

THE GWR WRITING SYSTEM

The script is essentially alphabetical, but since words are monosyllabic, they are written *en bloc*, consisting of the consonant symbol+horizontal bar with vowel symbols underneath; the three finals are appended at the right end of the bar, and the tone mark sits above the bar, roughly in the middle.

1. Initial consonants (written with the vowel /a/):

𐌲	𐌶	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌶	𐌶	𐌲	𐌲	𐌶	𐌲
pa	ba	ta	da	tsa	dza	tra	lla	cha	ja	ka	ga	qa

𐌲	𐌲	𐌶	𐌲	𐌶	𐌶	𐌲	𐌲	𐌶	𐌲	𐌲
fa	sa	sha	xa	ha	ma	na	nga	wa	ya	la

For citation, and in abbreviations, the consonants are written with the horizontal bar alone:

𐌲 𐌶 𐌲 𐌲 𐌲 𐌲 𐌲 𐌶 𐌶 𐌲 𐌲 𐌶 𐌲 𐌶 𐌲 𐌲 𐌲 etc.

2. Final consonants (written with /a/):

𐌲	𐌲	𐌲
aq	ang	ah

3. Initial C+w, C+y

𐌲	𐌶	𐌶	-	-	-	-	𐌲	𐌶	𐌲	etc.
pwa	bwa	mwa					pya	mya	fya	

4. Vowels (short/long) and diphthongs:

𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲
i i:	e e:	æ æ:	i i:	ɜ	a a:	u u:	o o:	ɔ ɔ:			

(Romanized in the usual way, except è for æ, ÿ for i, ɹ for ɜ, and ò for ɔ; long i: e: è: ÿ: etc.)

𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	/	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲
ey	èy	ÿy	ay	uy	oy	òy	/	iw	ew	èw	ÿw	aw	ow	òw	

𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲	𐌲
iÿ	eÿ	èÿ	uÿ	oÿ	òÿ

"Triphthongs"-- e.g. yay, way are (yw)+V(wy)-- way $\frac{y}{o}c$ yow $\frac{y}{r}g$ etc. or

using the C+y,w + V(wy)-- pway $\frac{p}{o}c$ nyu \ddot{y} $\frac{d}{u}$

5. Tones: there are diacritics for high, high-falling, low and low-rising; mid tone is unmarked.

$\frac{p}{o}$ $\frac{p}{\acute{w}:e}$ $\frac{p}{\grave{m}}$ $\frac{p}{\acute{c}}$ $\frac{p}{\grave{a}}$
pa-hi pè:ng-hf ngyo-lo biq-lr muq-m

6. Numerals 0 - 9 and 1,000,000: 6 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 1.666-666

7. Punctuation-- at present only:

0 exclamation point

1 question mark

/ comma ~break

// period ~full stop

- hyphen: used in compound words, e.g. pa^H-muq^M $\frac{p}{o}-\frac{d}{u}$

and as decimal point, e.g. 0.42, 6.50 6-0.2 6-50

[] parentheses, brackets

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