-de) to other words.

(yenyĩde) loved one	(kekede) cyclist
(wéde) seed bearing	(zùde) cow owner
(búde) farm owner	(ogode) rich man

7. A noun followed by an adjective is normally written as two words, but when the adjective follows a body part or (gu) place it is written as one word.

(mènna) good health	(pɔnna) joy
(mìnna) good luck	(mìsari) foolish
(sãgbãna) stubbornness	(ɔkɔri) empty handed
(gusira) darkness	(gupura) light
(guwãna) heat	(pɔfɛ) anger
(lébara) lip	(ɔnɛ) finger
(gbánɛnɔ) toes	(ɔĩ) in hand
(létãro) chin	(mìkã) hair
(wézɛ) intelligence	(lékpãsã) message

## Compound verbs

A verb preceded by an object is written as two words even though the equivalent English meaning is one word. The verb is the part that changes its tone in Past tense, while the tone on the object always stays the same.

(mani i o) I will sleep                      (Bíó tókó ò) Bio coughed

(óten fâai bo) we are talking              (ma la dà) I swore

## Suffixes

Rule Join suffixes beginning with a vowel to the preceding word.

(nten gé buraa) are you going to farm?

(mani géó) I will go with it

(à sã̀n) he forgot                      (a ku kpen) its in the room

(Bake gèè swai) Bake went to the river

Rule Six short postpositions, (-la) over, (-i) near, (-gu/-n) in, (-a) at/on, (-nɛ) to/for and (-lɛ) in, are always joined to the preceding word:

(à ye ɔ̀gɔ̀i) he loves money      (à sã̀magu) I forgot

(à yemai) he loves me              (ma ò Bíónɛ) I told Bio

(à de Bíola) he is better than Bio

(ma kpà Bíoa) I gave it to Bio

(à ku kpén) it's in the room

Some other suffixes beginning with a consonant are joined:

(gbě̀nɔ̀ ni gé buramɛ̀) people will go to the farm

(òdigõ̀ yã̀ke marò) they never hear anything

## 7. Sample text

### Lakutu kína nénokpare

Lakutu kína mé à kun à nokpare vī. Nokpare pìin baadi sīnda pínki yei lakutu pìi gūn. Lakutu kína bídi kè gbě kū áni nokpare pì kpáa. Akū kína pì ten laasun lé. Kū à laasun lè à làka, a be batun f̄s lí gbèntē ze gwe, akū à pì: Gbě kū à kàa zù à f̄s lí pìi pà ari à bò a kpe, ade mé à né pì vī. Akū baadi pɔ kè nna. Akū kína pì: Baadi sīnda pínki gé be à soru ke. Azumazī ɔkɔsi baadi sīnda pínki su.

Zī birea ḡnɔḡnɔ Flē fùte à gèe Líkɔkɔ kīnaa à pì: Líkɔkɔ, má ye n̄ ma faaba ke f̄iti. Má ye n̄ ɔsi ká n̄ f̄s lí kū à ze kínabe batun f̄m̄ene zia yāi. Akū Líkɔkɔ pì: Tó Luda wè, mani zī pì kenne. Akū Flē pì: Ma n̄ sáabu kè. Kū a pɔ kè nna, àten yáa dɔ. Akū Líkɔkɔ fùte à nà f̄s lí pì f̄naaaa, àten f̄s. Kū à f̄s à làka, akū à gè Flē kīnaa à pìne: Zī kū n̄ dāmene, ma zī pìi kè ma làka. Akū Flē pɔ kè nna, àten ū wā.

Kū Flē fùte dɔ, à gèe Dām̄boro kīnaa. Kū à kà, akū à pì: Dām̄boro, ma su n̄ ma faaba keme. F̄s lí gbèntē mé à ze kínabe batun à wèe vī. Má ye n̄ wèee pì tatamene. Akū Dām̄boro pì: Yā f̄itime. N̄ gé n̄ vute be. Akū Dām̄boro fùte à gèe à f̄s lí pìi wèee tàta. Kū à sù, à gèe Flē bea à pì: Ma wèee pìi tàta.

Kū azumazī kà, baadi sīnda pínki soru kè, baadi a uta mana dà. Lakutu kína pì: Baadi sīnda pínki su gupuraa. Akū n̄òbɔnɔ pínki sù. Flē mé à ḡs̄ kpé, adi su káakuro. Kína pì Wisane à ōf̄ne ò na kàzunaaa. Akū Wisa pì Gāsine à fute à na kàzunaaa. Gāsi kàa zù, à f̄s lí pà, adi bo kpero. Akū Mani sù à kàa zù à f̄s lí pà, adi boro. Akū n̄òbɔnɔ pínki zù, kà dí bo f̄s lí kpero.

Flē mé à gǔ kpé zā, àten su, à sòkoto kũ utao dana. Nòbɔnɔ pínki pì: N kámma bo gǔnɔ, ìni fɔro. O zù pínki, ódi fɔro. N dǔ sãnsãn ó gbãna denla. Flē sù à kùte à fɔɔ kpà kínaa. Akũ ò pì: Flē, mɔkɔn mé n gǔ. N gbẽnɔ pínki ò kàa zù kò. Akũ Flē pì: Kũ Luda gbañao mani nɔ pì sé. Akũ kína pì: À kè mana. Flē gèe à kùte fɔ lí sare, àten wèe kũ Dãmboro tàtaare gwa, akũ à kàle pèa à zù wèee pì gũn súsú. Akũ kàa pì gèe à bò fɔ lí kpe. Akũ baadi sɔnda pínki ten yáa dɔ, baadi pɔ kè nna Flēa. Akũ kína pì ò nɔ kpá Flēa.

Akũ wé'i nòbɔnɔ kũ pínki, ò bàa lè ò tà sèe gũn zázá. Akũ Flē gǔ be sare a nanɔ yá. Nɔ yá Flē dígǔ kú be sare.