

Lesson 1:

Greetings

(Letters of the Alphabet)

by

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I always believe that one of the best places to start in the exciting journey of studying of Ìgbò language is the letters of the alphabet. Even though the Ìgbò alphabet is based on Roman letters, a few of its unique characteristics deserve attention. The following is a list of the 36 letters of the Ìgbò alphabet:

Alphabet	As in ...	Meaning ...	Alphabet	As in ...	Meaning ...
A	aka	Hand	M	ṛmṣọ	Spirit
B	bèkeè	Caucasian	N	nnà	Father
CH	chukwu	God	Ñ	oñū	Joy
D	dintā	Hunter	NW	nwaànyị	Woman
E	ewu	Goat	NY	nwunyè	Wife
F	efù	Zero	O	òke	Rat
G	agū	Lion	Ọ	ọṣụ	Mouth
GB	igbe	Crawling	P	òpì	Flute
GH	òghọ	Misfortune	R	ọṛụ	Work
GW	agwọ	Snake	S	osisi	Stick
H	ahịa	Market	SH	ashà	Sparrow
I	irē	Tongue	T	atụ	Giraffe
Ị	ìgbà	Drum	U	ute	Mat
J	ji	Yam	Ụ	ùbọ	Guitar
K	òkè	Share	V	ṛṛvo	Nail
KP	èkpere	Prayer	W	ùwe	Clothing
KW	okwu	Speech	Y	uyị	Charcoal
L	olu	Neck	Z	ezè	King