

Romanization and Pronunciation:

- This is the romanization system, which will be used to spell the language using the Roman alphabet. I'm going to describe the full system in detail below:
  - *A, a*: Pronounced like the "a" in "father".
  - *Aa, aa*: Pronounced like the "a" in "father", but held slightly longer.
  - *Ay, ay*: Pronounced like the "y" in "my".
  - *B, b*: Pronounced like the "b" in "bad".
  - *D, d*: Pronounced like the "d" in "diet".
  - *Dh, dh*: Pronounced like the "th" in "this" (never like the "th" in "thin").
  - *E, e*: Pronounced like the "e" in "get".
  - *Ee, ee*: Pronounced like the "e" in "get", but held slightly longer.
  - *Ey, ey*: Pronounced like the "ay" in "may".
  - *F, f*: Pronounced like the "f" in "fog".
  - *G, g*: Pronounced like the "g" in "goat" (never like the "g" in "genius").
  - *H, h*: Pronounced like the "h" in "head".
  - *I, i*: Pronounced like the "i" in "machine".
  - *Ii, ii*: Pronounced like the "i" in "machine", but held slightly longer.
  - *K, k*: Pronounced like the "k" in "sky" (this sound features *no* aspiration. Aspiration is the puff of air that occurs in the "k" in "kite". Compare the "k" in "kite" and the "k" in "sky" [try holding your hand in front of your face when pronouncing both]. The Afata *k* should always be pronounced like the "k" in "sky"; never like the "k" in "kite").
  - *L, l*: Pronounced like the "l" in "love".

- *M, m*: Pronounced like the "m" in "matter".
- *N, n*: Pronounced like the "n" in "never".
- *Ng, ng*: Pronounced like the "ng" in "ng".
- *O, o*: Pronounced like the "o" in "o".
- *Oo, oo*: Pronounced like the "o" in "o", but held slightly longer.
- *P, p*: Pronounced like the "p" in "pike" (this sound features *no* aspiration. Aspiration is the puff of air that occurs in the "p" in "pike". Compare the "p" in "pike" and the "p" in "spike" [try holding your hand in front of your face when pronouncing both]. The Afata *p* should always be pronounced like the "p" in "pike"; never like the "p" in "pike").
- *R, r*: Pronounced like the "r" in Spanish "ro". Nearly identical to the "r" or "d" sound in English "read" (pronounced quickly).
- *S, s*: Pronounced like the "s" in "sad".
- *Sh, sh*: Pronounced like the "sh" in "shade".
- *T, t*: Pronounced like the "t" in "take" (this sound features *no* aspiration. Aspiration is the puff of air that occurs in the "t" in "take". Compare the "t" in "take" and the "t" in "stake" [try holding your hand in front of your face when pronouncing both]. The Afata *t* should always be pronounced like the "t" in "take"; never like the "t" in "stake").
- *Th, th*: Pronounced like the "th" in "thin" (never like the "th" in "this").
- *U, u*: Pronounced like the "u" in "uminate".
- *Uu, uu*: Pronounced like the "u" in "u", but held slightly longer.
- *Ü, ü*: Pronounced like the "u" in French "ue", or the "ü" in German "ür".
- *Üü, üü*: Pronounced like the "u" in French "ue", or the "ü" in German "ür", but held slightly longer.

- **V, v:** Pronounced like the "v" in "van".
- **W, w:** Pronounced like the "w" in "walk".
- **Y, y:** Pronounced like the "y" in "yet".
- **Z, z:** Pronounced like the "z" in "zebra".
- **Zh, zh:** Pronounced like the "z" in "azure".
- **Long Vowels:** Long vowels are held for twice as long as ordinary vowels. Consider the "a" vowel in English "bat" and in English "bad". Notice how the "a" vowel in "bad" is considerably longer than the "a" vowel in "bat"? The same can be true of *any* vowel in Afata. Such vowels are written doubly (e.g. *a* is a short vowel and *aa* is a long vowel). It shouldn't require too much effort.