

Diphthongs in mânkuŋ

Definition

A diphthong is a monosyllabic sound. The sound starts at the point of articulation of one vowel or sound and glides to a position of another vowel or sound and in the process changes the sound or vowel quality. The two sounds are thus joined in one syllable; in phonetics, this is considered as one sound. Example: "oy" in "boy," "oi" in "boil" and "ou" in "out"

Diphthong in mânkuŋ

Frontal diphthongs with the structure yV (where y is a semi vowel and V is the second vowel) exists in mânkuŋ. This diphthong is attested only in the presence of C₂ **n** and after C₁ k or ɣ. For instance:

ye

This diphthong is realized as [ye] in an open syllable and [yɛ] in a closed syllable.

ŋgyé	weed (open syllable – C ₁)
ŋgyén	weed (closed syllable – C ₂)
ŋgyě	weed (open syllable – C ₁)
ŋgyěn	weed (closed syllable – C ₂)
ɣyé	come (open syllable – C ₁)
ɣyěn(yěŋ) or ɣyěŋ (yěŋ)	come (open/closed syllable - C ₂)
kyèn (kyěŋ)	female name (closed syllable - C ₂)

yɛ

This diphthong is realized as [ye] in an open syllable and [yɛ] in a closed syllable

byé	to be lost (open syllable - C ₁)
lyé	to sleep (open syllable - C ₁)
lyɛm	watch, hide (closed syllable - C ₂)
byéɣí	lost (closed syllable with - C ₂)
alyɛn	sap (closed syllable - C ₂)
yěŋ	come (Closed syllable - C ₂)

ya

kyǎ rake (C₁)

yá raise (V)

yǎŋ light (C₂)

kyáŋ organize (C₂)

Posterior diphthongs

wi

niłwí nose (closed syllable -C₁)

ntʃwí maize (closed syllable -C₁)

ʃwírí open (closed syllable -C₂)

we

This diphthong is realized as **wi** in an open syllable and **we** in a closed syllable with C₂ n, b and r.

swé [ʃwí] finger (open syllable - C₁)

ɪŋwé [ɪŋwí] knife (open syllable - C₁)

kwén refill (closed syllable - C₂)

ʃwén suck (closed syllable - C₂)

tʃwébí take out of the pot (closed syllable - C₂)

tʃwérí drip (closed syllable - C₂)

we in front of b and r is also realized as **wɛ** and **wi**

tʃwérí to be proud (open syllable - C₂)

ʃwírí pour on the ground (closed syllable C₂)

wɛ

If the syllable is open, wɛ is realized as we. In front of closed syllable C₂ wɛ is realized as **wɛ**

ɲgwé [ɲgwé]	wife (open syllable - C ₁)
ɲwé	melt (open syllable - C ₁)
íyé [íyé]	where (open syllable - C ₁)
lwɛm	to heat (closed syllable - C ₂)
tʃwéʔé	uproot (closed syllable - C ₂)

wuu:

kúí	run (closed syllable - C ₁)
kúí	burn (closed syllable -C ₁)
kwúyí	blow cloth (closed syllable - C ₂)

wə:

kwǎŋ	pick up (semi closed syllable -C ₂)
twǎŋ	burry (semi closed syllable -C ₂)

wa

lwá	lick (open syllable -C ₁)
tʃwá	catch (open syllable -C ₁)

wɔ

wɔ is realized as wo in an open C₁ syllable and wɔ in a closed C₂ syllable

kfwó or pfwó	dead (open syllable - C ₁)
vwǒ	fall (open syllable - C ₁)
nìvwó	funeral (open syllable - C ₁)
ɲgvwó	dog (open syllable - C ₁)
ɲwɔn	person (closed syllable - C ₂)
kwóŋ	cover with soil (closed syllable - C ₂)