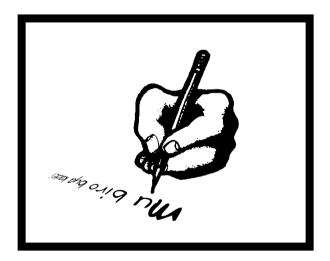
Lugungu Orthography Guide



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Lugungu Bible Translation and Literacy Association PO Box 239, Hoima, Uganda

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> > in cooperation with

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1. Introduction

The Lugungu Bible Translation and Literacy Project together with SIL International has been working together with the Lugungu Bible Translation and Literacy Association (LUBITLA) for a number of years to develop an orthography for the Lugungu language. The work began during 1997 when the project sponsored two orthography seminars under the authority of LUBITLA—one in Hoima and the other in Masindi. Both seminars were attended by members of LUBITLA as well as other educators and interested Bagungu. Technical guidance and advice was provided by Ronald Moe of SIL International. The seminars along with subsequent analysis of the Lugungu language resulted in the production of The Lugungu Orthography Guide - Pre*liminary Version* in 1999. That book has been the guide for writing Lugungu up until now. Since that time, the orthography has been tested in a number of trial publications and has undergone further analysis with the help of Martin Diprose, a Technical Advisor from SIL International. This work has given rise to some changes in the orthography that now makes the language easier to read and write. It is this improved orthography that is the subject of this Spelling Guide.

An orthography is a complete set of symbols and spelling rules used to write a language. Under guidelines established by SIL International the Lugungu orthography is considered to be a '*Working Orthography*' at this stage in its development. The Lugungu orthography has been based on extensive linguistic investigation, response from seminars, input from interested Bagungu, and feedback from trial publications. Consequently, this orthography now stands as the recommended way to write Lugungu and has been approved by LUBITLA during a series of meetings during 2004. However, before the orthography can become an '*Established Orthography*' it must be thoroughly tested in literacy classes and through the widespread distribution of literature. Therefore, you are invited to submit comments on problems you encounter in reading and writing Lugungu, and any corrections to this Spelling Guide. You can correspond with the project at the following address:

Lugungu Bible Translation and Literacy Project P.O. Box 239, Hoima, Uganda.

2. The Lugungu Alphabet

The Lugungu alphabet consists of the following 30 characters:

a b b bb c d e f g h i <u>i</u> j k l m n ngh ny o p r s t u <u>u</u> v w y z

Lugungu uses 24 out of the 26 letters of the English alphabet and makes up six extra sounds by using the special symbols: \underline{i} and \underline{u} , for the two 'hard' vowels, and \underline{b} for the very soft consonant b, and by using the letter clusters: bb, ny, and ngh for the remaining three consonants.

The letter v only occurs in a few recently borrowed words. The letters from the English alphabet, q and x do not occur in Lugungu. However, the language has other sounds and features which will be described below. Special symbols and combinations of letters are needed for these other sounds.

3. Plain Consonants

International Phonetic Alphabet symbol	Lugungu Alphabet symbol	Example	
β	b	b <u>i</u> cool <u>i</u>	maize
υ	b bb	bumaalu	mushroom
b	bb	bbeger <u>i</u>	leopard
t∫	c	cupa	bottle
d	d	d <u>i</u> risa	window
f	f	firimbi	whistle
g	g	gule	baboon
h	h	haaha	grandfather
dz	j	joojolo	afternoon
k	k	kabindi	roof
1	1	lusonko	shell
m	m	meeza	table
n	n	nanaasi	pineapple
ŋ	ngh	nghinghinira	louse egg
n	ny	nyumba	house
р	р	p <u>i</u> k <u>i</u> p <u>i</u> k <u>i</u>	motorcycle
ſ	r	rang <u>i</u>	colour
S	S	sente	money
t	t	taara	lantern
v	V	vakedo	avocado
W	W	wempe	razor blade
j	У	yogwo	that one
Z	Ζ	z <u>ii</u> za	grandmother

There are 23 plain consonant sounds in Lugungu.

3.1 Consonant Combinations

As well as the plain consonants listed above, Lugungu has many consonant combinations. These are plain consonants that are modified by having an **n** or **m** before the consonant (the process of prenasalisation), by having a **w** after the consonant (the process of labialisation), by having a **y** after the

consonant (the process of palatalisation) or a combination of the any of the above three processes.

	International Phonetic Alphabet symbol	Lugungu Alphabet symbol	Example	
b	β ^j	by	byombo	lungs
þ bb	υ ^w	þw	bwomi	life
bb	b ^w	bbw	kubwomoka	to be poured
	b ⁱ	bby	kibbyolo	placenta
	mb	mb	bamba	mudfish
	mb ^w	mbw	mbwene	dog
	mb ⁱ	mby	mbyalambe	I give birth
с	$\widehat{\mathfrak{tf}}^{w}$	cw	cwamba	type of grass
	$\widehat{\mathfrak{t}}^{\mathfrak{p}}$	cy	kw <u>i</u> cya	to put down
	nf∫	nc	kucencegera	to hop
	ņt͡∫ʷ	ncw	ncwamu decision	
d	d ^w	dw	kudwa	to arrive
	d ^j	dy	bidyo	food
	ņd	nd	ndobo	bucket
	ⁿ d ^w	ndw	butandwa	accident
	ⁿ d ^j	ndy	kwendya	to want
f	f ^w	fw	mufwal <u>i</u> s <u>i</u>	widow
	ņf	nf	nfooka	wizard
g	g ^w	gw	<u>i</u> gw <u>i</u>	wasp
	g ^j	gy	kugyenda	to go
	ŋg	ng	ng <u>iri</u>	warthog
	ŋg ^w	ngw	ngwete uncle	
	ŋg ^j h ^w	ngy	kucungya to throw	
h		hw	mwihwa nephew	
	h ^j	hy	kuhyolya to whistle	
j	$\widehat{d_3}^w$	jw	kujwata	to whip
	$\widehat{d_3}^j$	ју	kwej <u>uguuj</u> ya	to gargle
	$^{n}\overline{d_{3}}$	nj	musanju	seven
	ņd͡ʒʷ	njw	njwahe	weak person

	International Phonetic Alphabet symbol	Lugungu Alphabet symbol	Example	
k	kw	kw	kw <u>i</u> ba	to steal
	k ^j	ky	kyakyo	flower
	ŋk	nk	nke <u>i</u> to	shoe
	ŋk ^w	nkw	nkw <u>i</u>	firewood
	ŋk ^j	nky	kwonkya	to suckle
1	l ^w	lw	kulwala	to dress
	lj	ly	lyoba	sun
m	m ^w	mw	mwana	child
	m ^j	my	myozo	tonsils
	ņт	mm	mmese	rat
	μ́шм	mmw	mmwenyambe	I smile
	mm ^j	mmy	mmyolambe	I twist
n	n ^w	nw	munwa	mouth
	n ^j	ni	mustniongooro	earthworm
	ņn	nn	nn <u>i</u> ndo	nose
	ņn ^w	nnw	nnwan <u>i</u> ambe	I mingle
	ņn ^j	nni	nn <u>i</u> ambe	I defecate
ngh	\mathfrak{n}^{j}	nghy	nghyawu	cat's cry
ny	'n ^w	nyw	munywani	friend
	nj	nyi	k <u>u</u> kweny <u>i</u> a	to make pale
	ក្រា	nny	nnyagambe	I rob
	nnw	nnyw	nnywambe	I drink
	n ^j	nyi	k <u>u</u> kweny <u>i</u> a	to make pale
р	\mathbf{p}^{w}	pw	k <u>upi</u> k <u>i</u> pwa	to worry
	p ^j	ру	pyoko	rhinoceros
	mp	mp	kapimpini	chameleon
	mp ^w	mpw	mp <u>i</u> k <u>i</u> pwambe	I worry
	mp ^j r ^w	mpy	mpyehyen <u>i</u>	firefly
r		rw	irwaru	hospital
	r ^j	ry	kaserya	lightning
S	s ^w	SW	swaswa	monitor lizard
	S ^j	sy	k <u>u</u> many <u>i</u> sya	to inform
	ⁿ S	ns	k <u>i</u> sonso	joke
	ņs ^w	nsw	nswa	termites
	ņs ^j	nsy	nsyenene	grasshoppers

	International Phonetic Alphabet symbol	Lugungu Alphabet symbol	Exa	mple
t	t ^w	tw	kutwala	to take
	ť	ty	kutyoma	to gore
	ņt	nt	nte	cow
	ⁿ t ^w	ntw	matwantwe	saliva
	ⁿ t ^j	nty	<u>gi</u> ntyom <u>iri</u>	it has gored me
v	ⁿ V	nv	m <u>u</u> nv <u>uuli</u>	umbrella
у	j ^w	yw	kugaywa	to be overlooked
Z	\mathbf{Z}^{w}	ZW	kubazwa	to be said
	z ^j	zy	z <u>i</u> zye	type of fish
	ņz	nz	nzegu	elephant
	$^{n}Z^{w}$	nzw	kugonzwa	to be loved
	$^{n}Z^{j}$	nzy	manzye	sorghum stem

3.2 The varieties of b

Lugungu has two b sounds—a 'soft' b, and a 'hard' b. The soft b is much more frequent than the hard b.

3.2.1. The hard b

The hard b shall be written **bb**.

3.2.2. The two varieties of the soft b

The soft b is actually spoken in two different ways in different dialect areas of the language. For most people who live in in or around Buliisa, the soft b is the softer phonetic sound v, while for most people who live in or around Kigorobya, the soft b is the harder phonetic sound β . However, these two sounds represent the same phoneme in the language. To aid in the written standardisation of Lugungu, the Lugungu Bible Translation and Literacy Association (LUBITLA) in consultation with both dialect groups during an Orthography Standardisation Workshop in January 2005 decided that the soft b shall be written as a **b** before **u**, **u** or **w**, and as a **b** before any other letters.

E	xamples of soft b	Examples of	of hard b
kubabuka to burn the skin slightly		kubbaabbuka	to tear off
kubumba	to mould	kubbumba	to cover
bururu votes		bbururu	blue dye

Note that kubabuka is an example which shows both varieties of the soft **b** within the same word.

3.3 The Palatal Nasal

The palatal nasal shall be written **ny**. Notice that it is a single consonant, even though it is written with two letters. Notice also, that it is *not* one of the palatalised consonants (see section 6).

Examples of ny		
nyunyuuzi	star	
nnyen <u>i</u>	sauce	
nyaanya	tomato	

3.4 The Velar Nasal

The velar nasal shall be written **ngh**. Notice that it is a single consonant even though it is written with three letters. Notice also, that it is **not** one of the prenasalised consonants (see section 4).

Examples of ngh				
kuninghina to tie tightly kwenghurunghuutya to grumble				
leengha type of plant nghinghinira louse egg				

4. Prenasalisation

Prenasalisation is where a consonant is preceded by a letter **m** or **n**. Any consonant (except l, r, w or y) can be prenasalised. Prenasalising a consonant does not usually create a new syllable; however, where the prenasalisation occurs at the beginning of the word, the preceding nasal creates a new beginning syllable.

Prenasalisation which does not create a new syllable		Prenasalisation which creates a new syllable	
kub <u>i</u> mba	to build	mbalambe	I count
bunfooka	wizardry	nfooka	wizard
kubbumba	to cover	mbumbambe	I cover
kugonza	to love	ngonzambe	I love
m <u>u</u> nv <u>u</u> ul <u>i</u>	umbrella	nnyeegambe	I struggle
Ruhanga	God	mmwambe	I shave
sonsoon <u>i</u> a	toad	nn <u>i</u> ndo, nnyen <u>i</u>	nose, sauce
hansi	below/under	mmese	rat

Note from the following from above table of examples:

- The letters mf or mv are never written. Instead, the prenasalised f shall be written **nf** and the prenasalised v shall be written **nv**.
- The letters mbb are never written. Instead, the prenasalized hard bb shall be written **mb** and the prenasalized soft b shall be written **mb** also (even though it sounds like a hard mbb).
- The letters nghg or nghk are never written. Instead, the prenasalised g shall be written **ng** and the prenasalised k shall be written **nk**.
- The letters nyny are never written. Instead, the prenasalized ny shall be written **nny**.
- The only doubled consonants that are allowed in Lugungu are **bb**, **nn**, or **mm**.

5. Labialisation

Labialisation is where a consonant is followed by the letter \mathbf{w} . Any consonant (except w) can be labialised.

Examples of labialisation		
mutwe	head	
nkw <u>i</u>	firewood	
kubbwoma	to pour	
kugaywa	to be overlooked	
kumwa	to shave	

Because labialisation shall be written with a \mathbf{w} (rather than \mathbf{u} or \mathbf{u}), any spelling with the letter sequence \mathbf{u} or \mathbf{u} followed by another vowel is not allowed. E.g., mutue 'head' is not correct, it should be **mutwe**.

6. Palatalisation

Palatalisation is where a consonant is followed by the letter **y**. Any consonant (except w or y) can be labialised. Palatalisation shall be written with a **y** (except for the consonants, n or ny where an \underline{i} is used instead to indicate the palatalisation - see below).

Examples of palatalisation (for any consonant except n or ny)		
pyoko rhinoceros		
kyakyo flower		
kuhyolya	to whistle	

Because palatalisation shall be written with a **y** (rather than **i** or **j**), any spelling with the letter sequence **i** or **j** followed by another vowel is not allowed. E.g., $\underline{k}\underline{i}a\underline{k}\underline{i}o$ 'flower' is not correct, it should be **kyakyo**. (But see the exception in the next section).

Special note on the palatalized n and the palatalised ny

The palatalised n shall be written $n\underline{i}$ (rather than ny, which is being used for the palatal nasal). The palatalised ny shall be written $ny\underline{i}$ (rather than nyy). Notice that although the \underline{i} in these cases is a vowel symbol, it is acting like a consonant taking the place of y to indicate palatalisation. Notice also, that it is a *hard* i — that is, it takes an underline.

Examples of palatalised n		Examples of palatalised ny	
nkon <u>i</u> o	pestle	k <u>u</u> kany <u>i</u> a	to cause to increase
kuhonia	to heal	k <u>u</u> toony <u>i</u> a	to drop
muniongooro	earthworm	k <u>u</u> kweny <u>i</u> a	to make pale
k <u>u</u> bagan <u>i</u> a	to divide	k <u>ucuunyi</u> a	to cause (food) to get ready

7. Vowels

There are nine vowel sounds in Lugungu, but only seven vowel letters are needed.

(In the following table the vowels are given in the International Phonetic Alphabet according to where the sound of the vowel is formed in the mouth)

	Front	Central	Back
High (hard)	i		u
High (soft)	I		υ
Mid (hard)	е		0
Mid (soft)	3		Э
Low (soft)		а	

Note that the mid (hard) sounds e and o are not separate sounds in their own right. They are, in fact, simply variants of each of the mid (hard) vowels ε and \mathfrak{d} . These hard variants appear only in certain words. The hard variants e and o are pronounced automatically by Lugungu speakers without conscious thought according to certain linguistic rules usually when other hard vowels (either i or u) are present in the same word. This means that both of the mid vowels ε and e can be represented by one symbol \mathbf{e} , and that both \mathfrak{d} and \mathfrak{d} can be represented by one symbol \mathbf{e} , and that both \mathfrak{d} and \mathfrak{d} can be represented by one symbol \mathbf{e} , and that both \mathfrak{d} and \mathfrak{d} can be represented by one symbol \mathbf{e} , and that both \mathfrak{d} and \mathfrak{d} can be represented by one symbol \mathbf{e} , and that both \mathfrak{d} and \mathfrak{d} can be represented by one symbol \mathbf{e} , and that both \mathfrak{d} and \mathfrak{d} can be represented by one symbol \mathbf{e} . So, while there are nine vowels sounds, the two variants mean that only seven vowel symbols are needed, not nine. These seven vowels shall be written with the following symbols:

<u>i</u> for i,	u for u,
i for 1,	u for υ,
e for e and ε,	o for o and o,
a for a.	

Thus, Lugungu will have seven vowels written like this: **a e i** <u>i</u> **o u** <u>u</u>. The following table lists the vowels with examples:

International Phonetic Alphabet symbol	Lugungu Letter	Exai	nple
а	а	kukama	to milk
e	e	kulema	to rule
I	i	kulima	to dig
i	<u>i</u>	k <u>u</u> d <u>i</u> kya	to drop
0	0	kukoma	to elect
υ	u	kukuta	to beat
u	ū	kukunya	to fold

7.1 Hard and Soft Vowels

The underlined vowels \underline{i} and \underline{u} are called *hard* vowels, as opposed to the rest of the vowels, which are called *soft* vowels. There are some pairs of words in Lugungu that are distinguished only by the difference made by these hard vowels. E.g.,

	Soft i or u		ard <u>i</u> or u
kubinya	to break something	kub <u>i</u> nya	to dance
kuluma	to bite	kuluma	to abuse
kiniga	something that strangles	k <u>i</u> niga	anger
kusunga	to watch	kusunga	to sew

As well as the words in the above table that clearly show the difference between the hard and soft vowels, there are other pairs of words that also show the contrast between the two sounds \mathbf{i} and $\mathbf{\underline{i}}$ and between the two sounds \mathbf{u} and $\mathbf{\underline{u}}$.

	Soft i or u		ard <u>i</u> or u
birali	squinted eyes	nkal <u>i</u>	urine
kubiika	to keep	k <u>u</u> t <u>ii</u> na	to fear
kibi	sin	k <u>ifi</u>	cooked meat
mwiru	servant	mw <u>i</u> ko	trowel
ruusi	female goat	swas <u>i</u>	southwest wind
kulima	to dig	kul <u>i</u> ga	to decorate
muntu	person	nsu	fish
mugugu	load	muleeju	beard

7.1.1. Rules for writing hard vowels

- 1. Hard vowels shall be written everywhere they occur.
- 2. If one vowel in a word is hard, then all the other letter i's and all the other letter u's in that same word will also be hard.

Two Exceptions to the above rules:

• When ku, mu, and wu are separate words they shall not be written with hard vowels, even though they may at times sound hard. E.g., in the following examples there are indeed hard u's, (due to the influence of the following words which contain hard vowels), but they are still written with soft u's.

ku z <u>i</u> gat <u>i</u>	'at the courtyard'
mu nyumba	'in the house'
wu Simooni	'at Simon's'

• When mu is attached to the end of words, it shall not be written with a hard vowel. The **u** sounds soft and shall be written soft, even if the rest of the word may contain hard vowels. E.g.,

kweziramu 'to repent'

7.1.2. Advice for writing hard vowels

- Only i or u can be hard (<u>i</u> or <u>u</u>). Never underline the vowels a, e, or o.
- If a vowel sounds hard then underline the i or **u** wherever the hard sound occurs.
- A simple way to test your spelling is to check that all the i's and u's in a word are the same. In other words, soft and hard i's and u's cannot be mixed in the same word (apart from the exception when a word ends in mu that was mentioned above).
- When a word contains a consonant followed by a y, e.g., kudikya 'to drop' it *usually* means that all the i's and u's in the word are hard.
- Sometimes the end parts of words (suffixes) are hard. These suffixes when attached onto the end of a word cause any other i's and u's in the word to change and become hard also. Some examples follow:

7.1.3. The hardening effect of Lugungu suffixes

• The causative verbal suffix **-isya** /-**esya** is always hard and causes any other i's and u's in the word to become hard. E.g.

Wo	rd	Causative form	
kulima	to dig	k <u>uli</u> m <u>i</u> sya	to cause to dig
kudya	to eat	k <u>u</u> d <u>ii</u> sya	to feed (to cause to eat)
kunena	to bite	kunenesya	to cause to bite

• The agentive verbal suffix -<u>i</u> is always hard and causes any other i's and u's in the word to become hard. E.g.

Word		Agentive form	
kulima	to dig	m <u>u</u> l <u>i</u> m <u>i</u> farmer	
kudya	to eat	m <u>u</u> d <u>ii</u>	eater (one who eats)

• The perfective verbal suffix -<u>iri</u> /-**e**ri is always hard and causes any other i's and u's in the word to become hard. E.g.

Wo	ord	Perfe	ective form
kulima	to dig	t <u>uli</u> m <u>i</u> ri	we have dug
kudya	to eat	t <u>udiiri</u>	we have eaten
		k <u>ilimii</u> rwe	it has been dug
		k <u>i</u> d <u>ii</u> b <u>ii</u> rwe	it has been eaten

• The habitual verbal suffix -**engi** is always hard and causes any other i's and **u**'s in the word to become hard. E.g.

Word		Habitual form	
kulima	to dig	twal <u>i</u> men <u>gi</u>	we used to dig
kudya	to eat	twadyeng <u>i</u>	we used to eat

But note that the habitual suffixes, **-anga** / **-ambe** are not hard in the present or future tenses:

Wo	ord	Ha	bitual form
kulima	to dig	tulimambe	we always dig
kudya	to eat	tudyambe	we always eat
		tulilimanga	we will always dig
		tulidyanga	we will always eat

But, there is one suffix that is never hard:

• The applicative verbal suffix **-ir** /**-er** is never hard, except when it is preceded or followed by a hard vowel. E.g.

Word		Applicative form	
kulima	to dig	tukumulimira we are digging for him	
kudya	to eat	tukumudiira	we are eating for him
kweta	to call	tukumukwetera	we are calling him for you

However, note in the following examples that the vowels have become hard because of the following perfective verbal suffix -<u>iri</u> /-**eri** that has hard vowels.

Word		Applicative & Perfective form	
kulima	to dig	tumulimiiri we have dug for him	
kudya	to eat	t <u>umudiiriri</u>	we have eaten for him
kweta	to call	t <u>u</u> mukweteer <u>i</u>	we have called him for you

In addition, note in the following examples that the vowels have become hard because the preceding vowels in the words are already hard.

Word		Applicative form	
k <u>u</u> t <u>ii</u> na	to fear	tukumutiinira we are fearing for him	
kugobya	to lie	tukumugobeerya	we are lying for him

• The imperative mood in the plural is always hard and causes any other i's and u's in the word to become hard. E.g.

Word		Imperative Plural form	
kulima	to dig	m <u>u</u> k <u>ili</u> me	you dig it
kudya	to eat	m <u>u</u> k <u>i</u> dye	you eat it

Contrast this with the singular form:

Word		Imperative singular form	
kulima to dig		kilime	you dig it
kudya	to eat	kidye	you eat it

7.2 Long Vowels

Vowels can be long or short, as can be seen from the following examples. Long vowels shall be written with a doubled vowel letter.

Long Vowels		Short Vowels	
m <u>u</u> seer <u>i</u>	sick person	museri	night dancer
kukookooba	to rake	kukookoba	to chat
kuhoora	to revenge	kuhora	to lend
kuleega	to beg	kulega	to accuse
kooma	piece of metal	koma	you pick!
yoogwo	that very one	yogwo	that one
haaha	grandfather	haha	here

7.2.1. Long vowels and prenasalisation, labialisation and palatalisation

Vowels preceding a prenasalized consonant are always long, and will not be written double. In the same way, vowels following a labialized or palatalised consonant are always long, and will not be written double.

Long vowels and prenasalisation, labialisation and palatalisation		
Lugungu Gungu language		
k <u>i</u> sw <u>i</u> ja fever		
kubyoka to rise		
kunyeega to wrestle		
munyeere skink		
nyumba house		

Note the second to last two examples in the table above carefully. There is a long vowel after the y because this y does not indicate palatalisation; rather, it is part of the consonant. This is the palatal consonant which is written with two letters **ny**. Thus, a long vowel following **ny** is written double. However, the final example shows that while the vowel would be written long after the **ny**, it is not, because of the prenasalised b that follows.

7.2.2. Long vowels and the time of events

Experience has shown that most people have difficulty remembering to write long vowels. This is particularly so when vowels are long in verbs. In Lugungu, a long vowel is present in verb prefixes to indicate that the time an event takes place is in the recent past, the remote past, or the near future. A long vowel is also used when narrating events that happened in the past. A single vowel is used for events that take place at other times. E.g.,

Long	Vowel	Short Vowel	
baagyend <u>i</u> r <u>i</u>	they went (remote past)	bagyend <u>i</u> r <u>i</u>	they have gone
+baagyend <u>i</u> r <u>i</u>	they went (recent past)	nagyenda	and he goes
baagyenda	they will go (near future)	bagyenda	they usually go
baagyenda	then they went (narrative past)	baligyenda	they will go (remote future)

(For information on the use of the tone marker +, see section 9).

Long vowels are also present in verb suffixes. They appear when the applicative suffix is used. E.g.,

Long Vowel		Short Vowel	
yaatum <u>ii</u> r <u>i</u>	he sent for (somebody)	yaatum <u>i</u> r <u>i</u>	he sent
akoleera	he works (with the intention of)	akolera	he works (for/or in)

7.2.3. Long Vowels at the end of words

Long final vowels are very rare in Lugungu. Even though some lengthening may be heard for some speakers with some words, generally, all final vowels shall be written with a single vowel. E.g.,

Final Vowels written short		
bulo sleep		
we	you	
d <u>i</u> ? when?		
ki? what?		
do!	exclamation	
musa	he only	

Final Vowels written long		
mpaa aunt		
itaa elder sibling		
muzee older man		
ee yes		
kikuu something dead		

Here is a list of words that do contain long final vowels:

7.2.4. Long vowels at the beginning of words

There are no words in Lugungu that begin with a long vowel.

7.3 Diphthongs

A diphthong is a sound where two vowels are joined to create a single sound that glides from one vowel sound to another. In Lugungu, the second vowel sound must be an **i**. Lugungu diphthongs are listed below:

Diphthong	Example		
ai	malaika	angel	
a <u>i</u>	Bba <u>i</u> bbul <u>i</u>	Bible	
ei	yankei	himself	
e <u>i</u>	nke <u>i</u> to	shoe	
oi	oicale	you stay	
0 <u>i</u>	ho <u>i</u>	very	

There is one other diphthong in Lugungu that ends with \underline{u} , but it is only found in borrowed words:

Diphthong	Example		
au	Daudi name		
au	Ausutureerya	Australia	

In Lugungu, a diphthong makes up the nucleus of a single syllable. Thus, a word like muzigeijo 'first born' has four syllables, not five.

8. The Spelling of Common Words

8.1 Pro-forms

Pro-forms are words that substitute for nouns. They shall be written as separate words. E.g.,

Pro-forms written a	
oweereer <u>i</u> twetwe twankei	you have said to us alone
kitabbu kiki	this book
nyumba gyetu	our house
at <u>u</u> t <u>u</u> m <u>i</u> r <u>i</u> hali we	he has sent us to you

The only exceptions to the above rule that pro-forms are written as separate words are found in sections 8.1.5 and 10.6.

8.1.1. Personal Pronouns

These substitute for nouns and have the meaning: I, me, you, he, him, she, her, we, us, they, them, and it.

Noun Class	Pronoun	Short form
1Sg	gyagya	gya
1Pl	twetwe	twe
2Sg	weewe	we
2P1	nywenywe	nywe
C1 (3Sg)	уооуо	yo
C2 (3Pl)	boobo	bo
C3	gwogwo	gwo
C4	myomyo	myo
C5	lyolyo	lyo
C6	googo	go
C7	kyokyo	kyo
C8	byobyo	byo
C9	gyogyo	gyo
C10	zyozyo or zoozo	zyo or zo
C11	lwolwo	lwo
C12	kooko	ko
C13	twotwo	two
C14	<u>þ</u> wo <u>þ</u> wo	bwo
C15	kwokwo	kwo

8.1.2. Reflexive Pronouns

Reflexive pronouns have the meanings: myself, yourself, himself, herself, ourselves, themselves, and itself.

Noun Class	Reflexive Pronoun	Short form
1Sg	nyankeenya	nyankei
1Pl	twankeenya	twankei
2Sg	wankeenya	wankei
2P1	nywankeenya	nywankei
C1 (3Sg)	yankeenya	yankei
C2 (3Pl)	bankeenya	bankei
C3	gwankeenya	gwankei
C4	myankeenya	myankei
C5	lyankeenya	lyankei
C6	gankeenya	gankei
C7	kyankeenya	kyankei
C8	byankeenya	byankei
C9	gyankeenya	gyankei
C10	zyankeenya	zyankei
C11	lwankeenya	lwankei
C12	kankeenya	kankei
C13	twankeenya	twankei
C14	bwankeenya	bwankei
C15	kwankeenya	kwankei

8.1.3. Demonstratives

Demonstratives substitute for nouns of location.

Noun Class	this one	this very one	that one	that very one	that one over there	that very one over there
1 (3.Sg)	yogo	yoogo	yogwo	yoogwo	yod <u>i</u>	yood <u>i</u>
2 (3.Pl)	baba	baaba	babwo	baabwo	bad <u>i</u>	baad <u>i</u>
3	gugu	gwogu	gugwo	gwogwo	<u>gudi</u>	gwod <u>i</u>
4	mimi	myomi	m <u>i</u> myo	myomyo	m <u>i</u> di	myod <u>i</u>
5	lili	lyoli	l <u>i</u> lyo	lyolyo	l <u>i</u> di	lyod <u>i</u>
6	gaga	gaaga	gagwo	gaagwo	gad <u>i</u>	gaad <u>i</u>
7	kiki	kyoki	k <u>i</u> kyo	kyokyo	k <u>i</u> di	kyod <u>i</u>
8	bibi	byobi	b <u>i</u> byo	byobyo	b <u>i</u> d <u>i</u>	byod <u>i</u>
9	gigi	gyogi	<u>gi</u> gyo	gyogyo	<u>gi</u> d <u>i</u>	gyod <u>i</u>
10	zizi	zyozi or zoozi	z <u>i</u> zyo	zyozyo	z <u>i</u> d <u>i</u>	zyod <u>i</u> or zood <u>i</u>
11	lulu	lwolu	lulwo	lwolwo	l <u>u</u> d <u>i</u>	lwod <u>i</u>
12	kaka	kaaka	kakwo	kaakwo	kad <u>i</u>	kaad <u>i</u>
13	tutu	twotu	tutwo	twotwo	t <u>udi</u>	twod <u>i</u>
14	þuþu	þwoþu	būpwo	<u>þ</u> wo <u>þ</u> wo	<u>þudi</u>	<u>þ</u> wod <u>i</u>
15	kuku	kwoku	kukwo	kwokwo	k <u>u</u> d <u>i</u>	kwod <u>i</u>
16	haha	haaha	hahwo	haahwo	had <u>i</u>	haad <u>i</u>
17	kunu	kwonu	kukwo	kwokwo	k <u>udi</u>	kwod <u>i</u>
18	mumu	mwomu	mumwo	mwomwo	m <u>u</u> d <u>i</u>	mwod <u>i</u>

8.1.4. Possessive Pronouns

Possessive pronouns convey the idea of ownership. The following table shows possessive pronouns for the personal classes only. Other classes (from 4-15) show the same pattern. E.g., muhiigii waagyo 'its hunter' or misyange myagyo 'its tusks'.

Noun Class	my	our	your	your (pl)	his/her	their
C1	wange	weetu	waamu	weenyu	waamwe	waabu
C2	bange	beetu	baamu	beenyu	baamwe	baabu
C3	gwange	gwetu	gwamu	gwenyu	gwamwe	gwabu
C4	myange	myetu	myamu	myenyu	myamwe	myabu
C5	lyange	lyetu	lyamu	lyeny <u>u</u>	lyamwe	lyabu
C6	gange	geetu	gaamu	geenyu	gaamwe	gaabu
C7	kyange	kyet <u>u</u>	kyamu	kyenyu	kyamwe	kyabu
C8	byange	byet <u>u</u>	byamu	byenyu	byamwe	byabu
C9	gyange	gyet <u>u</u>	gyamu	gyeny <u>u</u>	gyamwe	gyabu
C10	zange	zeetu	zaamu	zeenyu	zaamwe	zaabu
C11	lwange	lwetu	lwamu	lwenyu	lwamwe	lwabu
C12	kange	keetu	kaamu	keenyu	kaamwe	kaabu
C13	twange	twetu	twamu	twenyu	twamwe	twabu
C14	bwange	<u>þ</u> wet <u>u</u>	bwamu	bwenyu	bwamwe	<u>þ</u> wa <u>þ</u> u
C15	kwange	kwetu	kwamu	kwenyu	kwamwe	kwa <u>þ</u> u

Note the possessive pronouns in the 'his/her' column. Those with a long vowel **aa**, may seem to violate the rule that vowels are not written long before a prenasalised consonant. However, in these cases, the **m** does not indicate prenasalisation but rather, it is the consonant that is being labialised by the following **w**. Thus it is correct to write the doubled vowel **aa**.

This is the same reasoning behind the spelling baamwet<u>iri</u> 'they called him'. Again, in this case, the **m** is the consonant that has been labialised, and so it is allowable to have the double **aa** before it. In reality what this means, is that in Lugungu there are no prenasalised **w**'s or **y**'s (see section 4).

The possessive pronouns in the above table also have short forms for 'my' 'your' and 'his/her'. These are given in the following table:

Noun Class	my	your	his/her
C1	\succ	\geq	\searrow
C2	be <u>i</u>	bo	be
C3	gwe <u>i</u>	gwo	gwe
C4	mye <u>i</u>	myo	mye
C5	lye <u>i</u>	lyo	lye
C6	ge <u>i</u>	go	ge
C7	kye <u>i</u>	kyo	kye
C8	bye <u>i</u>	byo	bye
C9	gye <u>i</u>	gyo	gye
C10	ze <u>i</u>	ZO	ze
C11	lwe <u>i</u>	lwo	lwe
C12	ke <u>i</u>	ko	ke
C13	twe <u>i</u>	two	twe
C14	<u>þwei</u>	þwo	þwe
C15	kwe <u>i</u>	kwo	kwe

8.1.5. Joined possessive pronouns

There are certain words—usually kinship terms, where the possessive pronoun is joined to the term. This occurs for the kinship terms that imply 'my', 'your', and 'his/her'. In these cases, the possessive pronoun is understood as being part of the kinship term and shall not be written as a separate word. E.g.,

Kinship terms	written as a single word
z <u>ii</u> za	my grandmother
ziizaawu	your grandmother
ziizaawe	his/her grandmother

Note carefully the use of soft and hard vowels in the above words. The hardness of the vowel changes, depending on the possessive pronoun that is part of the term. If the possessive pronoun contains hard vowels, then the whole words is written with hard vowels. This maintains the rule that hard and soft **i**'s and **u**'s cannot be mixed in a word (see section 7.1.1).

Kinship terms with 'our', 'your (pl)', and 'their' are written as separate words. E.g.,

Kinship terms v	vritten as separate words
z <u>ii</u> za weet <u>u</u>	our grandmother
z <u>ii</u> za weeny <u>u</u>	your (pl) grandmother
z <u>ii</u> za waa <u>b</u> u	their grandmother

Note that z<u>ii</u>za maintains its hard vowels even when the following possessive pronoun contains soft vowels. This is because the two words are written separately.

8.2 Borrowed words

All languages borrow words from other languages. Over time, these words become as much a part of the language as any other word. Sometimes the borrowed word retains its original pronunciation. In this way, new sounds, such as v, are introduced into the language. In other cases, the pronunciation of the borrowed word is adapted to fit the phonology of the second language. In either case, borrowed words should be spelled the way people normally pronounce them when speaking Lugungu. E.g.,

Во	rrowed words
kuvuga	to drive (from Runyoro)
motoka	vehicle (from English)
malaika	angel (from Arabic)

9. Tone

Lugungu is a tonal language. Tone is the pitch melody that overlies all words in the language. This pitch melody gives the hearer part of the meaning of words. Two words that are written the same can have two different meanings if they are spoken with different tone melodies. E.g.,

Tone melody A		Tone melody B	
kwala	to swim	kwala	to make a bed
nzala	hunger	nzala	fingers
<u>þ</u> wem <u>i</u>	width	<u>þ</u> wem <u>i</u>	rebellion
vaaguandiri	he went	vaagvondiri	he went
yaagyend <u>i</u> r <u>i</u>	(recent past)	yaagyend <u>i</u> r <u>i</u>	(remote past)

Some words can even have more than two tone melodies. E.g.,

	Multiple	tone meloo	dies
yaadya	then they ate	yaadya	they will eat very soon
yaadya	they usually eat	yaadya	they who will eat
mwete	you (pl) call	mwete	you (sg) call him
mwete	(let you) call	mwete	a called one

Extensive analysis of the tone system in Lugungu has been carried out. While there are a number of contrasts in the tone system that give rise to different meanings between words, the relative importance and frequency of those differences are not major. In most cases the context is enough for the reader to distinguish the correct meaning. However, there is one contrast that does need to be marked in the writing system of Lugungu. That is the difference between recent past events and remote past events. Consider the following pair of words:

baaleet <u>i</u> r <u>i</u>	'they brought' (recently i.e., today or last night)
baaleet <u>i</u> ri	'they brought' (remotely i.e., yesterday or longer ago)

While these words are written the same, they obviously have different meanings with regard to the time that the event took place. This difference occurs often enough in Lugungu in places where the context cannot help the reader to obtain the correct meaning. Because of this, these types of words need to be distinguished with a tone mark. Therefore, events of the recent past shall be marked in Lugungu by preceding the verb with a + symbol. The remote past shall not be marked. E.g.,

Recent past event		Remote	past event
+ baaleet <u>i</u> r <u>i</u> deeru	they brought today	baaleet <u>i</u> r <u>i</u> auke	they brought the day before yesterday
Sylvia + yaagyend <u>iri</u> mwakya	Sylvia went in the morning	Sylvia yaagyend <u>iri</u> sab <u>iiti</u> g <u>i</u> mal <u>ikiri</u>	Sylvia went last week
F <u>ii</u> na buyaali nacakadwa Er <u>i</u> zabeet <u>i</u> yaamuweera, " + <u>B</u> unyeegw <u>i</u> r <u>i</u> iraka lyamu nok <u>u</u> ndam <u>u</u> kya, mwana yacuuka- cuuka mu nda gyange."	When Phina had just arrived Elizabeth told her, "When I heard your voice greeting me, the child jumped within me."	F <u>ii</u> na buyaaweeni Erizabeeti mweri gudi mwana yaacuka-cuk <u>iri</u> mu nda gya Erizabeeti.	When Phina saw Elizabeth last month the child jumped within the womb of Elizabeth.

Note that the recent past tone marker, + is only used when the event happened in the recent past. This means the verb that it marks must also be in the recent past form. You can see from the above example that the verb + Bunyeegwiri is in the recent past form, so it gets the tone mark, but the next two verbs: nokundamukya, and yacuuka-cuuka are not in that form, so they are not marked with the tone mark.

10. Word Division

10.1 Word breaks in fast speech

Words within phrases tend to be spoken together without any pauses. When two words follow each other and the first word ends with a vowel and the second word begins with a vowel there is a process that causes a vowel between the two words to change or drop out. Except for clitics that are joined (see section 10.2 below) words shall be written separately. This means that Lugungu is written as it sounds when pronounced in slow and careful speech. E.g.,

Written form	What comes out when spoken	Meaning
mwana omwe <u>i</u>	mwanoomwe <u>i</u>	one child
e <u>i</u> ze akuhe sente	e <u>i</u> zaakuhe sente	Let him come and give you money
mwana wange, "Iza!"	mwana wangeiza	my child, "Come!"
lyolyo ibara	lyolyoibara	that's the name

10.2 Clitics

Clitics are small words of a single syllable that are pronounced together with a neighbouring word. There are two types of clitics: those that come before nouns and those that come after verbs.

10.2.1. Clitics that come before nouns

These are the clitics in Lugungu that come before nouns:

Clitics that come before nouns	
wa, ba, gwa, gya, lya, ga, kya, bya, ya, za, lwa, ka, twa, bwa, kwa	of
ha	at/to
ku	at/on
mu	in
wu	at

Clitics that come before nouns that begin with a consonant shall be written as a separate word. E.g.,

Clitics before nouns beginning with a consonant		
kitabbu kya mwegesa	the book of the teacher	
mwana wa bbaawe	his father's child	
ha nsi	on the ground	
ku mutanda	at the shore	
mu <u>þ</u> wat <u>i</u>	in the canoe	
wu Baguma	at Baguma's	

However, for clitics that come before a noun that begins with the letter \mathbf{i} or \mathbf{i} then the final vowel of the clitic drops out and this is indicated by joining the two words: E.g.,

Clitics before noun beginning with an i or <u>i</u>	
bijanga byeitaka	waves of the lake
heitehe	on the ground
kw <u>i</u> lu	on the knee
mwiguru	in heaven

10.2.2. Clitics that come after verbs

The second types of clitics are those that come after verbs.

Clitics that come after verbs		
mu, mwo, mwona	in	
mu, mwo, mwona	repetition	
bba	intensive	
ha	there	
ho	there (definite)	
ho	diminutive	
уо	there (indefinite)	

These types of clitics shall be joined to the verb. E.g.,

Examples of clitics that come after verbs		
yaabutembirimu bwati	he climbed into the canoe	
ohandiikemwo	you re-write	
banyakubbamwona	those who were in	
nkukuroopabba	I will really cane you	
yaad <u>ii</u> r <u>i</u> ho kadool <u>i</u>	he ate a little	
yaak <u>i</u> teereer <u>i</u> ho	he put it on it	
yaagyend <u>i</u> r <u>i</u> yo	he went there	

The above clitics are the only words that may be joined at the end of verbs. All other words that come after verbs are written as separate words. E.g.,

beemereer<u>i</u> hahwo 'they stood there.' weegwa nu 'you hear now' musiri gwe 'his garden'

Note: when **mu** is added to the end of a verb, the **mu** is written with a soft **u**, even though the rest of the word may have hard **u**'s or **i**'s. E.g., ye<u>i</u>ramu 'he answered' (see section 7.1.1).

10.3 Common words that are joined

Common words written as a single word			
hansi	below/under	nahabwak <u>i</u> kyo	because of that
Kyakabiri	Tuesday	Mwer <u>i</u> Gwakanei	April
nahahwo	at that moment	habwakubba	because
munda	inside	hanyuma	behind
mwomwo	then	kwamweetu	our home
yatyo	like that	waakubanza	first
hakyend <u>i</u>	above	waakasatu	third
habwaki?	why?	waakabiri	second
yoodede	also	kwamwenyu	your (pl) home
hanzei	outside	hamwenya	together

The following words are written as a single word, even though they may be composed of two or more parts:

10.4 Common words that are separate

Contrast some of the above with the following, which shall be written as two or more words.

Common words written as more than one word			
mu nsi	on the earth	mu nywe	among you
mu nda	in the stomach	bubwo nu	meanwhile
hali yo	upon him/to him	kuli yo	to him
ha kiro	ha kiro on the day kukola ki? to do what?		
mu me <u>i</u> so	ahead/in front	mu <u>þ</u> wire <u>þ</u> uþwo	at that time

10.5 The apostrophe

The apostrophe is used in Lugungu to mark the joining of two words where the first word is a clitic that ends with a vowel and where the second word begins with a vowel that is also a capital letter.

Normally in the case where a clitic is joined to a following word beginning with a vowel, then the rules given in section 10.2.1 apply. However when the following word begins with a vowel that is also a capital letter we have a special case where the capital letter needs to be kept in the word. This happens with words that are the specific names of people, places, and things.

Therefore, we use an apostrophe to indicate the vowel that is dropped out from the end of the first word. E.g.,

Use of the apostrophe	
nyumba gy'Isaka	the house of Isaac
Adamu n'Eeva	Adam and Eve
yeicala n'Er <u>i</u> zabeet <u>i</u>	she stayed with Elizabeth
w'Agaba	at Agaba's

Note that when pronouncing these written forms the letter that has been dropped out is still pronounced. E.g., for the first example in the table above the words are pronounced nyumba gyeisaka, even though they are written nyumba gy'Isaka.

10.6 The word na

The joining word na which means 'and' or 'with' follows the same rules as the clitics given in section 10.2 and 10.5. E.g.,

na before a word beginning with a consonant		
nkubabatiza na meez <u>i</u>	I baptise you with water	
na before a word be	ginning with an i or <u>i</u>	
ne <u>i</u> h <u>i</u> ga	and a stone	
neisumu	with a spear	
na before a wor	d beginning with	
	a capital letter	
n' <u>I</u> bb <u>u</u> rah <u>i</u> mu	and Abraham	

When na occurs before a verb, it is joined to the word before and after. E.g.,

na before a verb		
alinakubba kwebbaka he must be sleeping		
olinakumuganyira you must forgive hin		
yaalinakusaba	he was praying	
kilinakudwereera	it must be fulfilled	

An exception to the above is for verbs beginning with **bu** 'when'. E.g., buyaali nakusiga 'when he was sowing.' In this case, buyaali is acting as an auxiliary verb and so it is written as a separate word (see section 10.7).

However, when na occurs before a noun it is kept as a separate word. E.g.,

na before a noun		
ali na sente	he has money	
Mal <u>i</u> ya yaali na nda	Mary was pregnant	
alibba na <u>b</u> usoboz <u>i</u>	he will have authority	
nibali na yood <u>i</u>	they were with that one	

In the last example above, while yood<u>i</u> is not a noun, it is substituting for a noun, and therefore **na** is still written separately.

When the word na comes before a pronoun, they shall be joined. E.g.,

na before a pronoun	
ali nayo	he is with him
Bunyaali nincakali nanywe	While I was still with you
Okw <u>i</u> za kubba nagya mwiguru	You will be with me in heaven

10.7 Word breaks in verb phrases

In a verb phrase, the main verb is often preceded by a 'helping word' that we call an *auxiliary verb*. If the subject is present as a prefix on the main verb *and* on the auxiliary verb then the two shall be written as separate words. E.g.,

Auxiliary verbs written as separate words		
tunakubba tujun <u>iri</u>	we have indeed helped	
tulibba nitucakajuna	we will still be helping	
tw <u>i</u> ceer <u>i</u> t <u>u</u> jun <u>i</u> r <u>i</u>	we had helped	
twalingi nitucakajuna	we were still helping	
tulibba nitukujuna	we will be helping	

Where the auxiliary verb is kusobora, or kw<u>i</u>za, then even if the subject is not repeated on the main verb, the auxiliary verb shall be written separately. E.g.,

Auxiliary verb kusobora or kw <u>i</u> za			
written as a separate word			
tukwiza kujuna 🛛 we will help			
tusobora kujuna we can help			

Also, auxiliary verbs that begin with \mbox{bu} 'when' are written separately from the main verb. E.g.,

Auxiliary verb beginning with bu is written as a separate word		
buyaali nakujuna when he was helping		
bunyaali nincaali nanywe	while I was still with you	
bubaali nibakugyenda	when they were going	

The negative kwahi shall be written as a separate word. However, the negative ti or ta shall be joined to the verb. E.g.,

The Negative		
twajun <u>i</u> ri kwahi	we were not helping	
titulimukujuna	we are not helping	
tw <u>i</u> ceer <u>i</u> tutakujuna	we were not helping	

Note in the last example above, that twiceeri is written as a separate word because the subject **tu** is repeated on the main verb.

Where the subject is not repeated on the main verb, then it shall be written as a single word E.g.,

Verbs written as a single word		
tulimukujuna	we are helping	
tw <u>i</u> ceer <u>i</u> kujuna	we were helping	
twalingikujuna	we were helping	
twakalikujunanga	we used to help	
tucakajunambe	we are still helping	

10.8 Reduplication

Lugungu has many long words. This can make reading difficult. This is particularly a problem for verbs that are very long. E.g.,

geyongeeribweyongeri 'they increased a lot'

However, the example above could easily be broken into two pieces that are more manageable by splitting the word with a hyphen at the point where the word reduplicates. E.g., geyongeer<u>i</u>-bweyonger<u>i</u>

Therefore, in cases of reduplication, a hyphen shall be placed between the halves of the word whenever the reduplicated part consists of more than one syllable. Hyphens shall only be used to split up verbs or adverbs. E.g.,

Reduplication		
mulyega- <u>þ</u> we <u>gi</u>	you will just know	
mutafuruka-furukanga	don't keep on migrating	
yaacuuka-cuuka	then he shakes	
bwangu-bwangu	quickly	
mpula-mpula	slowly	

The only exception is that the hyphen is not used with the verb kuwonawona 'to suffer'.

Reduplication in nouns and adjectives and reduplications involving the repetition of only one syllable are not hyphenated.

E.g. the following are not hyphenated:

No Reduplication		
kyokyo	it	
lutobbotobbo	a type of plant	
weewe	you	
kahirihiri	small snake	
kamp <u>i</u> t <u>i</u> mp <u>i</u> t <u>i</u>	dusk	
kiki	this	
kasulusulu	path	
garagara	lizard	
kibbeebbe	tiny	

11. Dialect Differences

Lugungu does not have major dialects. However, there are differences in the words people use and in the way certain words are pronounced. The Lugungu Bible Translation and Literacy Association (LUBITLA) recommend the adoption of certain standards and these are listed as follows:

11.1 Words with a soft b

Lugungu has many words that have the soft b sound in them. However, for some people, this sound is being spoken with a \mathbf{w} or a \mathbf{u} . E.g., Some people say bwati 'canoe' while others say waati 'canoe'. Some people say buhunga 'flour' while others say wuhunga 'flour'. Some people say buseeri 'sickness' while others say useeri 'sickness'

In order to standardise the writing of Lugungu, LUBITLA held an Orthography Standardisation Workshop in January 2005. As a result of that workshop it was decided that the soft b shall be written as a \mathbf{b} before \mathbf{u} , \mathbf{u} or \mathbf{w} , and as a \mathbf{b} before any other letters. For more information see section 3.2.2.

11.2 Words with ei, ei or ee

Some words are spoken by some people with an **ei** or **ei** sound while others use an **ee** sound. Many of these options are simply dialect choices. While LUBITLA recognise that people speak these words differently, they recommend that words be written as follows:

Words to be written with ei or e <u>i</u>		Words to be written with ee or e	
omwe <u>i</u>	one	meez <u>i</u>	water
inei, munaanei	four, eight	waamwe	his/her
be <u>i</u> tu	but	beetu	our
bense <u>i</u>	all	yaaween <u>i</u>	he saw
hamwe <u>i</u>	together	binene	many
teetei?	how?		
hanzei	out		
kyonkei	but		
yankei	himself/alone	Words to be written with ei or e <u>i</u>	
mu me <u>i</u> so	ahead	meino	teeth
me <u>i</u> so	eyes	nke <u>i</u> to	shoe

Other words should be written according to the underlying form of the word. If the main form of the verb begins with a **kwi** or **kwi**, then the beginning part of the word should be written **ei** or **ei**. But if the main form of the verb begins with a **ku**, **ku**, or **kwe** then the beginning part of the word should be written **ee**. E.g.,

Words	s with ei or <u>ei</u>	Words	s with ee
ye <u>iziri</u>	he came	yeez <u>iri</u>	he swept
ye <u>i</u> t <u>i</u> r <u>i</u>	he killed	yeet <u>i</u> r <u>i</u>	he called
we <u>i</u> ruka	you will run	weezegesya wankei	teach yourself
we <u>i</u> z <u>i</u> ramu wankei	answer yourself	weejuna wankei	help yourself
beicala	they stayed	beecooka	they gathered

12. Punctuation

12.1 Full stop

The full stop shall be used to mark the end of a sentence. E.g.,

The full stop at the end of a sentence		
Baana bakwendya kudya icuhi. The children want to eat greens.		

The full stop shall also be used after most abbreviations. E.g.,

The full stop after abbreviations		
Hataati, R.D.C. alimukugyenda.	Now, the R.D.C. is going.	

12.2 Comma

The comma shall be used to mark a necessary pause within a sentence and the beginning of direct quotations. E.g.,

The comma		
Mukali wange bwalibyala	If my wife gives birth to male	
mahasa nigali ga baana ba	twins, I will slaughter a bull for	
budulu, nd <u>i</u> mw <u>i</u> t <u>i</u> ra numi.	her.	
Baraza yoodede yaabuulya,	Baraza also asked, "What are those	
"Bintu kyani b <u>i</u> byo?"	things?"	

12.3 Question Mark

The question mark shall be used to mark the end of a question. E.g.,

The question mark		
Okugyenda hai? Where are you going?		

12.4 Capitalisation

A capital letter shall be used to begin every sentence and the beginning of direct quotations. E.g.,

Capitalisation	
Yesu yaabe <u>iriri</u> mu nakoba,	Jesus replied and said, "God
"Ruhanga abaheer <u>i</u> kwetegereza."	has given you wisdom."

Words that refer to the name of a specific person, place, or thing shall begin with a capital letter. Words that are used as terms for holidays, days of the week, months, and titles shall also begin with a capital letter. E.g.,

Words beginning with a capital letter	
K <u>i</u> sansya	name of a place
Baguma	name of a person
Ruhanga	name of God
Kyakabiri	Tuesday
Mwer <u>i</u> Gwamusanju	July
Muhandu	Mr.

12.5 Quotations

There are two kinds of quotations: direct and indirect. Indirect quotations do not take quotation marks. Direct quotations shall begin with a comma, and then have the quoted speech within opening and closing double quotation marks. Punctuation marks are placed within the quotes. E.g.,

Indirect quotation	
Yaabaweera nti bantu banene bakwiza.	She told them that many people will come.
Dakw <u>i</u> za.	will come.

Direct quotation	
Yaamubuulya, "We, osobora He asked him, "You, how can you sleep?"	

A quote within a quote shall be marked by single quotes. E.g.,

Direct quotation within a quotation	
Mwomwo yaabaweera, "Nkye <u>gi</u> r <u>i</u>	Then he told them, "I know
nkakimwei nti handiki mumbwere	for sure that you are going to
bigambu bya kunkiina, 'We ohon <u>i</u> a	challenge me, 'You cure
bandi, weehon <u>i</u> a.' "	others, cure yourself.' "

12.6 The Exclamation mark

The exclamation mark shall be used at the end of any sentence that shows a sense of urgency, excitement, or strong emotion. E.g.,

Exclamation mark	
Nyaakob <u>iri</u> , "S <u>i</u> moon <u>i</u> ! Nzegwa!"	I said, "Simon! Listen to me!"

12.7 The semi-colon

The semi-colon shall be used to join to related clauses that are not connected by any joining words such as na, beitu, rundi, kyonkei, mwomwo etc.

The semi-colon	
Yaajwah <u>i</u> r <u>i</u> kulinda; yaacwamwo	He was tired of waiting; he
kugyenda kwamwamwe.	decided to go to his home.

12.8 The colon

The colon shall be used to introduce a list. E.g.,

The colon	
Alina bisolo binene: nte, mbuli,	He has many animals: cows,
ntaama, mbaata, na bindi.	goats, sheep, ducks, and others.

12.9 Parentheses (brackets)

Parentheses shall be used to provide supplementary or additional information that is not part of the main sentence. E.g.,

Parentheses	
Yaaswebeerwe Musa (yoyo	She married Moses (the one she
yogwo <u>gi</u> yaasomen <u>gi</u> nayo).	was schooling with).

12.10Paragraph Breaks

Paragraph breaks should be used throughout a text to group sentences that relate to a single topic. A paragraph break should be used to mark a shift in thought, or to mark a change in speaker in a dialogue. Paragraphs shall be marked by indenting the first line of the paragraph by four spaces or by inserting a blank line between paragraphs.

12.11 Emphasis

Emphasis can be marked in various ways.

In handwriting and on a typewriter emphasis shall be marked by using capital letters. E.g., KUKUUTA, or by using the exclamation mark, (!).

On a computer, as well as the above, emphasis can be marked by using italics: E.g., *kukuuta* or bold face: E.g., **kukuuta**.

Underlining should not be used for emphasis as this will obliterate the underlines under the letter \underline{i} 's and \underline{u} 's.

13. Example Text

The following story is taken from the Bible, Luke 15:11-32.

Mu biro bya kadei, haalingiho mudulu omwei munyakubba na batabani babiri. Mutabani muto yaagyendiri hali bbaawe yaamuweera yati, "Bbaabba, mpa mugabu gwei gwa bugwete bweitungu lyo." Mwomwo bbaawaabu yaababagaania buli muntu mugabu gwe. Hanyuma gya biro bidooli, mutabani muto yaatundiri migabu mye yeegyendera hadei mu mahanga, cali yaaheneeri itungu lye mu bintu bitalimu. Yaaheneeri bintu byensei biyaali nabyo kasi mwomwo, nzala gyamaani gyagwa mu lilyo ihanga, yaasigala mbura kantu. Nahabwakikyo, yeehomereeri kupakasa wu musi omwei wa mu lilyo ihanga, munyakumusindika kuliisya mwirisiiryo lya mpunu. Yeegombiri kudva ha bidvo bva mpunu, kvonkei kadi muntu omwei munyakumuha bidyo yaali waahi. Hakumaliira, yaahwitukiri yaakoba yati, "Bapakasi ba bbaabba bensei bali na byakudya binene na kukiraho, kyonkei ndi haha nkukwa nzala! Kambyoke ngyende hali bbaabba mwesengereerye ninkoba, 'Bbaabba, nsobeerve mu meiso go na mu meiso ga Ruhanga. Tinkusemeera kwetwa mutabani waamu; ikiriza mbe nka omwei ha bapakasi baamu.' " Mwomwo, yaabyokeerye yaakwata gukumwemukya hali bbaawe.

Buyaali nacakali hadeiho na kwamugi, bbaawe yaamuwona; kisa kyamukwata mu mutima gwe, yeirukiri yaagwa mutabani mu salaka kandi yaamusenga hakyendi. Mwana yaakoba, "Bbaabba, nsobeerye mu meiso go kandi na mu meiso ga Ruhanga. Tinkusemeera kwetwa mutabani waamu." Kyonkei, bbaawe yeetiri beiru baamwe yaabaweera, "Mwanguhe, muleete kyakulwala kirungi kikukirayo mumulwalye. Mumulwalye mpita mu ngalu na nkeito mumagulu ge. Hanyuma, mugyende muleete nte ginyakusaja mugisale, tukole kididi kya kusemererwa. Habwakubba, mutabani wange yogwo yaalingi afafanikiri kyonkei hataati, yeeziririmu; yaali ahambeeri, kyonkei hataati, eiriri." Mwomwo, baatandika kididi kya kusemererwa.

Ha bwire bubwo, mutabani muzegeizo yaali mu ndimiro. Buyaali nakwira yeesega-segeerye heehi na kwamugi, yeegwa byembu na ndihwa. Mwomwo yeeta omwei mu beiru, yaamubuulya, "Kikyani kibbeeriho?" Mwiru yaamuweera yati, "Weenyu muto + yeiriri kandi bbaawu amusaliiri sajwa gya nte, habwakubba eiriri kurungi kandi dwe." Kyonkei, waabu muhandu yaazingeeri hoi, yaagira kwingira mu nyumba; mwomwo bbaawe yaahuluka haliyo amutaagira eingire mu nyumba. Kyonkei, yo yeiririmwo bbaawe nakoba yati, "Wona! Mimi myaka myensei nyiceeri ninkukolera nka mwiru, kandi tinkajeemeranga bigambu byo. Waakampanga ki? Kadi kabuli munyakabuli nkakora kididi na banywani bange! Kyonkei mutabani waamu yogwo aheneeri itungu lyo lyensei na bamalaaya, beitu bweiriri omusaliiri sajwa." Bbaawe yaamwiramu yati, "Ee mwanange, biro bibi byensei, we oicala haha nagya, kandi bintu byensei biinabyo byamu. Kyonkei, twakalinakukora kididi, habwakubba weenyu yaalingi afafanikiri, kyonkei hataati yeeziririmu, yaalingi ahambeeri kyonkei hataati eiriri."

14. Alphabet Chart

