

Organised Phonology Data

Sepik Iwam (Iwam) Language [IWS] Ambunti – East Sepik Province

Sepik Ramu Phylum; *Upper Sepik Stock*; Iwam Family

Population census: 2500 (1981)

Major villages: Hauna, Oum, Tauri, Iniuk

Linguistic work done by: SIL

Data checked by:

Phonemic and Orthographic Inventory

a b d e g h i i k m n o p r s t u w j
 a b d e g h i i k m n o p r s t u w y
 A B D G H I I K M N O P S T U W Y

Consonants

	Bilab	LabDen	Dental	Alveo	Postalv	Retro	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyn	Glottal
Plosive	p b			t d				k g			
Nasal	m			n							
Trill				r							
Tap/Flap											
Fricative				s							h
Lateral Fricative											
Approx							j				
Lateral Approx											
Ejective Stop											
Implos											

/w/ voiced labial-velar fricative

p	panami	'when will you go?'	m	manasu	'small fish'
	tapa	'today'		wami	'go down'
	kip	'flower'		kam	'man'
	pras	'ripe'		mwan	'count'
	napdani	'can't walk'		tamki	'go!'
	tiarpa	'here'		danmo	'hammer'
b	banit	'eat'	w	wan	'tree'
	yaba	'outside'		aowar	'bug'
	kib	'tail'		-	
	bwan	'moon'		whun	'flying box'
	hobmomani	'play'		-	

t	tanki hinit it twauu nitmai	'close mouth' 'fruit' 'crocodile' 'Victoria pigeon' 'throw away'	k	ki naki bompok kramir brokwo hniski	'pull' 'drift' 'spill over' 'ours' 'greens type' 'sweep'
d	danmo nidi hid - budki nandi	'hammer' 'weave' 'turtle' 'cover' 'stick'	g	gi nagut nanag gwo kigrarao	'mother-in-law' 'pole' 'cook' 'play' 'look after'
n	nan nouna aknan nwok nandi aknan	'sago 'large net' 'shadow, ghost' 'cold' 'stick' 'shadow, chost'	h	hura denahan - nhe	'fly' 'break' 'blood'
r	- parik iwur krama nikrip tirarpa	 'how much?' 'back of canoe' 'we' 'cut' 'here'	j	yona yoyao - yhan -	'banana' 'bird' 'greese'
s	sani brosit siis swae hniski	'to buy' 'broom' 'grasshopper' 'to dance' 'sweep'			

Vowels

i	i	u		
e		o		
		a		
i	ipi n [^] rit si	'chair' 'knife' 'coconut'	e	- kenar be 'loose' 'sun'
i	i kigi niki	'vine' 'look' 'first'	u	umir wun manasu 'money' 'ear' 'small fish'

o	om	'home place'	ea	grea	'leak'
	bomi	'black ant'			
	waeko	'sore'	eo	neowi	'break sago'
a	apuu	'mother'	ui	mui	'milk'
	kaki	'shake'			
	taba	'outside'	ui	muis	'to men'
ii	nii	'climb'	ua	mua	'four days later'
ie	bie	'not good'	uo	muo	'head'
ii	siin	'sand'	uu	apuu	'mother'
ia	dia	'thunder'	oi	moin	'flying fox'
io	niobi	'paint'	oa	koa	'you two'
iu	siu	'road'	oo	moo	'hornbill'
ii	ii	'day,time'	ou	pou	'fish'
ie	ie	'hole'	ai	pai	'piece of raw sago'
io	nio	'yam'	ae	pae	'tree, fire'
iu	yiui	'demon'	ai	aip	'below'
ei	prei	'cucumber'	aa	siaanit	'kidney of pig'
ee	preegin	'long'	ao	kao	'look'
ei	preiduwi	'sitting idle'	au	hau	'clay pot'

No difference made between diphthongs and vowel clusters

Suprasegmentals (tone, stress, length)

Stress is usually on the first syllable.

Syllable Patterns

V	i 'canoe'	a.di 'father'		
VV	iu 'skirt'	ao.wa 'below'		
VC	op 'water'	in.mai 'wrist'		
VVC	iur 'ten'	nou.na 'not'		
CV	hu 'pig'	ba.nit 'berry'	di.mu.wim 'for what purpose?'	bud.ki 'uncover'
CVV	nao 'rain'	pae.yar 'firewood'	nan.kai.yi 'smoke'	kwai.kuo 'leaf'

CVC	nop 'sorcery'	mop.mor 'plate'	di. pis .kin 'leave a stinker'	mai. rib 'mat'
CCV	bwa 'insect'	hwa .kae 'cook'	nan. kwo .kwo 'love'	nan. kwo 'remember'
CVVC	hiir 'greese'			i. piin 'pigeon'
CCVV	swae 'dance'	kwai .yib 'leaf'		
CCVC	kwir 'one'	brop .ka 'soft'		ni. krip 'cut'
CCVVC	nhoum 'three'			

Conventions: Phonological

/p/ is usually pronounced [p] but word medially [p ~b ~ɸ ~β] fluctuate.

/k/ is usually pronounced [k] but word medially [x] between /a/-/a/ and [ɣ] between /i/-/i/, /i/-/e/.

/s/ is usually pronounced [s] but can be pronounced also [ts] word initially.

/r/ can be pronounced either [r] or [l] in all positions.

The central vowel /i/ has a wide range of allophones: [ɔ] occurs in free fluctuation with [ʌ] word initial, following /w/ and between /k/ and /r/. [ɛ] occurs in free fluctuation with [ɐ ʌ] word medially following /j/ and /i/.

Conventions: Orthographic

Pidgin English spelling using letters < f j l v > is followed for the proper names.

Transitional < y > or < w > is written wherever there is a syllable break between vowels. [kiaɛ] *kiaɛ*, [kui] *kuwi*.

Consonant cluster /hw/ is written < wh > to avoid confusion with labialized /h^w/: *hwoki* [h^woki] 'shining', *whoki* [hwoki] 'pull'. Also the clusters /hm/, /hn/ etc. are written accordingly < mh >, < nh > etc.

Sample text

14. Mi mhoiia Jisis siya ha namin Pita siir omaka hiriir mi siyar kig, Pita siir niua nii hirar whwonkaii. Ya ma piu huuwa kiniya saeya niiga.

15. Mi siya saiir i ina aiirarar nini onkwokiyin mi ta ma piu huuwa kiniya saiir nwowa ina digiya. Mi saeya ha ninsiin idwowa, ini siir nae imiirar swoki kwinsiin diriraerara. Iriig.

16. Mi mhoiia naiowaka sima, simiir iikamim uridyiu biyieki nitkiiyim, ina yitim Jisis siiram. Mi siya iikamim uridyugi nitkiiyim simiirin hinda yayiarar boinkiyin mi ti iikamim ini wadieyar ywokiyim. Mi siya iikamim maki niyim simiirin warar yinkin haiswonimniskiigi.

17. Mi siya ha boin digiyin mi yai kwira biiya Adi Komii siya boinkiya profet Aisaiani, saiir swoki boinourwokaigikin. Siya hiniina boinkin, siya bidi haiyoprindiyumiigiyim krimiir ma biyie biyieyim mi krime niyik asi nwowi. Iriig.

14. When Jesus came into Peter's house, he saw Peter's mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever.

15. He touched her hand and the fever left her, and she got up and began to wait on him.

16. When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick.

17. This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: "He took up our infirmities and carried our diseases."

Bibliography

Laszlo, Marilyn, Judy Rehbarg, Robert Conrad, and P. Hunney. 1970-1981. Manuscripts. SIL, Ukarumpa.