

Broad and slender consonants

Manx, like the other Gaelic languages, contrasts between what are traditionally called *broad* and *slender* varieties of most consonants. These sounds are important as they can be used to distinguish between similar words. The only major difference between the words *shiaull* ‘sail’ and its plural *shiaull* is the type of L that they have at the end. The first

In Manx the broad sounds are in most cases the same as those found in English. The slender sounds, however, can sometimes be different to anything found in English. They are usually produced with the involvement of the hard palate of the roof of the mouth in some way, and for this reason they are sometimes referred to as being *palatal* or *palatalised*. The way these sounds are produced varies.

Slender sounds are not consistently marked in Manx spelling, though often slender sounds have an <i> before or after them, as in *shiauill* above.

Broad	Example	Slender (palatalised)	Example
/k/	coon	/k ^j /	kiune
/x/	choon	/ç/	chiune
/g/	gatt	/g ^j /	giatt
/χ/	ghatt	/j/	yiat
/t/	kayt	/tʃ/ /t ^j / ¹	kiyt
/d/	derrey	/dʒ/ /d ^j / ¹	jerrey
/s/	sooill	/ʃ/	shooyl
/p/	pooar	—	
/b/	booa	/b ^j / ²	bio
/m/	molley	/m ^j / ²	miolley
/v/	volley	/v ^j / ²	violley
/n/	noo	/n ^j /	neu-
/l/	shiaull	/l ^j /	shiauill
/r/	roauyr	/r ^j / ²	rio

¹/t^j/ and /d^j/ are usually found only at the end of words

²Rare

K sounds

VOICELESS		
	Unlenited	Lenited
Neutral/broad	/k/ carrey	/x/ my charrey
Palatal/slender	/k ^j / kiaull	/ç/ my chiaull
VOICED		
	Unlenited	Lenited
Neutral/broad	/g/ garey	/ɣ/ my gharey
Palatal/slender	/g ^j / giat	/j/ my yiat/ghiat

Hug mee my **chooat** orrym as **ghooin** mee yn dorrays dy **feagh** my yei. **Cha** row yn **ghrian** foast er n'irree, **agh** va ny hushagyn er n'ghoaill toshiaght dy **chiaulleeagh** ayns biljyn y **gharey**. V'eh er **cheau fliaghey** syn oie, as va soar **fliugh**, oor syn aer. Baillym v'er **chumrail** ayns shen minnid ny jees as tayrn yn aer feayr **stiagh** ayns my hroin, agh va mee er **ghialdyn** dou hene nagh jinnin scuirl er aggle dy jinnin toshiaght dy **cheayne**.

Hie mee magh er y ghiat, ren jeestyrnee tra doshil mee eh. S'ennoil dou va'n sheean shen. Shimmey keayrt va mee er **chlasytyn** eh as er n'ghoaill yindys quoi va cheet. V'eh feer licklee nagh gluinnin eh **arragh**.

Cheau mee my phoagaghyn **stiagh** ayns boot y **ghleashtan**. Jeeaghyn back er y thie son y **cheayrt** s'jerree, **ghow** mee tastey dy row soilshey nish ayn 'sy chamyrlhiabbagh. Foddee dy row jeestyrnee y **ghiat** er **ghoostey** eh... Cha dod mee tannaghtyn veg sodjey. Begin dou goll roym. Ayns traa feer **ghiare veagh** eh ooilley harris.

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Hie mee stiagh sy gharey er y ghiat, ren bunnys tuittym jeh'n essyn echey. Va kuse dy chiarkyn scolgyrnée as screebey mastey ny sarkylyn. Er shenn ghleashtan va kayt screbbagh ny lhie fo'n ghrian. Hrog eh e chione as cheau eh sooill gheyre orrym choud's hooill mee seose y cassan.

Chranks mee dy hard er y dorrys. Va mee er chlashtyn dy row yn çhenn ven red beg bouyr. Ren mee farkiaght rish minnid roish my ren mee crankal reesht, agh ny syrjey. Hug shoh er floagyn dy pheint geayne dy huittym veih'n dorrys. Cheayll mee kesmadyn moal sprangagh er y çheu elley.

‘Ta mee çheet,’ dooyrt coraa veg.

Chum mee ny shenn cho-chaslyssyn dy çhionn ayns my ghaa laue. Yeeagh mee sheese er y chied 'er. She ben as dooinney aeg er laa nyn manshey v'ayn. V'ad kiart er għiarrey yn keeak as v'ad nyn neesht as nyn meeal lane, mongey dy feer ghennal er y cheilley.

Dentals

VOICELESS

	Unlenited	Lenited
Neutral/broad	/t/ thie	/h/ my hie
Palatal/slender	/tʃ/ chiollagh /t̪/ aitt	/h̪/ my hiollagh

VOICED

	Unlenited	Lenited
Neutral/broad	/d/ dorrys	/ɣ/ my ghorrays
Palatal/slender	/dʒ/ jough /d̪/ buid	/j/ my yough

How are the 8 dental sounds above represented in writing?

thalloo

drine

jalloo

çheh

çhymsgagh

ro hirrym

çhiollagh

my hiollagh

ro ghorraghey

goit

aitt

my hengey

doodee

kayt

kiyt

bwoid

my yough

my yishig

buid

jeant

baatey

sorçh

beemayd

Voiceless

Broad, unlenited /t/

Broad, lenited /h/

Slender, unlenited /tʃ/ /t̪/

Slender, lenited /h̪/

Voiced

Broad, unlenited /d/

Broad, lenited /ɣ/

Slender, unlenited /dʒ/ /d̪/

Slender, lenited /j/

Slender N in different positions

Initial (start of word)

<i>Niau</i>	<i>niartal</i>	<i>neesht</i>
<i>neayr</i>	<i>niece</i>	<i>Nherin</i>
<i>neu-chadjin</i>	<i>nee</i> [copula]	

Medial (middle of word)

<i>bainney</i>	<i>fuinney</i>	<i>uinnag</i>
<i>dooinney</i>	<i>cruinnaghey</i>	<i>geinnagh</i>
<i>cruinney</i>	<i>reinnagh</i>	
<i>shinney</i>	<i>greinnaghey</i>	

Final (end of word)

<i>dooin</i>	<i>shin</i>	<i>cuin</i>
<i>rooin</i>	<i>ren</i>	<i>Nherin</i>
<i>hoooin</i>	<i>awin</i>	

A small number of words have a final N which is broad when singular, but becomes slender when plural.

bun → *binn* *croan* → *cruinn* *cean* → *ein*

A small number of verbs have a verbal noun with a broad N which becomes slender in the stem.

dooney → *dooin* *cooney* → *cooin*

Some words begin with a vowel that appears broad but is historically slender. When the definite article *yn* appears before these words we find that the N of the article becomes slender with a noticeable offglide into the following vowel. This is sometimes represented in spelling, and in these cases the N of the article may instead be attached to beginning of the next word instead.

ollagh → *yn ollagh* *Arragh* → *y Niarragh* *aspick* → *yn aspick*

A similar phenomenon occurs in some words that begin with a historically slender F which has then been lenited due to the preceding article.

fastyr → *syn astyr* *famman* → *jyst yn amman*

L and N

L

Broad/non-palatalised

/l/ **Ihie**

Slender/palatalised

/l̪/ **lioar**

Broad or Slender?

Ihiannoo	slender
lioar	slender
Ihiggey	slender
dy liooar	slender
boayl	broad (ball)
buill	slender
shooyl	broad
shooill	slender
faagail	slender
lane	broad
laue	broad
sleih	broad
Ihiam	slender
lesh	slender
Ihean	broad
Ihoob	broad
Ihong	broad
Ihuss/luss	broad
liauyr	slender
loayrt	broad

Rhotics (R sounds)

The alveolar tap

In Classical and Late Manx (from the 18th to mid 19th century), the R sound is normally a voiced alveolar tap. It is produced by flapping the tip of the tongue once against the alveolar ridge, just behind the teeth. This R sound is also found in some varieties of Modern English, including some in Scotland, Ireland, and parts of the West Country.

 Voiced alveolar tap (from Wikipedia)

 ‘Cur dooin nyn arran’ Sage Kinvig

 ‘gra’ John Tom Kaighin

The alveolar approximant

In most varieties of Modern English, th alveolar tap has been replaced by an alveolar approximant. Here there is no tapping of the tongue against the roof of the mouth. This sound is used in many varieties of Modern English, including most of those spoken in the the British Isles and most varieties of North American English.

 ‘Red’ North American English (from Wikipedia)

In Late Terminal Manx (the language spoken by the last generation of traditional speakers), due to the influence of English, this alveolar approximant has begun to replace the tap sound of the earlier language. This occurs particularly in final position and before consonants. The R may also disappear altogether, especially at the end of words.

Practice for the alveolar tap

Cur yn arran er y laare

Ren mee jarrood dy chur yn cheyrrey vooar ayns y vagher

Va shin giarrey yn faiyr er y doonaght

Cha row ad ayns y gharey aym’s

Row billey darragh ayns shen?

Va ram sleih geearree gra shen, agh cha ren ad

Ren dooinney mooar gra dy row yn arroo aarloo

Slender R?

The written language indicates the presence of a palatal (slender) version of R in some cases, where it would also be expected in the other Gaelic languages. There is also evidence for its survival in some words in later recorded language. It is pronounced like the alveolar tap but with more friction, and sometimes further back in the mouth on the hard palate. Like other consonants which have a broad/slender contrast the difference can be used to differentiate between words.

rio ‘frost’

rieau ‘ever’

“*erriu /erju/ ‘on you’, G. oirbh*

merriu /merju/ ‘dead’ pl., G. mairbh

terriu, teirroo /terju/ ‘bulls’, G. tairbh

luirg /lurqj/ ‘staffs’, G. luirg

fuirree /furi:/ ‘remain, stay, wait’, G. *fuirigh*
oírr /orj/ ‘edge’, G. *oir*
mooir, muir /murj/ ‘sea’, G. *muir*
buirroogh /bu'rju:x/ ‘roar’, G. *búirfeadhach*” (Lewin 2020)

“*ooir* /u:rj/ ‘earth’, G. *úir*
oor /u:r/ ‘hour’
*coair*²¹² /ko:rj/ ‘near’, G. *i gcóir* (but *coar* ‘kind, decent’, G. *cóir*)
coayr /ko:r/ ‘odd’, G. *corr*

coirrey /korjə/ ‘kettle, caldron, furnace’, G. *coire*
correy /korə/ ‘sowing’ (gen.), G. *cor, cur*
laair (Cr.) /lɛ:rj/ ‘mare’, G. *láir*
laare /lɛ:r/ ‘floor’, G. *lár*” (Lewin 2020)

Lewin, C., 2020, Aspects of the Historical Phonology of Manx Gaelic (PHD thesis)

Slender L in different positions

Initial (start of word)

lioar	Va sleih dy lioar ayns shen sy voghree
lioar	Vel shiuish er n'akin y lioar echey?
lhiannoo	Cheayll mee dy vel y lhiannoo oc feer ȝhing
lesh	Er lhiam dy ren eh cur lesh ad thie
lhiggey	Lhig dooin jarrood shen son y traa t'ayn

Medial (middle of word)

billey	Va billey darragh feer vooar ayns shen tra va mish aeg
ellan	Cha nel peiagh erbee beaghey er yn ellan shen nish
elley	Vel peiagh erbee elley laccal jough?
shilley	Bare dooin cur shilley orroo dy gerrid
filley	Nagh vel oo son filley yn
oolley	Ta ny thielyn shen oolley ersooyl nish
milley	Cha nel mee laccal milley yn spoyrt oc
guilley	V'eh kinjagh ayns trubbyl tra v'eh ny ghuilley aeg

Final (end of word)

feill	Cha nel monney feill orroo, vel?
fuill	Ren eh deayrtey yn uill oc er y thalloo
scoill	Cre'n scoill hie oo huic?
reill	Quoi ta reill yn reeriaght shoh?
sooill	Lhisagh shiu v'er ghlenney magh yn tooill eck lesh ushtey
faagail	Bare dooin faagail ad myr t'ad
meeteil	Cre'n traa neemayd meeiteil riu?
keeill	Va shenn cheeill ayns shen enmyssit Keeill Abban

Some nouns have a final L which is broad when singular but becomes palatal in plural, usually along with changes to the vowel. These nouns are masculine and monosyllabic.

cabbel → cabbil Vel fys ayd vel ad er chreck ny cabbil oc?

shiaull → Myr shen ghow shin ny shiauill sheese, as filley ad seose son yn oie shiauill

stoyl → stuill	Cha beagh stuill dy liooar ain ansherbee
poyll → puill	Ta ram eeastyn ayns ooilley ny puill veggey shoh
boayl → buill	Ga nagh vel lectragh ayns paart dy vuill sy çheer shoh foast
seihll → seihill	Ayns ard chreenaught ren oo ny seihill y chroo / Marish dagh obbyr t'ayndoo smoo as sloo

Some verbal nouns have a final broad L which becomes slender in the stem, sometimes with changes to the vowel.

shooyl →	Hooill ad neose nyn guail
shooill/huill	
coayl → caill	Chaill ad yn kayt oc
freayl → freill	Ny leeid shin ayns miolagh, as freill shin veih olk
bwoalley →	Bwoaillym cummaltee yn ard-valley shoh
bwoaill	
shiaulley →	Hiauill Feeagh Odin veih Oslo dys Purt ny Hinshey ayns 1979
shiauill	

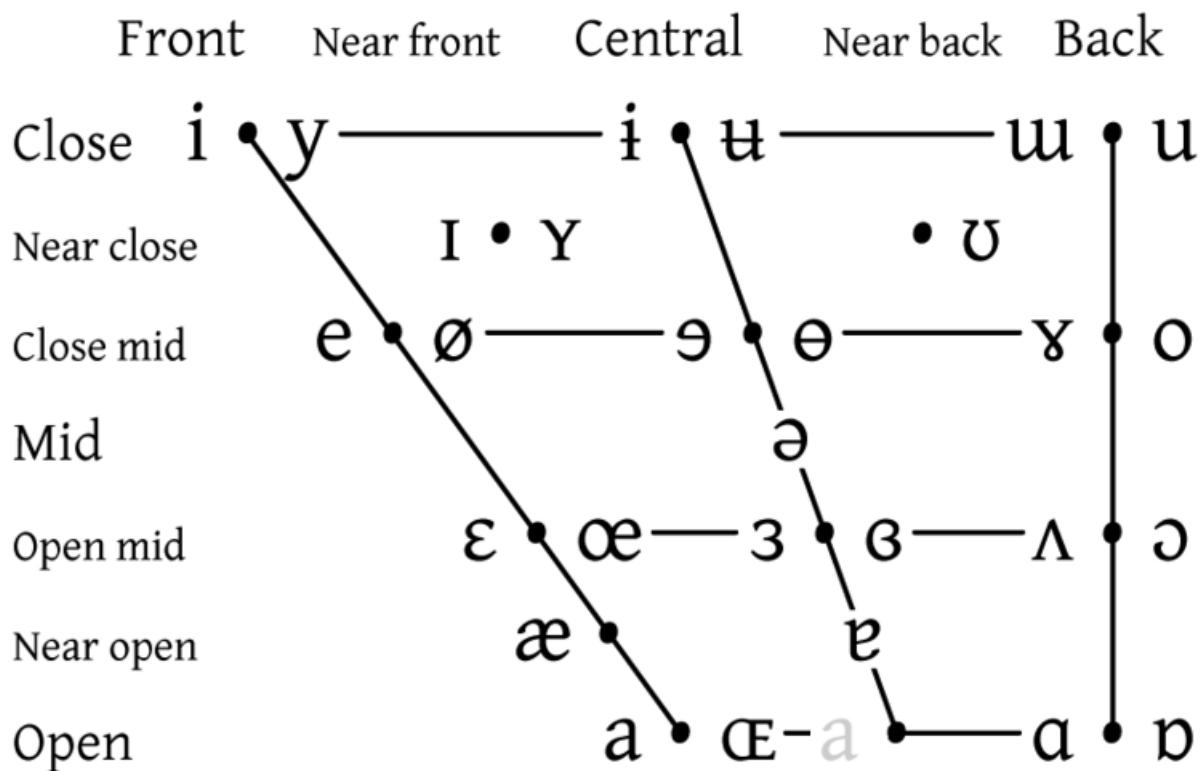
Describing vowels

Three attributes are especially important in determining the quality of a vowel (although there are others):

- **Height.** How high or low the tongue is on the mouth. Movement of the jaw up or down can also be involved in this. High vowels are said to be ‘closed’ (the mouth is more closed). Low vowels are said to be ‘open’ (the mouth is more open).
- **Backness.** How far forwards or backwards the tongue is in the mouth.
- **Roundedness.** How rounded the lips are.

In very broad terms, combining these three attributes greatly determines the sound of a vowel.

VOWELS



Vowels at right & left of bullets are rounded & unrounded.

Triphthongs

/uəi/

The existence of a triphthong /uəi/ in the Classical Manx period is evidenced in a few words:

druaiaght /druəi.axt/ but possibly also /drə:i.axt/
bwaagh/boyagh /buəi.ax/ but also probably /bo:i.ax/, and later also /bwɛ:x/
gruaie /gruəi/
twoiae /tuəi/
dwoiae /duəi/

During the Late Manx period (19th Century) this was likely reduced to /u:i/.

/iəi/

Found in single item *feeaihee* /fiəi/, much later recorded as /fiə/ and /fe:i/.

/iəi/?

A possible triphthong /iəi/ (which may have also been realised as [w:i]) and found in words such as *creoi* and *leoie* “may have been distinctive for some speakers ... but otherwise merges with /ə:i/” (Lewin 2019). I haven’t included it in this scheme as its existence is not well supported. Words in which it may have been found have been included with /ə:i/ in previous material.

For more discussion on this topic see Lewin, C. 2019. ‘Aspects of the historical phonology of Manx’ (Unpublished doctoral thesis, University of Edinburgh)

The Diphthongs of Classical Manx

Diphthongs combine two vowels in a single syllable. In Manx, the first vowel in a diphthong can be either short or long; the second vowel is always short. Below, the diphthongs of Classical Manx have been organized by the length of the first vowel (short or long), and the quality of the second vowel, which can either be /i/, /u/, or /ə/.

As the 19th century progressed and the language declined in use this system became greatly simplified. Further developments occurred in the revival period as Manx began to be spoken and learned as a second language.

The possible diphthongs are:

ə-diphthongs	
Short	Long
iə	—
ɪə	—
uə	—

i-diphthongs	
Short	Long
ei	e:i
əi	ə:i
—	o:i
—	ɛ:i
ai	—
ui	u:i

u-diphthongs	
Short	Long
iu	i:u
eu	—
—	ɛ:u
au	—

This scheme introduces a new vowel sound, /i/, which is only found in combination with /ə/ in the diphthong /iə/. You can hear an example of it [here](#). In Late Manx this diphthong was sometimes reduced to /i:/, /e:/ or /u:/.

ə-diphthongs			
	Short	Long	
iə	<i>lheeah, creear, shear, skeeal, keeayl, jeeaghyn, freayll, mian, beeal, screeagh, keead, ean, lheead, bleegantyn, breearey, feeackle, keeagh, geearree, easagh, east, feeagh. grian, jeean, jeeas, keeak, lheeane, neal, peeaghane, pian, reealley, reeayllagh, reeast, beagh/veagh, rieugh, sheeabin, slheeyst, skeeah/skeah/skeay, skian, sawane,</i>	—	
ɪə	<i>feayr, leaystey, geayl, feoh, feiosagh, eayn, deayrtey, cheayl, geay, beoyn, beayn, feaysley, geaylin, keayn, leah, theay, leagh eaytayr, leaghyr, sleyst,</i>	—	
uə	<i>mooar, pooar, booa, hooar, dooar, cooat, tuarystal, liooar, mooadys, ooasle, ooashley,</i>	—	

i-diphthongs			
	Short		Long
ei	<i>jeih, feie, Fey, sneih, feiy, meih, oaieagh, peiagh, shleiy, shegin,</i>	e:i	<i>jeigh, greie, lheie, spreih, lheihs, eie, guiy</i>
əi	<i>fuygh, reih, teiy, noi, eiyrt, soie, cloie, broie, stroie, leigh, leih, feiy, cleigh/cleiy, oik, spaee,</i>	ə:i	<i>gleiy, meygh, lhei, leoie, leoiae, creoi, treih, sleih, oaie, veih, teigh, s'leaie, ruy, keoie, streighernee, seiy,</i>
—		o:i	<i>cloaie, doaie, boïrey, roïe 'before'</i>
—		ɛ:i	<i>traie, faaie, graih, aigh, aaie, saie, craie/crayee (gen. of cray), gaih, raiee, snaie,</i>
ai	<i>mie, sie, thie, Ihie, brie, side, drine, cry, crie, siyr, piyr, lhiy, Mian (/mai.an/), aile, grine, maih, biallys (/bai.aləs/), naight (/nai.əxt/), riyr, plaiynt, piob, prios, pointeil, mainshter, quoif, aile, smigh, trie,</i>	—	
ui	<i>gwee, bwee/buigh</i>	u:i	<i>clooie, cooie, dooie, mooie, guoiee, soooee</i>

u-diphthongs			
	Short		Long
iu	<i>fieau, bieu, slieu, feeu, lhiu</i>	i:u	<i>screeu/scrieu, shleeu/shlieu, streeu,</i>
eu	<i>çheu, neu-, ceau, creau, cleuin, blieaun, dew, geurey, briw (and other pron.), creiu, diunid, lhiurid, geuley, jeushan, lhieuau, nieu, s'reuyrey, sthewir, feue, reue, veue,</i>	—	
—		ɛ:u	<i>laue, loau, gaue, fraue, craue, daue, niau, faaue, craiu, crauee, Raue, rauue, reuyrey, roauyr, saaue, straue, taaue,</i>
au	<i>undyr, aw, awree, bouin, bouyr, braew, çhio, choud, clou, coau, cour, couyr, cowag, crou/chrow, crout, crouw, dou, dourin, dow, downin, er-rouyl, flaunys, flout, foawr, foudagh, foue, fouyr, fowan, gauin, goul(l), gow, grouw, joushag, jouyl, liauyr, lout, louyr(an), low, lowal, lowanse, mow, oural, ourys, ouw, ouw, ouyr, pieanat, proval, resowir, rouail, rouan, roud, roue, rour, row, sauçhey, Squin, shliawin, shoushan, slouree, sourey, souyr, sthowyr, t'ou, towse, voue</i>	—	

Vowels – 3. Long monophthongs

Short		Long	
/a/	<i>magh</i>	/a:/	<i>blah</i>
/i/	<i>çheet</i>	/i:/	<i>shee</i>
/e/	<i>mec</i>	/e:/	<i>çeh</i>
/o/	<i>pot</i>	/o:/	<i>noa</i>
/u/	<i>muc</i>	/u:/	<i>soo</i>
/ə/	<i>balle</i> y	/ə:/	<i>seihll</i>
		/ɛ:/	<i>laa</i>

Some spellings of long monophthongs include:

/a:/	ah	<i>cah, nah, brah</i>
	aah	<i>daah</i>
	aa	<i>aa-yannoo</i>
	ay	<i>ayrn, cayrn</i>
	a	<i>yiarn, çhiarn, ard</i>

/i:/	ee	<i>shee, sheeyney, speeiney, meein, feeyn, meein, çheer</i>
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/e:/	eh	<i>çeh, lieh</i>
	ey	<i>shey</i>
	ay	<i>cray</i>
	ea	<i>rea, imnea, breag, feailley, feanish</i>
	e	<i>fenish, bundeil, feill, blein</i>
	aiy	<i>faiyr</i>
	e_e	<i>feme</i>
	ei	<i>ben-rein,</i>

/o:/	oa	<i>noa, stoamey, foaid, boayl</i>
	oe	<i>oe</i>
	oy	<i>oyr, moyrn, poyll</i>
	o	<i>thoin, oney, fo, ro</i>
	o_e	<i>kione, shione</i>
	ow	<i>towl</i>

/u:/	oo	<i>soo, sooil, croo, loobagh</i>
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/ə:/	eih	<i>seihll</i>
	ey	<i>deyr, deyr, feysht</i>
	ei	<i>deiney, Jeheiney, Jerdein, Jelhein</i>
	eay	<i>teayst, skeaylley, reayrt, mygeayrt</i>
	eai	<i>eairk</i>
	eo _a	<i>freoagh</i>

/ɛ:/	aa	<i>laa, coraa, braag</i>
	ae	<i>aeg</i>
	ay	<i>bayr, ayr, mayl</i>
	ai	<i>airh, cair</i>
	a_e	<i>liehbage, glare, sharmane</i>
	ea	<i>nearey</i>

Vowels – 2. Short monophthongs

Short		Long	
/a/	<i>magh</i>	/a:/	<i>blah</i>
/i/	<i>çheet</i>	/i:/	<i>shee</i>
/e/	<i>mec</i>	/e:/	<i>çeh</i>
/o/	<i>pot</i>	/o:/	<i>noa</i>
/u/	<i>muc</i>	/u:/	<i>soo</i>
/ə/	<i>balle</i> y	/ə:/	<i>seihll</i>
		/ɛ:/	<i>laa</i>

/a/	<i>magh, stiagh, lhiat, caill, thammag, arran, carrey, cappan, cabbal, gynsaghey, crackan, manninagh, agh, toiggal, gial</i>
/i/	<i>çheet, billey, mill, kiyt, coodit, urree, toiggal, spyrryd</i>
/e/	<i>earroo, greinnaghey, greimmey, chied, geid, keyll, treinney, giense</i>
/o/	<i>pot, foill, moylley, moirrey, lhionney, goit, croit</i>
/u/	<i>muc, fliugh, ooilley, cooid, fuirraghtyn, olk, urree, lhiannoo, earrooagh, bwoide, erriu</i>
/ə/	<i>balle, my, dy, cabbyl, ollay</i>

- /ə/ only appears in unstressed syllables: *my, dy, balle*,
- In the final syllable of a word, before a consonant:
 - /a/ is usually spelled <a>
 - /ə/ is usually spelled <y>

Contrast:

/a/	/ə/
<i>ellan</i>	<i>ellyn</i>
<i>cabbal</i>	<i>cabbyl</i>
<i>feddan</i>	<i>feddyn</i>
<i>cassan</i>	<i>cassyn</i>

Further examples:

/a/	/ə/
<i>roddan, beggan, arran, ollan, agh, gobbragh, brabbag, mwatlag, thunnag, crankal</i>	<i>Sostyn, thieyn, dorrays, sollys, caslys, clashtyn, muckyn</i>

- In the final syllable of a word, before a consonant: <i> can represent /i/ or /ə/. The <i> often, but not always, indicates that the following consonant is slender.
Nherin, Mannin, skilling, cushlin, caillin
- <i> is often used to show that a preceding or following consonant is slender. It's presence does not significantly affect the pronunciation of the vowel
giense, erriu, lhiat, fuirraghtyn, fliugh, greimmey, cooid

(a notable exception is *bwoide* which has a broad final /d/)

Vowels – 1. Monophthongs, Diphthongs, Short & Long

IPA

- The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) is a commonly used writing system for representing the sounds of spoken language. For convenience and clarity some IPA symbols will be used in these lessons, but we are not learning IPA.
- Words or sounds written in IPA are enclosed here by forward slashes: /kat/ represents English ‘cat’.
- Words, or more usually parts of words, written in a language’s standard orthography may be enclosed by angle brackets: <ey> as in *balley*.

Monophthongs

A monophthong is a single vowel sound. The /a/ in ‘cat’ is a monophthong.

Diphthongs

A diphthong is a sequence of two vowel sounds in a single syllable. The vowel sound in English ‘say’ is a diphthong because it is made up of two sounds /e/ and /i/. In IPA it would be spelled /sei/. The vowel sound in English ‘side’ is also a diphthong, made up of two vowels – /a/ and /i/ – and is spelled /said/ in IPA.

Short and Long Vowels

Manx, like English, has both short and long vowels. In IPA long vowels are followed by :

Short		Long	
/a/	<i>magh</i>	/a:/	<i>blah</i>
/i/	<i>çheet</i>	/i:/	<i>shee</i>
/e/	<i>mec</i>	/e:/	<i>çeh</i>
/o/	<i>pot</i>	/o:/	<i>noa</i>
/u/	<i>muc</i>	/u:/	<i>soo</i>
/ə/	<i>balley</i>	/ə:/	<i>seihll</i>
		/ɛ:/	<i>laa</i>

Short monophthongs

Identify the short monophthongs in the words below:

kayt	gleck	billey
mac	doghan	eirinagh
shenn	mullagh	gilley
bainney	cassyn	gynsagh
dorraghey	cassan	mwyllin
dagh	cabbyl	toiggal
brishey	cappan	criggal
çhing	granganagh	singal

Ta mee goll dy lhie eddyr nuy as jeih
ta mi: gol də lai edər nəi as dʒei

Cheayll mee skeeal feer treih mychione deiney keoie cloie er y traie
xiəl mi: skiəl fi:r trə:i məxɔ:n də:n̩ə kə:i kləi er ə trə:i

Va'n derrey lieh jeh ny lheiij lhie sheese as lhaih skeeal mychione sniaghtey lheie
van derə l̩e: dʒe: nə lə:i lai ʃi:s as l̩ɛ:i skiəl məxɔ:n sn̩axtə l̩e:i

Va ny braagyn ginsh breagyn
va nə brɛ:gən g̩ɪnʃ bre:gən

Cha nel eh rieau er voïrey mish roïe
ha nel e: r̩u: er vo:irə mis̩ ro:i

Ren ee ginsh dou dy begin daue ceau yn awree magh
ren i: g̩ɪnʃ dau də bei.ən də:u k̩eu ən auri max

Ta peiagh ennagh er phrowal yn dorrys
ta pei.agh en̩ax er frau.al ən dorəs

Va ny laueyn eck lane dy ghianeyn

ta craueeaght dwoaiagh da'n vee-chrauee
ta krɛ:u.i.ax duəi.ax də:n vi: xrre:u.i

Ta fuill ny s'çhee na ushtey

Boayl ta gioee ta keck, as boayl ta mraane ta pleat

Ceau craue ayns beeal drogh voddey

Bwoaill choud as ta'n yiarn çheh

Ta cree dooie ny share na kione croutagh

Myr s'doo yn feeagh, yiow eh sheshey

Cha jean un ghullan-geayee sourey, ny un chellagh keylley geurey

Keeayl chionnit yn cheeayl share, mannagh vel ee kionnit ro gheyr

Share soie son veg, na roie son veg

Cha row rieau 'bare-lhiam'jeant magh

Va jeih deiney er y traie jea
va dʒei də:n̪ə er ə trɛ:i dʒe:

Ta'n fuygh shoh feer chreoi
tan fəi ſo: fi:r xrə:i

Ta rour dy leih cloie sy thie shoh
ta raur də lə:i cləi sə tai ſo:

ren y daa lheiysnaue sy cheayn
ren ə dɛ: lə:i snε:u sə xiən

T'eh çheh sy tourey agh feayr sy yeurey
te: tʃe: sə taurə ax fiər sə jeurə

Gow my laue
gau mə lɛ:u

Ta'n faaie jeeaghyn mie
tan fɛ:i dʒi:əxən mai

Ta my chassyn feer ghonnagh lesh shooyl er y chassan shoh
ta mə xasən fi:r ɣonax l̪eʃ ſu:l er ə xasan ſo:

Cre'n greie-kiaullee t'ou cloie?
kren gre:i k̪o:li: tau cləi

Ta mee goll dy lhie ec lieh oor lurg jeih
ta mi: gol də lai ek l̪e: u:r lurg dʒei