

Kinuk'aaz Description (One Sentence Version)

Kinuk'aaz is a language that can sound a bit slow and menacing, with a few sounds that are a bit tricky for English speakers (sound of it may be a cross between Georgian, German and Zulu).

Consonants That Are Identical to English

B - " <u>b</u> oy"	D - " <u>d</u> og"	H - " <u>h</u> ot"
K - " <u>k</u> it"	L - " <u>l</u> ot"	M - " <u>m</u> op"
N - " <u>n</u> et"	P - " <u>p</u> ot"	S - " <u>s</u> oul"
T - " <u>t</u> op"	V - " <u>v</u> at"	Z - " <u>z</u> oo"

Consonants That Are Almost Identical to English

G - *always* hard like "got"; *never* soft like "gel"

TS - like "cuts", but may occur word-initially

DZ - like "kids", but may occur word-initially

Consonants That Differ From English

' - the catch in between the "uh" and "oh" in "uh_oh"

T' - like a "t" pronounced while holding your breath

TS' - like a "ts" pronounced while holding your breath

K' - like a "k" pronounced while holding your breath

Q' - like "k" but pronounced further back in the throat

LH - like "lh" in "Milhouse", but pronounced singly

R - trilled in the back of the throat like Chewbacca

Basic Vowels

A - like the "a" in "father", but pushed forward a bit

E - *always* like the "e" in "get"; *never* silent

I - like the "i" in "machine"; reduced at word-ends

O - like the "aw" in "law"

U - like the "u" in "rude"

Ö - like the "e" in "get" pronounced with rounded lips

Ü - like the "e" in "me" pronounced with rounded lips

Diphthongs

AI - like the "i" in "ice"

IA - like the "ia" in "Mia", but quicker

OÜ - a bit like the "oy" in "boy", with lips rounded

OÜ - a bit like the "yo" in "yo", with lips rounded

Long Vowels

A, I, U and Ü can be long. Long vowels are written doubly (AA, II, UU and ÜÜ) and are held for twice as long.

Stress

Watch for the Capitalized Syllable: ki-nu-K'AAZ

Practice

TE-met "to eat"

T'O-pet "to hit"

tse-VAAK "dawn"

DZVA-pin "piece"

dö-'AAT "oil"

SOÜ-tin "roll"

TSÜÜT "pipe"

vo-REK "bread"

Q'VOP "type of fruit"

KIIN "we"

ZOR "eye"

ki-nu-K'AAZ "Omec lang."

Statement vs. Question

VAK k'u-DE-maz vo-REK.

"The man ate the bread."

VAK k'u-DE-MAZ VO-rek?

"Did the man eat the bread?"