

Reading and  
Writing Nkɔmɛ  
(Manrɛ romia Nkɔmɛ)  
**A Guide for writing Nkɔmɛ  
Language**  
**First Edition January 2021**



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## Aims and objectives

In this booklet the Nkɔmɛ Language Development Project is making a recommendation to the entire ɛkpacɛ Nkɔmɛ Kingdom on how to write the Nkɔmɛ language. Our purpose is:

- (1) To seek to unite the Nkɔmɛ people in using one spelling system and thus to encourage the writing of books for all Nkɔmɛ people.
- (2) To develop a writing system that will help Nkɔmɛ people who can already read English to be able to read and write the Nkɔmɛ language without difficulty.
- (3) To develop a writing system simple enough for Nkɔmɛ children to learn in the schools.
- (4) To enable foreigners to learn to read and write the Nkɔmɛ language easily.

# Chapter 1

## The vowels of the Nkɔmɛ language

### Main vowels similar to English

The Nkɔmɛ language has 8 vowels. Five of these vowels are written in the same way as they are in English; these are: [a, e, i, o, u], while three vowels are written differently: [ɛ, ɨ, and ɔ].

The first five vowels are pronounced in the same way they are pronounced in English. They are illustrated below in all three positions in which they occur: at the beginning of a word, the middle of a word, and the end of a word. For the vowel [u] we have only found examples, which occur at the middle or end of words only.

a	akaraŋ	<i>Shaving knife</i>
	ami	<i>I</i>
	amɔ	<i>He/she</i>
	anu	<i>You pl</i>
	awu	<i>You sg</i>

	<b>anyanya</b>	<i>Horse</i>
<b>e</b>	<b>erum</b>	<i>drill monkey</i>
	<b>ebu</b>	<i>goat</i>
	<b>ebugaya</b>	<i>wave</i>
	ekuma	<i>fence</i>
	<b>egbu</b>	<i>boundry</i>
	eti	<i>meat</i>
<b>i</b>	<b>ibina</b>	<i>law</i>
	<b>ibi</b>	<i>excreta</i>
	<b>icinci</b>	<i>brooms</i>
	<b>ifa</b>	<i>two</i>
	<b>ifiri</b>	<i>arguement</i>
<b>o</b>	<b>osobo</b>	<i>wrapper</i>
	<b>otu</b>	<i>jar</i>
	<b>otiga</b>	<i>slave</i>
	<b>otuntun</b>	<i>funnel</i>
	<b>otutubi</b>	<i>hawk</i>
	<b>owura</b>	<i>lady</i>
<b>u</b>	<b>wu</b>	<i>come</i>
	<b>wumanε</b>	<i>breath</i>
	<b>Wuna</b>	<i>dry a little</i>
	Erun	<i>pity</i>



