

Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set
International Organization for Standardization
Organisation Internationale de Normalisation
Международная организация по стандартизации

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1. Introduction to Unifon. Unifon was developed as an auxiliary “phonetic” alphabet designed to facilitate access to literacy to English-speaking children, by presenting to them a writing system that worked by sound. Tests showed that children were able to learn to read rather quickly using this system, and, having made that breakthrough, were able to transition to traditional English orthography relatively easily. Unifon was developed in the 1950s by Dr John R. Malone, an economist and newspaper equipment consultant who became interested in phonetic writing while consulting with the Bendix Corporation, which was interested in questions of aviation communication. That work was abandoned when the International Air Transport Association selected English as the language of international airline communications in 1957. But Malone’s interest in phonetic writing resurfaced when his young son complained about difficulties learning to read. From about 1960 to the 1980s, Margaret S. Ratz used Unifon to teach first-graders at Principia College in Elsah, Illinois. A variety of teaching materials exist using Unifon. From the 1974 to his death in 1993 John M. Culkin, a specialist in media studies, also promoted Unifon.

Of greater significance is the use made of Unifon in the 1970s and 1980s to write Native American languages. Unifon was adapted principally by Tom Parsons of Humboldt State University to provide a practical orthography for several the Hupa, Yurok, Tolowa, and Karok languages. These orthographies were used for a number of years and although other orthographies are used for these languages now, many valuable documents using Unifon exist which should be able to take advantage of UCS encoding.

2. Structure. Unifon is a bicameral script written left to right. Most Unifon text is written in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, but the system as developed and described does permit the use of casing pairs; when casing is used, the lower-case forms are conventionally (that is, *always*) written in SMALL CAPITAL LETTERS. Unifon uses 40 characters when used for writing English; a number of additional characters were used for the Native American languages, and a few characters were used in earlier versions of Unifon but were later replaced by other characters.

3. Encoding model. Because of the considerable overlap between many Unifon letters and the Latin script, Unifon should be treated as a set of extensions to the Latin script. A large number of Unifon characters should be unified with existing Latin characters. As noted above, when Unifon is used as a casing script, it is always intended to be displayed as styled text, THAT IS, IN SMALL-CAPS. This has some implications for the design of lower-case letters for the code charts, but that should not be particularly problematic if standard design principles are applied.

4. Combining diacritical marks. Generic diacritical marks are used in Unifon orthography. In Tolowa, U+0301 COMBINING ACUTE ACCENT is used to indicate stress, and both U+0304 COMBINING MACRON and U+0331 COMBINING MACRON BELOW are used to “harden” and “soften” the sound made by X [x].

5. Disunifications. A number of characters used in practical orthographies and in phonetic transcriptions are related to some of the characters used in Unifon, which is why these are included in this proposal. Several of these are related to letters encoded in the Greek script. Evidence for these is given before the further presentation of Unifon characters.

Β	A7AE	LATIN CAPITAL LETTER BETA
β	A7AF	LATIN SMALL LETTER BETA
		• used in Gabonese orthographies
Θ	A7B0	LATIN CAPITAL LETTER THETA
θ	A7B1	LATIN SMALL LETTER THETA
		• used in Unifon and Tuscarora orthographies
Χ	A7B2	LATIN CAPITAL LETTER CHI
χ	A7B3	LATIN SMALL LETTER CHI
		• used in Lepsius phonetic orthography
Ω	A7B4	LATIN CAPITAL LETTER OMEGA
ω	A7B5	LATIN SMALL LETTER OMEGA
		• used in Gabonese orthographies
Ɔ	A7B6	LATIN CAPITAL LETTER SMALL CAPITAL I
		x 026A ɪ LATIN LETTER SMALL CAPITAL I
		• used in Unifon and Gabonese orthographies

5.1 LATIN LETTER BETA was arguably disunified from Greek by the devisers of the IPA. David Abercrombie describes this in his 1967 *Elements of General Phonetics*:

A good source from which letters can be borrowed is the Greek alphabet, and β γ ε θ φ χ, for example, have been made use of for centuries in roman-based phonetic notations. Borrowed Greek letters are sometimes redesigned so as to fit in with the general appearance of roman letters. The preceding six characters, for example, have for this reason been modified as follows: β γ ε θ φ χ. The Cyrillic alphabet can also offer possible new characters, such as Ѣ ѣ, and the script form *ʷ*.

Here we see the already-disunified γ LATIN LETTER GAMMA, ε LATIN LETTER OPEN E, and φ LATIN LETTER PHI, which are quite distinct from the usual Greek γ, ε, and φ (shown here also in Times). The normal shape of β GREEK LETTER BETA has no serif on its lower descender, and as can be seen

here, the shape of the Latinized IPA β BETA is based more on the β SHARP S than the original Greek letter. In Daniel Jones' 1932 *An outline of English phonetics*, an even less "Greek-like" beta can be seen (Jones was Assistant Secretary of the International Phonetic Association from 1907 to 1927, Secretary from 1927 to 1949, and President from 1950 to 1967):

806. The sound **w** causes difficulty to many foreigners, especially to Germans. They generally replace it by a different kind of bi-labial fricative, namely one in which the lips are kept flat instead of being rounded and pushed forward, and in which the tongue is in a neutral position instead of being raised at the back. The phonetic symbol for this consonant is β. Its lip-position is the same as that of Φ (Fig. 89). It is a sound intermediate in acoustic effect between **w** and **v**; it is very frequently heard in German words like *Quelle* 'kβelə or 'kvelə, *zwei* tsβai or tsvai. Sometimes foreigners replace **w** by **v**.

The LATIN BETA in lower-case and upper-case form has been found in *Revue Gabonaises des Sciences de l'Homme*, No. 2, 1990, p.113. The usage is based on the "Alphabet scientifique des langues du Gabon" (ASG) first published 1989, which was followed by the "Orthographe des langues du Gabon" intended for the educational system in 1999. The unique Latin capital form β̄ is unknown for Greek B:

f	ƒ	íjékè	"hérisson"	yinzebi
t	T	tètètè	"tuméfié"	omyene-mpongwe
u	U	tsúlù	"source"	lekanlji
u	U	ékùri	"piège"	faŋ-ntumu
v	V	úvèyà	"donner"	yisangu
β	β̄	íβéβè	"voler"	beŋga
w	W	wàyèndà	"étrangers"	yeβia
w	W	njwé	"chef"	faŋ-ntumu

From the same journal, page 193, The word *yeβoβe* in all caps (*YEBOBE*):

Y E B O B E

The unique Latin capital form meets one of the major criteria for disunification. Whether the existence of this character (or several of the others proposed below) would affect the recommendations of the International Phonetic Association is a matter for the eventual decision of the Association. Certainly much IPA text currently uses the Greek β. Much probably uses the Latin β, and certainly much IPA text also currently uses Latin B for the same character in pre-UCS encoded fonts, which are still unfortunately more widespread than one might wish. Support for a disunification has been given by John Wells, currently a member of the Council of the Association:

Michael Everson correctly identifies a number of reasons to advocate the disunification of the Latin letters beta, theta, and chi from their Greek versions. If this happened, as IPA symbols we would use the Latin versions rather than the Greek ones.

He quotes briefly, without identifying the source, from the IPA 1949 *Principles* booklet. Here, more fully, is what it says there (*The Principles of the International Phonetic Association*, pages 1-2). Although unattributed, these are clearly Daniel Jones's words.

(c) The non-roman letters of the International Phonetic Alphabet have been designed as far as possible to harmonise well with the roman letters. The Association does not recognise makeshift letters ; it recognises only letters which have been carefully cut so as to be in harmony with the other letters. For instance, the Greek letters included in the International Alphabet are cut in roman adaptations. Thus, since the ordinary shape of the Greek letter β does not harmonise with roman type, in the International Phonetic Alphabet it is given the form β .

Note the very clear intention to treat IPA θ (vertical) as distinct from Greek theta (typically oblique). Greek letters are to be incorporated into the IPA only as roman [sic] adaptations.

And of the two form of Greek theta, θ and ϑ , it has been necessary to choose the first (in vertical form), since the second cannot be made to harmonise with roman letters.

As Jones says, Greek theta has an alternative form, ϑ . This is encoded at U+03D1, whereas ordinary θ is at U+03B8.

In English printed texts that mix the Latin and Greek scripts, the Greek letters are typically oblique, the Latin ones upright. The purpose is to distinguish clearly between the two scripts (whereas the IPA wants everything in the same script). Here is an example, from Abbott and Mansfield's *Primer of Greek Grammar* (my copy printed in 1949).

EXAMPLES.

$\acute{\eta}\chi\acute{\omega}$ (\omicron), $\acute{\eta}$, *echo*, like $\pi\epsilon\iota\theta\acute{\omega}$; $\delta\mu\acute{\omega}\varsigma$ (ω), $\acute{\omicron}$, *slave*, like $\acute{\eta}\rho\omega\varsigma$.

51. *Accentuation in Declension.*

- (1.) The accent remains, so far as possible, on the syllable which is accentuated in the nom. case. Thus $\gamma\acute{\epsilon}\nu\omicron\varsigma$, gen. $\gamma\acute{\epsilon}\nu\omicron\upsilon\varsigma$, $\chi\epsilon\lambda\iota\delta\acute{\omega}\nu$, gen. $\chi\epsilon\lambda\iota\delta\acute{\omicron}\nu\omicron\varsigma$.
- (2.) The genitive and dative of monosyllabic nominatives are generally accented on the last syllable in all numbers, *e.g.* $\theta\acute{\eta}\rho$, gen. $\theta\eta\rho\acute{\omicron}\varsigma$, $\theta\eta\rho\acute{\iota}$, $\theta\eta\rho\acute{\omicron}\iota\upsilon\varsigma$, $\theta\eta\rho\acute{\omega}\nu$, $\theta\eta\rho\acute{\omicron}\iota$. Short syllables are oxytone, long are perispomenon. So also $\gamma\upsilon\upsilon\acute{\eta}$, *woman*. $\pi\alpha\acute{\iota}\delta\omega\upsilon\varsigma$ from $\pi\alpha\acute{\iota}\varsigma$, and $\acute{\omega}\tau\omega\upsilon\varsigma$ from $\acute{\omicron}\upsilon\varsigma$, are exceptions.

I think disunification of Latin and Greek beta, theta, chi would be a good thing.

If it was the intention of the founders of the IPA to borrow Latin letters distinctly into the IPA from Greek, it would seem that disunification of some but not all of them is a long-standing mistake on the part of the early designers of the UCS.

5.2 LATIN LETTER THETA has been discussed above by John Wells, citing Daniel Jones. Its unification with Greek is problematic for Unifon and for other orthographies because of the extremely peculiar casing relationships which are evidently acceptable for Greek, but not acceptable for Latin:

0398 Θ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER THETA lower-cases to 03B8 θ GREEK SMALL LETTER THETA
 03B8 θ GREEK SMALL LETTER THETA upper-cases & title-cases to 0398 Θ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER THETA
 03D1 ϑ GREEK THETA SYMBOL upper-cases and title-cases to 0398 Θ GREEK CAPITAL LETTER THETA
 03F4 Θ GREEK CAPITAL THETA SYMBOL lower-cases to 03B8 θ GREEK SMALL LETTER THETA

So essentially, 0398 Θ has two lower-case letters, 03B8 θ and 03D1 ϑ , and 03B8 θ has two upper-case letters, 0398 Θ and 03F4 Θ . But LATIN THETA cases Θ with θ , which isn't a reliable, or reversible pairing in Greek. Here is an example of this from *The Tuscarora Language, Beginner Program*:

Θa'neθwe:kih
 Waka'neθwe:kih
 Ru'neθwe:kih
 Yaku'neθwe:kih
 Yu'neθwe:kih

Taking the four letters Θ θ ϑ Θ and applying (in Quark XPress) “all caps” to them yields Θ Θ Θ Θ, and applying “small caps” to then yields Θ θ Θ θ.

In any event, the correct casing relation for Tuscarora, for early Unifon, and for the early Phonotypic alphabet is Θ θ (Θ Θ, Θ θ), not Θ θ (Θ Θ, Θ θ). The behaviour of the Greek letters is incorrect for these Latin orthographies. Again, this argues for a disunification.

The important 19th-century linguist Richard Lepsius also designed his LATIN THETA quite differently from the usual way in which GREEK THETAS are drawn; they are like Θ θ but with the horizontal line extending somewhat past either side, thus Θ θ:

412 **LEPSIUS über das Lautsystem der Persischen Keilschrift.**

Adam Daryawuš, χšayaθiya wazarka, χšayaθiya χšayaθiyanam, χšayaθiya Parsiya; χšayaθiya dahyunam, Vištaspahya puša, Aršamahya napa, Haχamañišiya. θatiya Daryawuš χšayaθiya: Mana pita Vištaspā, Vištaspahya pita Aršama; Aršamahya pita Ariyaramna, Ariyaramnahya pita Čišpiš; Čišpišhya pita Haχamañiš. θatiya Daryawuš χšayaθiya: Awahyarađiya wayam Haχamañišiya θahyamahya, hača pařuviyat amata amahya; hača pařuviyat hya amayam tauma χšayaθiya aha θatiya Daryawuš χšayaθiya: 8 mana taumaya tyiya pařuwam χšayaθiya aha adam nařama 9; đuvitatarnam wayam χšayaθiya amahya.

5.3 LATIN LETTER CHI was arguably disunified from Greek by the devisers of the IPA. This can be seen in the 1949 chart:

Fricative . . | ϕ β | f v | θð | sz | r | | ʃ z | ʒ z | ʃ j | | x y | χ ɣ | h ɦ | h ɦ

Here the Latin serifs and the thick leg of the LATIN CHI go from top right to bottom left, and the curvy leg goes from top left to bottom right. Here is a comparison between LATIN X, LATIN STRETCHED X (used in Teuthonista notation), GREEK CHI, and LATIN CHI:

X x χ ~ X χ ~ X χ

The weight of LATIN SMALL LETTER X and STRETCHED X is on the \ leg, but the weight of GREEK SMALL LETTER CHI and LATIN SMALL LETTER CHI (at least as used in the IPA) is on the / leg. The size of LATIN CAPITAL LETTER CHI is also unique and unknown in Greek. This is similar to CYRILLIC CAPITAL KU which can have the shapes Q or Q, while the former is not an acceptable variant for LATIN CAPITAL Q. Here is an example of Lepsius distinguishing GREEK CAPITAL CHI and LATIN CAPITAL CHI:

wird das *m* von χ num, in χ νοῦβι θεῶ̃ geweiht; *ix*

Lepsius also distinguishes the three Latin letters *f* χ θ from the Greek letters ϕ χ θ :

über die Arabischen Sprachlaute und deren Umschrift. 105

Unterschiede der hier zu beachten war zwischen solchen Compositionen, die wie *ε t pf* durch Assibilirung der lokal entsprechenden Tenuis gebildet werden, und die man daher in einer gewissen Beziehung als consonantische Diphthonge auffassen kann, kehrt hier auch die häufige Verwechslung von Tenuis und Aspirata wieder, deren Unterschied meines Wissens noch nirgends richtig und genau angegeben worden ist und auf den ich daher hier etwas näher eingehen will. Die griechischen Buchstaben ϕ χ θ erhielten erst spät die jetzt gebräuchliche Aussprache *f* χ θ , und waren ursprünglich wirkliche aspiratae, d. h. tenues mit einem nachfolgenden π ν ϵ δ α τ υ verbunden, genau so wie wir jetzt in Norddeutschland *pa ka ta* in Palme, Kanne, Tafel aussprechen. Ich wüßte nicht, wie wir das *t* in *das Tau* oder *der Thau*, mit oder ohne *h* geschrieben, noch mehr aspiriren könnten, als wir thun. Daher schrieben die Römer *ph kh th*, und ebenso die Aegypter den Namen des Philipp Aridaeus in Hieroglyphen nicht mit ihrem *f*, das sie so gut hatten wie die Römer, sondern bald mit *ph*, bald mit *p* allein, und ebenso die Namen Philotera, Tryphaena u. a. mit *p*. Die Griechen konnten daher auch ϕ χ θ nicht verdoppeln, sondern mussten dafür $\pi\phi$, $\nu\chi$, $\tau\theta$ schreiben, weil die Aussprache dies nothwendig verlangte (!). Die wahren Tenues werden voll-

5.4 LATIN LETTER OMEGA is used in several Kulango language publications from Bondoukou or its area, including an alphabet primer (“syllabaire”), four liturgy books (a missal), a funeral book, and two catechism books. All were published in the 1990s, most probably by the diocese of Bondoukou. This example comes from *Les funérailles chrétiennes*, p17:

(Y) BI tse Jezu, ywo go bere pii pee, waa kpre-be le bo nyi
 ũguogo vee. De le tii ω swmse ... hōω daa gbigō hōō.
 ω kyere: mwm mīi le mō, kpōkpe're hō he saako hōō-ri, zee-e
 le ky-e-le, le hō nyi ũyako ω kyīho ariginā-ni. Preō ωω yi le
 bwohoni drunyā, le ω kpre-ge. Bii dal-i-ω le ω kpele bi yowko-ri
 ω sira-ro

It can be seen that Latin ω ω are not the same as Greek Ω ω . The Times glyph for ω was based on the IPA character ω LATIN SMALL LETTER CLOSED OMEGA.

5.5 LATIN LETTER SMALL CAPITAL I is also used in several Kulango language publications from Bondoukou. This example (from Psalm 118) comes from *Ḥ de bī dali bitesē*, p 10:

Alleluya!
 Ī kpre Yego bo gyasole, gyigalei hō kyere,
 gyigalei bo korigyo tuben haa ti-i.
 Izrael bo yogoni ywgo, ĩ dw-ke:
 bo korigyo tuben haa ti-i.

6. Alphabets using Unifon characters. A number of Unifon letters should be unified with existing Latin characters. These have capital and small letter forms, and these are given below. Again, when

Unifon is printed using casing pairs, the lower case is conventionally (that is, *always*) presented in small caps, so in the presentation here both upper and lower case are given, and also the lower case shown in small caps. These are given in a typical Unifon font style.

The 40-letter alphabet presently used for English is as follows:

AΔΛBÇDEËËFGHI±JKLMNŃOQŃŃŃPRŠTŦHŪŪŪVWYSZ

A 40-letter alphabet previously used for English was as follows:

AΔΛBÇDEËËFGHIΔJKLMNŃOQŃŃŃGIPRSŠTŦHŪŪŪVWŠYZ

A 40-letter alphabet previously used for English was as follows:

AΔΛBÇDEËËFGHI±JKLMNŃOQŃŃŃŃOPRSŠTŦHŪŪŪVWŠYZ

The 40-letter Shaw-Malone Forty-Phoneme Alphabet for English was as follows:

AΔΛBCŸDEIËFGH±ΔJKLMNŃOQŃŃŃŃPRSTŦŪŪŪVWYZX

The 33-letter alphabet used for Hupa was as follows:

ΛΔBCŃDEIŃGH±ΔJKLMNOQŃŃŃŃŦSTUŪVWYŦXZŦ

The 26-letter alphabet used for Karuk was as follows:

AΔCŃIFH±ΔKMNOQPŃRSTŦUŪVWYX

The 30-letter alphabet used for Tolowa was as follows:

ŦXBCŃDEIŃGH±ΔJKLMNŃOQŃŃŃŃPRSTUŪVWY

A 32-letter alphabet used for Yurok was as follows:

AΔΛCŃEËËFGH±ΔJKLMNOQŃŃŃŃPRSTUŪVWYŦXŦ

A 42-letter “Indian Unifon Single-Sound Alphabet” is given as follows:

ŦXAΔΛBCŃDEIËFGH±ΔJKLMNŃOQŃŃŃŃPRSTŦŪŪŪVWŠYZ

A number of other letters (not listed in the alphabets above) derive from earlier versions of Unifon:

ŦŦ

7.1 Unifon letters unified with existing characters. Of the 66 letters used in the various Unifon alphabets, 43 of them—about two-thirds—can be unified with existing letters. Note that *none* of the small-cap letters are encoded modifier letters: they are small-caps styled forms of ordinary small letters.

Letter name	Capital	small	SMALL-CAP	UNIFON
LATIN LETTER A	A	a	A	[æ]
LATIN LETTER TURNED V	Λ	λ	Λ	[ɐ]
LATIN LETTER B	B	b	B	[b]
LATIN LETTER C	C	c	C	[s]
LATIN LETTER C WITH STROKE	Ĉ	ĉ	Ĉ	[tʃ]
LATIN LETTER REVERSED C	Ɔ	ɔ	Ɔ	[tʃ]
LATIN LETTER D	D	d	D	[d]
LATIN LETTER E	E	e	E	[ɛ]
LATIN LETTER TURNED E	Ǝ	ə	Ǝ	[ə]
LATIN LETTER F	F	f	F	[f]
LATIN LETTER G	G	g	G	[g]
LATIN LETTER H	H	h	H	[h]
LATIN LETTER J	J	j	J	[dʒ]
LATIN LETTER K	K	k	K	[k]
LATIN LETTER L	L	l	L	[l]
LATIN LETTER M	M	m	M	[m]
LATIN LETTER N	N	n	N	[n]
LATIN LETTER O	O	o	O	[ɔ]
LATIN LETTER O WITH STROKE	Ø	ø	Ø	[ʊ]
LATIN LETTER P	P	p	P	[p]
LATIN LETTER R	R	r	R	[r]
LATIN LETTER S	S	s	S	[s]
LATIN LETTER T	T	t	T	[t]
LATIN LETTER U	U	u	U	[ʌ]
LATIN LETTER V	V	v	V	[v]
LATIN LETTER W	W	w	W	[w]
LATIN LETTER X	X	x	X	[x]
LATIN LETTER Y	Y	y	Y	[j]
LATIN LETTER Z WITH STROKE	Z	z	Z	[ʒ]

7.2. New characters for Unifon. A number of Unifon letters should be added in order to support Unifon in its various stages of development. The character names here are tentative, though it was thought better to try to use descriptive names rather than the Shavian-like “ICE, EYES, BIT, RING” for instance.

Letter name	Capital	small	SMALL-CAP	
LATIN LETTER CLOSED TURNED V	Δ	Δ	Δ	[eɪ]
LATIN LETTER REVERSED-E E	Ǝ	œ	Ǝ	[i:]
LATIN LETTER SCHWA WITH HOOK	Ɔ	[ə̃]	Ɔ	[ə̃]
LATIN LETTER SMALL CAPITAL I	Ɨ	ɪ	Ɨ	[ɪ]
LATIN LETTER I WITH STROKE AND BASELINE	Ɩ	ɩ	Ɩ	[aɪ]
LATIN LETTER I WITH SERIFED STROKE	Ɨ	ɩ	Ɨ	[eɪ]
LATIN LETTER OVERTURNED WINEGLASS	∩	∩	∩	[eɪ]
LATIN LETTER REVERSED N WITH BENT RIGHT LEG	∩	∩	∩	[ŋ]
LATIN LETTER O WITH BASELINE	Ω	Ω	Ω	[oʊ]
LATIN LETTER O WITH VERTICAL BAR	⊖	⊖	⊖	[ʊ]
LATIN LETTER O WITH LOW VERTICAL BAR	⊙	⊙	⊙	[aʊ]

LATIN LETTER O WITH HIGH VERTICAL BAR	Ɔ	o	o	[ɔɪ]
LATIN LETTER OY	Ɔɪ	oɪ	oɪ	[ɔɪ]
LATIN LETTER S WITH STROKE	Ɔ	s	s	[ʃ]
LATIN LETTER THE	Ɔ	h	h	[θ]
LATIN LETTER THETA	Ɔ	θ	θ	[θ]
LATIN LETTER DHE	Ɔ	h	h	[ð]
LATIN LETTER TURNED T	Ɔ	[ɹ]	ɹ	[ð]
LATIN LETTER U WITH BASELINE	Ɔ	u	u	[u:]
LATIN LETTER CLOSED U	Ɔ	u	u	[ju]
LATIN LETTER U WITH VERTICAL STROKE	Ɔ	u	u	[u:]
LATIN LETTER REVERSED Z	Ɔ	z	z	[z]
LATIN LETTER CHE	Ɔ	ç	ç	[tʃ]
LATIN LETTER TLE	Ɔ	h	h	[eɪ]

7.3.1 SCHWA WITH HOOK. A few issues are worth pointing out. One option of encoding Ɔ is as LATIN LETTER SCHWA WITH HOOK, being the capital letter of the already-encoded ə. But strictly speaking, since Ɔ TURNED E and Ɔ SCHWA are distinct, one might expect a case pair Ɔə for SCHWA WITH HOOK. In that case two new characters would be needed, either TURNED-E R Ɔ with either Ɔ or ə or Ɔ or Ɔ or Ɔ as the lower-case. Here is a larger version of these characters for easier discussion:

Ɔə ~ Ɔə ~ Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ Ɔ

7.3.2 REVERSED-E E. It was assumed that the ligature was of Ɔ and e, rather than of ə and e, since the intended sound is ee [i:]

Ɔ ≠ Ɔ

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CAP.	small	SM.CAP.	CAP.	small	SM.CAP.	Name
A	a	A	A	a	A	LATIN LETTER A
Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ	Δ	LATIN LETTER CLOSED TURNED V
Λ	Λ	Λ	Λ	Λ	Λ	LATIN LETTER TURNED V
B	b	B	B	b	B	LATIN LETTER B
C	c	C	C	c	C	LATIN LETTER C
Ɔ	Ɔ	Ɔ	Ɔ	Ɔ	Ɔ	LATIN LETTER C WITH STROKE
Ɔ	Ɔ	Ɔ	Ɔ	Ɔ	Ɔ	LATIN LETTER REVERSED C
D	d	D	D	d	D	LATIN LETTER D
E	e	E	E	e	E	LATIN LETTER E
Ǝ	Ǝ	Ǝ	Ǝ	Ǝ	Ǝ	LATIN LETTER REVERSED-E E
Ǝ	Ǝ	Ǝ	Ǝ	Ǝ	Ǝ	LATIN LETTER AFRICAN E
Ǝ	Ǝ	Ǝ	Ǝ	Ǝ	Ǝ	LATIN LETTER SCHWA WITH HOOK
F	f	F	F	f	F	LATIN LETTER F
G	g	G	G	g	G	LATIN LETTER G
H	h	H	H	h	H	LATIN LETTER H
I	I	I	I	I	I	LATIN LETTER SMALL CAPITAL I
Ɱ	Ɱ	Ɱ	Ɱ	Ɱ	Ɱ	LATIN LETTER I WITH STROKE AND BASELINE
Ɱ	Ɱ	Ɱ	Ɱ	Ɱ	Ɱ	LATIN LETTER I WITH SERIFED STROKE
Ɱ	Ɱ	Ɱ	Ɱ	Ɱ	Ɱ	LATIN LETTER OVERTURNED WINEGLASS
J	j	J	J	j	J	LATIN LETTER J
K	k	K	K	k	K	LATIN LETTER K
L	l	L	L	l	L	LATIN LETTER L
Ł	ł	Ł	Ł	ł	Ł	LATIN LETTER L WITH HOR. BAR
M	m	M	M	m	M	LATIN LETTER M
N	n	N	N	n	N	LATIN LETTER N
Ɲ	Ɲ	Ɲ	Ɲ	Ɲ	Ɲ	LATIN LETTER REVERSED N WITH BENT RIGHT LEG
O	o	O	O	o	O	LATIN LETTER O
Ω	Ω	Ω	Ω	Ω	Ω	LATIN LETTER O WITH BASELINE

CAP.	small	SM.CAP.	CAP.	small	SM.CAP.	Name
⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	LATIN LETTER O WITH VERTICAL BAR
⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	LATIN LETTER O WITH LOW VERTICAL BAR
⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	LATIN LETTER O WITH HIGH VERTICAL BAR
⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	LATIN LETTER OY
Ø	ø	Ø	Ø	ø	Ø	LATIN LETTER O WITH STROKE
P	p	P	P	p	P	LATIN LETTER P
R	r	R	R	r	R	LATIN LETTER R
S	s	S	S	s	S	LATIN LETTER S
Œ	œ	Œ	Œ	œ	Œ	LATIN LETTER S WITH STROKE
T	t	T	T	t	T	LATIN LETTER T
Ⓓ	Ⓓ	Ⓓ	Ⓓ	Ⓓ	Ⓓ	LATIN LETTER DHE
Θ	θ	Θ	Θ	θ	Θ	LATIN LETTER THETA
Ⓗ	Ⓗ	Ⓗ	Ⓗ	Ⓗ	Ⓗ	LATIN LETTER THE
Ⓙ	Ⓙ	Ⓙ	Ⓙ	Ⓙ	Ⓙ	LATIN LETTER TURNED T
U	u	U	U	u	U	LATIN LETTER U
⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	LATIN LETTER U WITH BASELINE
⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	LATIN LETTER CLOSED U
⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	⓪	LATIN LETTER U WITH VERTICAL BAR
V	v	V	V	v	V	LATIN LETTER V
W	w	W	W	w	W	LATIN LETTER W
X	x	X	X	x	X	LATIN LETTER X
Y	y	Y	Y	y	Y	LATIN LETTER Y
Z	z	Z	Z	z	Z	LATIN LETTER Z WITH STROKE
Ʒ	Ʒ	Ʒ	Ʒ	Ʒ	Ʒ	LATIN LETTER REVERSED Z
Ⓒ	Ⓒ	Ⓒ	Ⓒ	Ⓒ	Ⓒ	LATIN LETTER CHE
Ⓗ	Ⓗ	Ⓗ	Ⓗ	Ⓗ	Ⓗ	LATIN LETTER TLE

Figures.

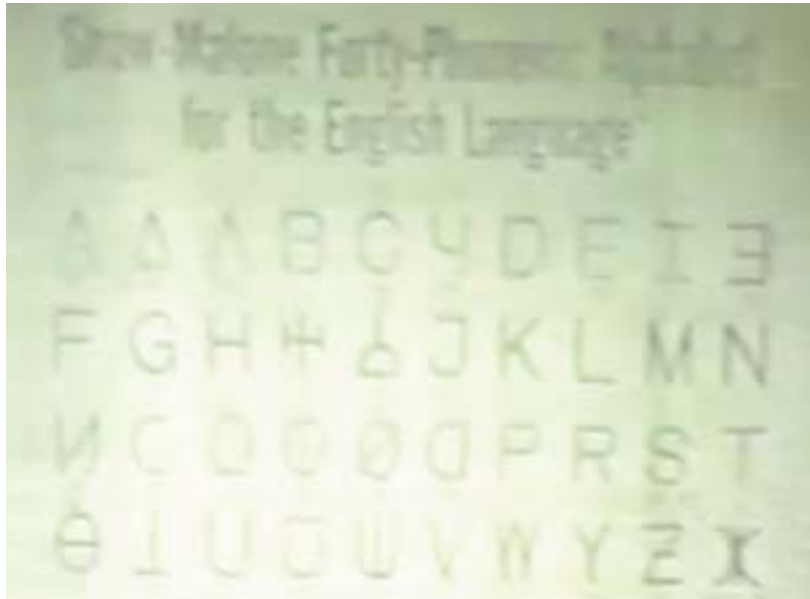


Figure 1. Example of the first published version, the Shaw-Malone Forty-Phoneme Alphabet, taken as a screen shot of a video in which John Malone was giving a lecture about the alphabet. The alphabet given is: AΔΛBCYDEIEIFGH†ΔJKLMNWOOOOΘ†PRSTΘ†UOVWYZX

A	Δ	Λ	B	∅	D	E	I	Ǝ	F
G	H	I	⊥	J	K	L	M	N	W
O	Q	⊙	⊙	⊙	P	R	S	§	T
Ɔ	Ɔ	U	U	U	V	W	Σ	Y	Z

Figure 2. Example of an intermediate version of Unifon. The alphabet given is: AΔΛB∅DEIEIFGHI±JKLMNWOOOOOPRS§TƆƆUUVWΣYZ

1 symbol per sound UNIFON ALFÆBET John Malone									
A ^a and AND	Δ ^A Ap APE	Λ ^x xl ALL	B bO BOW	∅ ^k KiK CHICK	D dU DO	E ^e eIf ELF	I ^E It EAT	Ǝ ^c uDer OTHER	F foks FOX
G gO GO	H hot HOT	I ⁱ in IN	⊥ ^I Iz EYES	J jX JAW	K kid KID	L lO LOW	M man MAN	N nO NO	W riN RING
O ^o on ON	Q ^O Old OLD	⊙ ^C hCk HOOK	⊙ ^q qt OUT	Q ^Q Ql OIL	P plp PIPE	R run RUN	S sis SIS	§ SO SHOW	T tO TOW
Ɔ ^D Dc THE	Ɔ ^T Tin THIN	U ^u up UP	U ^U hUp HOOP	U ^Y Y YOU	V vest VEST	W wig WIG	Σ aZur AZURE	Y yes YES	Z zip ZIP

Figure 3. Example of an intermediate version of Unifon. The alphabet given is: AΔΛB∅DEIEIFGHI±JKLMNWOOOOOPRS§TƆƆUUVWΣYZ

UNIFON ALFUBET									
1 symbol per sound									
A ^a and AND	Δ ^A Ap ΔP APE	Λ ^x xl ΛL ALL	B ^b bO BQ BOW	∅ ^K KIK CHICK	D ^d dU DQ DO	E ^e eIf ELF	Ǝ ^E Et ƎT EAT	Ɔ ^c uDe OTHER	F ^f foks FOX
G ^g gO GO	H ^h hot HOT	I ⁱ in IN	± ^I Iz ±Z EYES	J ^j j× JA JAW	K ^k kid KID	L ^l lO lQ LOW	M ^m man MAN	N ⁿ nO nQ NO	∩ ^N riN RING
O ^o on ON	Q ^o Old OLD	∅ ^C hCk HOK HOOK	Q ^q qt QT OUT	∅ ^Q Ql QL OIL	P ^p plp P±P PIPE	R ^r run RUN	S ^s sis SIS	§ ^S SO §Q SHOW	T ^t tO tQ TOW
Ɔ ^D Du ƆU THE	Ɔ ^T Tin ƆIN THIN	U ^u up UP	∩ ^U hUp HOP HOOP	∩ ^Y Y U YOU	V ^v vest VEST	W ^w wig WIG	Y ^y yes YES	Σ ^Z aZc ASR AZURE	Z ^z zip ZIP

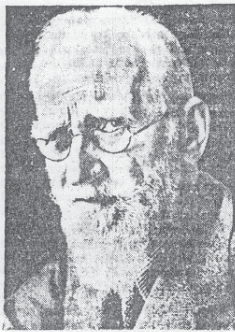
Figure 4. Example of the final version of Unifon. The alphabet given is: ΔΔΛB∅DEƎƎFGHI±JKLMN∩OQ∅∅∅∅PR§TƆƆU∩∩VWΣYZ

UNIFON ALFUBET TABL									
www.unifon.org www.foolswisdom.com/~sbett/unifon.htm									
A AND AND	Δ MAKE MAK	Λ ALL AL	B BAT BAT	∅ CHIN CIN	D DO DU	E EGG EG	Ǝ FEED FED	Ɔ EARTH ƆF	F FAN FAN
G GET GET	H HE HE	I IT IT	± ICE ±S	J JUST JUST	K KEY KE	L LIKE L±K	M MANY MENE	N NO NQ	∩ LONG LOW
O POT POT	Q POLE PQL	∅ LOOK LOK	Q OUCH OQ	∅ OIL ON	P PART PORT	R RACE RAS	S SO SQ	§ SHE §E	T TIME T±M
Ɔ THE FU	Ɔ THING ƆIN	U UP UP	∩ FEW FU	∩ TO TU	V VERY VERE	W WAS WUZ	Σ MEASURE MESR	Y YOU U	Z ZOO ZU

Figure 5. Example of the final version of Unifon. The alphabet given is: ΔΔΛB∅DEƎƎFGHI±JKLMN∩OQ∅∅∅∅PR§TƆƆU∩∩VWΣYZ

MY FAIR LANGUAGE

Do We Need A New Alphabet?



GEORGE BERNARD SHAW
A legacy for reform of the language

G. B. SHAW'S WILL —THE BACKGROUND

Infringed by such manifest absurdities as pronouncing ph to sound like f, George Bernard Shaw, the great Irish playwright and critic, applied his trenchant wit to our alphabetical aggravations and came up with a characteristically iconoclastic solution: Invent a written language with enough characters so that each letter would designate a specific invariable sound. To this end he willed that much of his estate go toward an award for a more adequate, economical and forthright orthography of the English language. The probate court allowed \$23,240 for prizes to contestants and the expense of cutting type and setting up an edition of Shaw's "Androcles and the Lion" in a doubly typeset volume—half new alphabet and half the orthodox English. This, in the proviso of Shaw's will, is to be distributed to 13,000 public libraries in English-speaking lands.

Among the ten finalists in this competition was one of the 60 Americans who were among the 467 entrants from all over the world. He is a Chicago advertising executive whose background includes wide experience as newspaperman, magazine contributor, consulting economist, Army captain with overseas service and assistant professor at his alma mater, the University of Kansas. He is working on his doctorate at the University of Chicago. He is John R. Malone, 46, whose many hobbies encompass computing equipment, the mathematics of information, communications and invention. His success in the Shawian competition has stimulated wide interest in his proposed world alphabet (described in these pages) and a nonprofit Foundation for a Compatible and Consistent Alphabet has been set up and located at 333 N. Michigan Av. Malone resides with his wife and four children in Park Forest.

By John R. Malone

Two and a half years ago, I spent one of the pleasantest evenings of my life listening to and looking at the delights of "My Fair Lady" . . . written over George Bernard Shaw's "Pygmalion." As I'm sure you all know, the story turns on the efforts of a phonetics professor, Henry Higgins, to change the language structure of a little Cockney flower girl to that of "upper class" Albertian English—and the cultural transformation which this brings about for her.

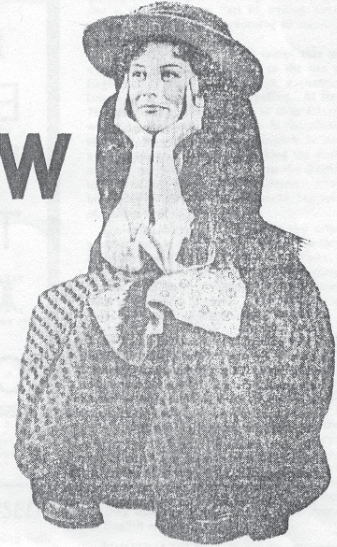
Early in the show Prof. "Enry" Higgins sings his plaintive lament: "Oh why can't the English learn to speak?" while his precious guttersnipe, Eliza Doolittle, distorts the noble tongue beyond recognition. I believe he knows why. Being of Irish extraction and having something of a sympathy for the Shawian disdain of doing things the same way as others do because that is the custom of the past, the complaint of Prof. Higgins set me to thinking . . . right out there in the theater in plain sight of the beautiful stage sets.

AND WHILE THE beautiful, lilting musical hall tunes filled the evening, my mind went back to the 6-year-old at home who was having all sorts of trouble with spelling English words. It was neither consistent nor logical as his numbers were. Sometimes he could "sound out" a word; but mostly spelling was a grab bag. Getting the proper letters for a word was pure chance.

"Why can't the English . . . ?" Suddenly I saw clearly the answer to the professor's rhetorical question. Obviously they couldn't learn to speak because they hadn't learned to spell. And they hadn't learned to spell because they couldn't. They didn't have their own adequate alphabet and there weren't enough letters in the Latin alphabet with which they had been burdened. Eureka!

As the English are a hybrid people made up of Celts, Druids, Romans, Jutes, Saxons, Angles, Normans, Danes and Norsemen, their language is made up of elements of all these with remnants of Gaelic, Flemish and Plattdeutsch (a low German tongue) and spelled with the leftovers of an alphabet left by Julius Caesar before the time of Christ. This alphabet was later reimposed upon them by way of the Latin-based Christian church.

SINCE EARLY HEBREW and Phoenician times, the written language has generally been related rather closely to the sounds of the language. And the Phoenician and classic Greek languages were excellent examples of this. However, these languages used basically 20 to 25 or so sounds or phonemes, and their alphabets or language symbols had to be within this range. The Latin adaptation made a few ground rules for sounding vowels in one of two ways, and using some letters such as



Poor Eliza Doolittle! The winsome Cockney flower girl of "My Fair Lady," waged a desperate and delightful struggle to master the King's English for Prof. "Enry" Higgins. Anne Rogers played role in Chicago.

ØR FO:ER, HO ORT +N HEVEN, HALOED BI LÐ NÐM.
LÐ K+HIDUM KUM. LÐ W+L BI DUN. AN ERÐ AZ +T +Z +N HEVEN.
G+V UC L+C DÐ ØR DÐL+ BRED. AND FARG+V UC ØR TRECPECEZ.
AZ WI FARG+V IOZ HO TRECPEAC UGENCT UC. AND LID UC NOT
+NTO TEMPTASUN, BUT DIL+VØR UC FRUM I+V+L. FAR LÐN +Z LU
K+HIDOM. AND LU PØER, AND LU GLOR+M. FAREVØR AND EVØR, OMEN.

The familiar as it looks in alphabet proposed by John R. Malone. This, of course, is the Lord's Prayer, King James version.

I and V for both vowels and consonants; but Latin, too, was relatively simple, using 22 letters to represent from 26 to 28 sounds.

But English! As a problem in linguistics it is plenty tough. First, it is made up of from 39 to 44 sounds coming from some of the sources indicated above, many of which are not Latin or Greek at all. Using the already inadequate Latin alphabet of 22 letters to represent these sounds made it even tougher. To do this at all satisfactorily at least four letters (J, U, W and Y) have been added. And all sorts of consistent and inconsistent ground rules have been made for giving different letters and combinations of letters different sounds in different words. This was done hundreds of years ago, with or without good cause.

and today we are stuck with the whole kaboodle of them.

IN THE OLDEN DAYS every scribe or clerk had his own feelings about spelling because there were few dictionaries and no printers. A big stew pot of inconsistent rules grew up to cover the sonorous, expressive collection of words from all Europe and elsewhere, which became known as "English." Only a people so patient and stubborn as the English would have even tried to make a pattern of spelling out of such a mixed-up situation. But "muddling through" solved it . . . in a way.

Then the typesetters were brought to English shores by William Caxton, the first English printer. From Holland and Flanders he brought them and their type fonts to put "Reynard the Fox" into print—the first English typeset work. At that time, they used a Latin alphabet with 24 letters and had no fixed rules for setting up English. So these Dutch and Flemish printers made their own rules as they went or tried to use the continental rules if

(continued on Next Page)

TWO MORE SECTIONS INSIDE

Section Three, covering leisure activities, and Section Four, Feminine Angle and Your Home, are folded inside this section.

Figure 6a. Article from the Chicago Sunday Sun-Times discussing Unifon.

PROPOSED NEW ALPHABET

The Learning Time Is Reduced

Continued from Preceding Page

type machines are rapidly replacing typesetting machines and metal foundry type. Also, through use of photo platemaking and photo-offset printing, typewriter-like composing machines are being utilized more and more as the means of setting up large areas of printed material. The cost of retsetting or recomposing the millions of words in contemporary English could be done in overseas areas to help build up the graphic arts industries in such countries as India, Africa and South America, just as Germany and America are helping to do in Taiwan and Japan at the present.

THE COST OF SUCH transliteration would be small indeed compared with the benefits that would thereby have access to American-English techniques and scientific competence. The people of these countries could then live freely in our world, via the use of our methods and devices.

Now let's look at the alphabet itself a moment. For technical reasons all the letters have been designed with the same width, as typewriter letters generally are. To do this, some of the letters have been basically redesigned so that never again will I, l, or No. 1 be confused. There is no "lower case" or small letters as such. There is simply a flattened version of the same design. In this way needless configurations are eliminated.

WITHIN A FEW WEEKS it is possible to teach most 5- or 6-year-olds to write English with this alphabet. There are no rules or exceptions. It is ideal for teaching English to adults from non-English countries. Once confidence and facility is attained, the problem of converting to the older spelling forms is relatively easy, because of the compatibility feature, and memory devices built into this alphabet.

So far this alphabet has been tested in teaching children. It is also being used in a test class of Puerto Ricans. In each case the rate of learning is surprising. It is very much like teaching a person to count by means of Arabic numbers.

It may take a generation to get general concurrence for this type of alphabet for English, but given the long history of humanity, this is

a relatively short time, and the economies possible with it are great. For instance, from 12 to 25 per cent fewer characters are needed to write a given piece of material in the simpler 40-character alphabet. The cost in reduced learning time for youngsters should enable all nations to upgrade their school systems, whether in America or abroad.

MANY TECHNICAL developments, such as machines for computing, accounting, check reading and for bibliographic listing and cataloging await adoption of this type of alphabet. So does the dictating typewriter, which takes the spoken word and types it out directly.

It is hardly needed to point out the commercial and political value in having a world speak English, as its common tongue. But the value is greatest to the poorer nations which would thereby have access to American-English techniques and scientific competence. The people of these countries could then live freely in our world, via the use of our methods and devices.

Now let's look at the alphabet itself a moment. For technical reasons all the letters have been designed with the same width, as typewriter letters generally are. To do this, some of the letters have been basically redesigned so that never again will I, l, or No. 1 be confused. There is no "lower case" or small letters as such. There is simply a flattened version of the same design. In this way needless configurations are eliminated.

FIRST WE HAVE added 11 vowel symbols to the A, E, I, O and U (and we have dispensed with the Y vowel usage). We have turned the 16 new vowels into five basic families, called the A, E, I, O and U families. The old letters are used to designate the "short" sounds of the letters as they are today: as cat, pet, bit, hot and but. Then there are added five new "long vowels" for each of these as shown in the following chart.

Each of these long vowels is characterized by a full width horizontal member Δ I Δ U which helps you remember. Then there is an aw A, an e as in her E, a double o as in look O, an ou as in couch O, and oy as in boy O and a yu sound as in you, or use U. Here is the way the five families look:

See 1983 Version
 A: AAA
 E: E
 I: I
 O: O O O O
 U: U U U

In the consonant list the Cyrillic chay Ч has been added for the "ch" sound as in "chair"; the J has been broadened to fit our rectangle, "ng" as in sing has been turned into a single character N; s has become "sh" as in sure or shirt, while c has been made uniformly the "soft s" or "his" sound as in "cell" or "sin." The voiceless "th" of "thin" is represented by the Greek theta stylized to our purpose (neither the Romans or the later day Brooklyn citizens thought much of this sound). The voiced "th" as in "they" is represented by an upside down "T" L. The modification of the W was made to keep it from filling up with ink or dirt as it does today on the typewriter or printing press. The Z has been crossed in the European fashion to distinguish it from a carelessly made 2. A modification of the Cyrillic zh sound character has been made for the most infrequently used sound in English, that found at the s in leisure, or the z in azure, and in many words of French-origin, such as rouge, beige, etc.

A FEW REMINDERS are needed: the G is always hard as in "gel"; only K has the hard "c" sound now found in "crow." All buzzing "s" sounds as in business or glasses use Z. Dropped entirely out are x and q which can be replaced by combinations of other letters.

Below are the 24 consonants and what they sound like:

See 1983 Version
 B (b) C (ss) G (ch) D (d)
 F (f) G (gg) H (h) J (j)
 K (k) L (l) M (m) N (n)
 W (ng) P (p) R (r) S (sh)
 T (t) Th (th) F (th) V (v)
 W (w) Y (yet) Z (z) X (x)

Now there is an added plus to this alphabet, besides such designed in features as being use-



John R. Malone explains his 40-character alphabet and compatible number system. Lower case letters simply are smaller versions of the capital letters.

ful for computers and dictatable typewriters. It is sufficiently broad in phoneme representation so that it can be used for transcribing Russian, Hebrew, Arabic, German, Italian and Spanish phonetically.

With a few conventions or marks it can be used for French and Portuguese. The Romaji version of Japanese can go into it very easily and consistently with the present orthographic treatment.

OTHER PHONETIC alphabets have been proposed before, but this one is sufficiently comprehensive and practical for immediate use in primary schools at home, and in English training and technical schools at home and abroad. The technological conditions are ripening rapidly; the political, commercial and communication imperatives are clear and demanding.

You can start writing this way tomorrow. You will find you can learn it easily, rapidly. Write as you speak. English will never be the same for you again — and lots easier to spell. You, American, will be considered among the most thoughtful people on earth — for you will have changed your ways so others can enjoy your movies, books, techniques, riches and general cultural bounty and best of all, you can make your speech and language habits those of the world.

Figure 6b. Article from the Chicago Sunday Sun-Times discussing Unifon.

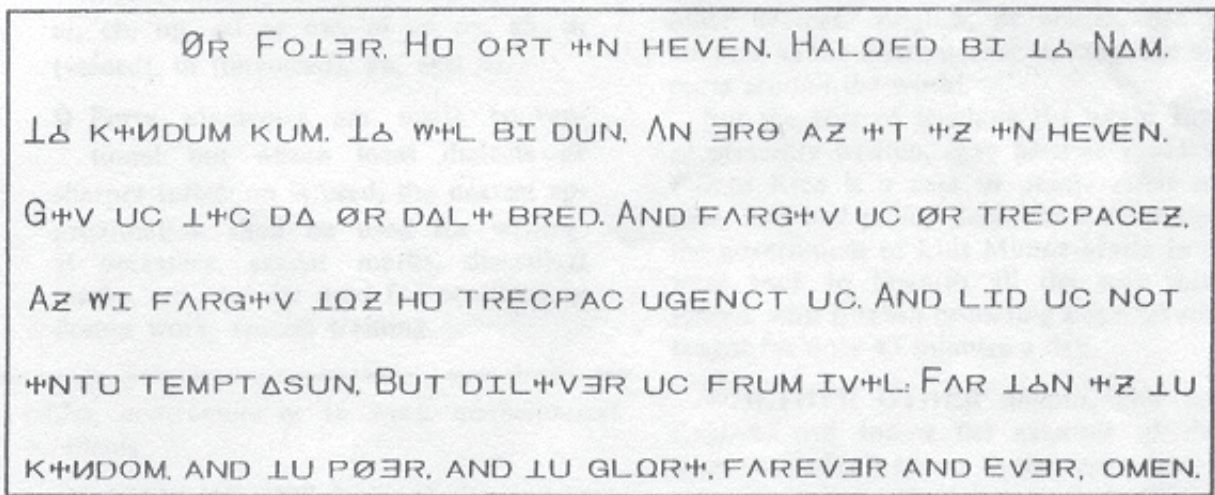


Figure 7. Example of an early version of Unifon (the alphabet as in Figure 1) set using upper- and lower-case. The alphabet given is: AΔABCØDEIÆFGH*ΔJKLNMNØOQØØØPRSTØLUØUVWYZX; letters given here in red do not appear in the text.

IF MÆ HED WƆD GO ƎRU,” ƎAT PƆR ALIS, “IT WƆD BƎ UV VERI LITUL US WƆƆT MÆ ƆOLDRƆZ. O, HƆ Ǝ WIƆ Ǝ KƆD ƆUT UP LƎK U TELUSKOP! Ǝ ƎIƎK Ǝ KƆD, IF Ǝ ONLI NU HƆ TU BIGIN.” FAR, U ƆƎ, SO MENI ƆT-UV-ƆU-WA ƎIƎZ HAD HAPUND LATLI, ƆAT ALIS HAD BIGUN TU ƎIƎK ƆAT VERI FU ƎIƎZ INDƎD WƎ RƎULI IMPOSUBUL.

ƆER ƆƎMD TU BƎ NƆ US IN WATIƎ BƎ ƆU LITUL DAR, SO ƆƎ WENT BAK TU ƆU TABUL, HAF HƆPIƎ ƆƎ MƎT FƎND UNUBR KƎ ON IT, AR AT ENI RAT U BƆK UV RULZ FAR ƆUTIƎ PƎPUL UP LƎK TELUSKOPS: ƆIS TƎM ƆƎ FƆND U LITUL BOTUL ON IT, (“HWIƆ ƆƎTUNLI WUZ NOT HIR BIFAR,” SED ALIS,) AND RƆND ƆU NEK UV ƆU BOTUL WUZ U PAPƎ LABUL, WƆ ƆU WƎRƆZ “DRINK MƎ” BUTUFULI PRINTID ON IT IN LORJ LETRƆZ.



Figure 8. Example from Carroll [2012; in press], showing Unifon in a casing orthography. Carroll’s English original likewise writes “DRINK ME” in all caps.

Hupa Unifon

Single Sound Alphabet

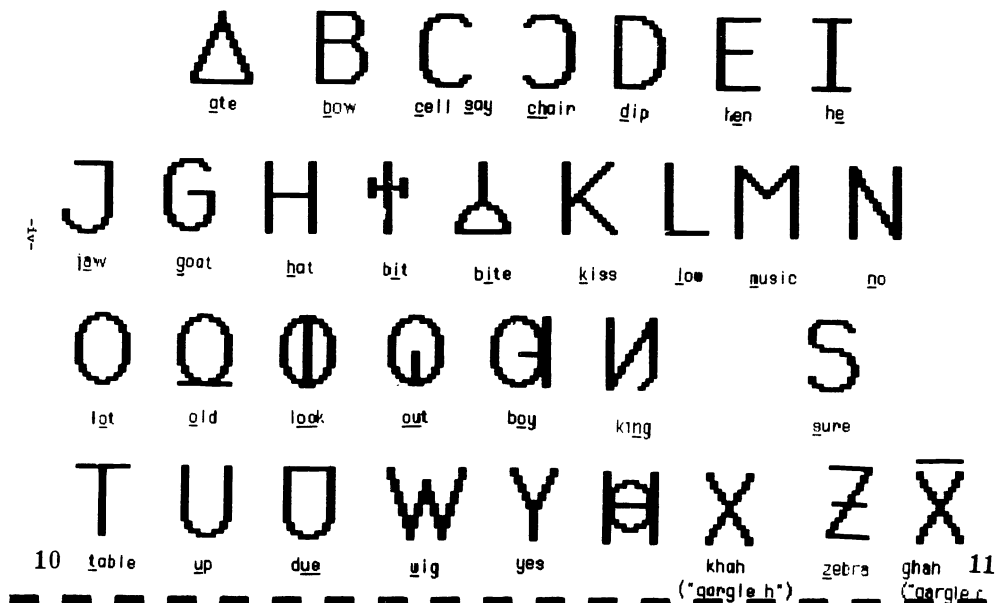


Figure 9. The Unifon alphabet for Hupe.

Karuk Unifon

Single Sound Alphabet

Note: The Karuk R is pronounced by tapping the tip of the tongue on the roof of the mouth. The Karuk O is sometimes nasalized: ̃O

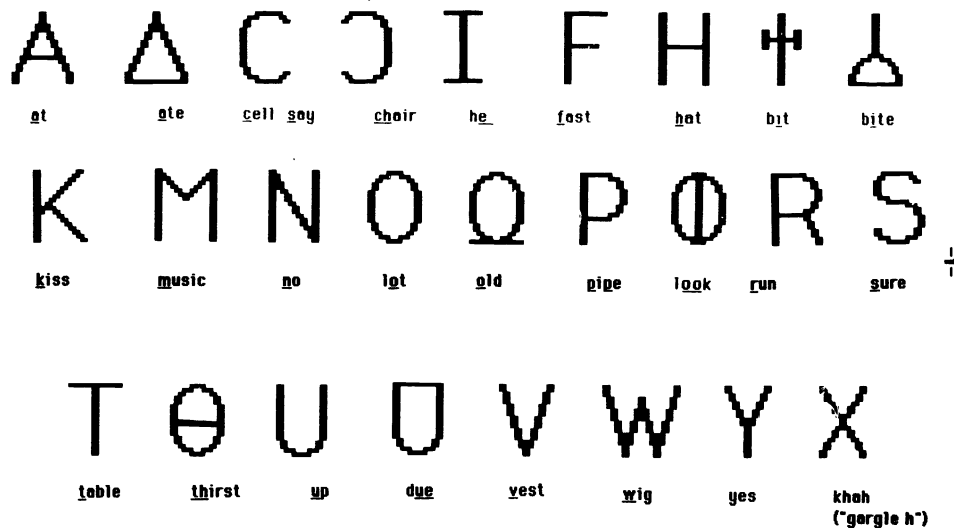


Figure 10. The Unifon alphabet for Karuk.

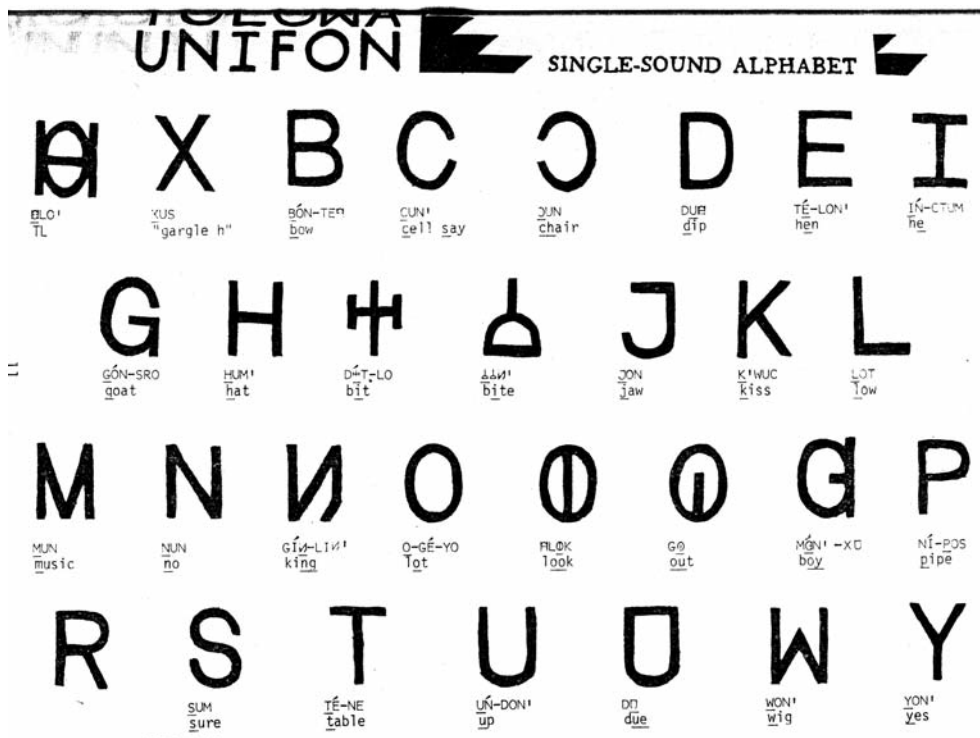


Figure 11. The Unifon alphabet for Tolowa.

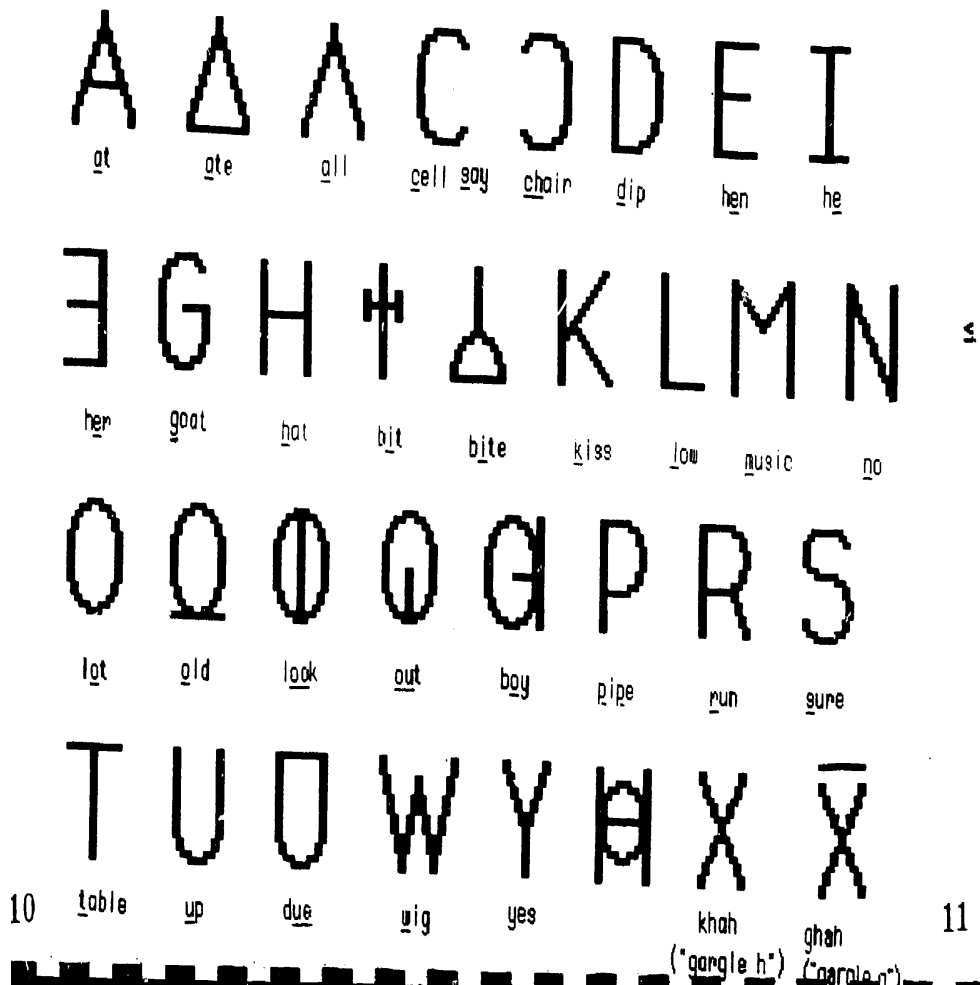


Figure 12. The Unifon alphabet for Yurok.



Figure 13. Evidently the source alphabet which was applied to different languages depending on their phonetic inventories.

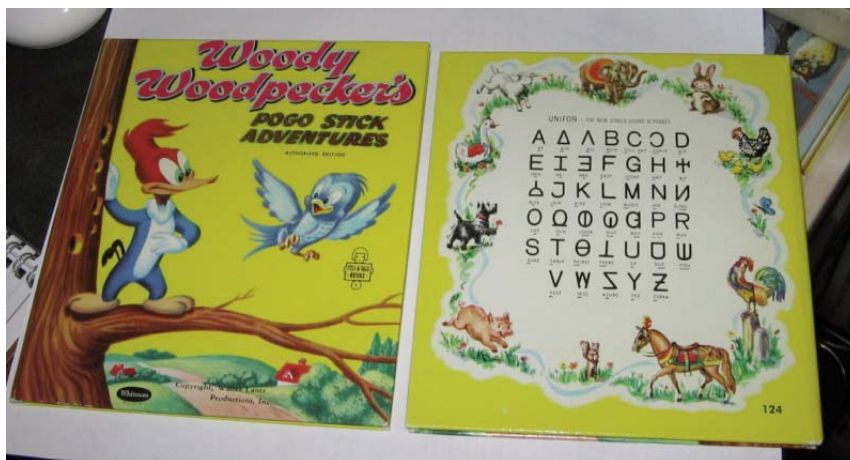


Figure 14. Example of a children's book published in Unifon in 1954. The alphabet given is: AΔΛBCODEIEIΔFGH+ΔJKLMNN/OOΘOΘGIPRSTΘIUUWWSYZ

A. Administrative

1. Title

Preliminary proposal to encode “Unifon” characters in the UCS.

2. Requester’s name

UC Berkeley Script Encoding Initiative (Universal Scripts Project)

(Author) Michael Everson

3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution)

Liaison contribution.

4. Submission date

2012-04-29

5. Requester’s reference (if applicable)

6. Choose one of the following:

6a. This is a complete proposal

No.

6b. More information will be provided later

Yes.

B. Technical – General

1. Choose one of the following:

1a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters)

Not certain.

Proposed name of script

1b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block

Not certain.

1c. Name of the existing block

2. Number of characters in proposal

Not certain.

3. Proposed category (A-Contemporary; B.1-Specialized (small collection); B.2-Specialized (large collection); C-Major extinct; D-Attested extinct; E-Minor extinct; F-Archaic Hieroglyphic or Ideographic; G-Obscure or questionable usage symbols)

Category A.

4. Is a repertoire including character names provided?

Yes.

4a. If YES, are the names in accordance with the "character naming guidelines"

Yes.

4b. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review?

Yes.

5. Fonts related:

5a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font to the Project Editor of 10646 for publishing the standard?

Michael Everson.

5b. Identify the party granting a license for use of the font by the editors (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.):

Michael Everson, Fontlab and Fontographer.

6. References:

6a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?

Yes.

6b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of proposed characters attached?

Yes.

7. Special encoding issue: Does the proposal address other aspects of character data processing (if applicable) such as input, presentation, sorting, searching, indexing, transliteration etc. (if yes please enclose information)?

No. Unicode character properties to be provided later.

8. Additional Information: Submitters are invited to provide any additional information about Properties of the proposed Character(s) or Script that will assist in correct understanding of and correct linguistic processing of the proposed character(s) or script.

See above.

C. Technical - Justification

1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before? If YES explain

No.

2. Has contact been made to members of the user community (for example: National Body, user groups of the script or characters, other experts, etc.)?

Yes.

2a. If YES, available relevant documents

3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example: size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included?

Linguists, teachers, educationists.

4a. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare)

Rare.

4b. Reference

5a. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community?

By some.

5b. If YES, where?

In the US.

6. After giving due considerations to the principles in the P&P document must the proposed characters be entirely in the BMP?

Not certain.

6a. If YES, is a rationale provided?

6b. If YES, reference

7. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)?

No.

8a. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence?

No.

8b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

8c. If YES, reference

9a. Can any of the proposed characters be encoded using a composed character sequence of either existing characters or other proposed characters?

No.

9b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

9c. If YES, reference

10a. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to an existing character?

No.

10b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

10c. If YES, reference

11a. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences?

Yes.

11b. If YES, is a rationale for such use provided?

No.

11c. If YES, reference

11d. Is a list of composite sequences and their corresponding glyph images (graphic symbols) provided?

No.

11e. If YES, reference

12a. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as control function or similar semantics?

No.

12b. If YES, describe in detail (include attachment if necessary)

13a. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility character(s)?

No.

13b. If YES, is the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic character(s) identified?