

Lesson 4 - Review Tone Markers & Vowels

Tsiaj Ntawv Cim Muaj 8 Tug

There are 8 Tone Markers

- 1) B cim siab (liver, heart)
- 2) M cim niam (mom, mother)
- 3) D cim tod (there, over there)
- 4) J cim ntuj (sky, world)
- 5) V cim kuv (me, I)
- 6) UA cim ua (do, to do)
- 7) S cim mus (go, to go, went)
- 8) G cim neeg (human, person, people)

Tsiaj Ntawv Niam Tab Muaj 6 Tug

There are 6 Simple Vowels

- 1) A as a in Alaska
- 2) E as a in say or fade
- 3) I as ee in see or need
- 4) O as o in dog or frog
- 5) U as u in rude or dude
- 6) W as in eew

Tsiaj Ntawv Niam Txooj Muaj 7 Tug

There are 7 Complex Vowels

- | | | | |
|----|----|--------------|----------------|
| 1) | UA | as in CUA | (wind) |
| 2) | AU | as in TAU | (have) |
| 3) | AI | as in SAI | (fast) |
| 4) | IA | as in DHIA | (jump) |
| 5) | AW | as in TAW | (foot) |
| 6) | EE | as in NTXHEE | (smooth, soft) |
| 7) | OO | as in ZOO | (good) |

Tone Description

- | | | |
|----|----|------------------|
| 1) | b | high tone |
| 2) | m | low tone |
| 3) | d | fall rising tone |
| 4) | j | falling tone |
| 5) | v | rising tone |
| 6) | ua | mid tone |
| 7) | s | mid falling tone |
| 8) | g | low falling tone |

Notes

- 1) A word with different tone marker changes the meaning of that word.
- 2) Each vowel can have up to eight different tones
- 3) The vowel “ia” is only used in White Hmong writing.

Vowels with Tone Markers

- 1) ab am ad aj av a as ag
- 2) eb em ed ej ev e es eg
- 3) ib im id ij iv i is ig
- 4) ob om od oj ov o os og
- 5) ub um ud uj uv u us ug
- 6) wb wm wd wj wv w ws wg
- 7) uab uam uad uaj uav ua uas uag
- 8) aub aum aud auj auv au aus aug
- 9) aib aim aid aij aiv ai ais aig
- 10) iab iam iad iaj iav ia ias iag
- 11) awb awm awd awj awv aw aws awg
- 12) eeb eem eed eej eev ee ees eeg
- 13) oob oom ood ooj oov oo oos oog

Practice Identifying Tone Markers and Vowels

- 1) Hm_____ Hmong
- 2) txh_____ worry
- 3) ntx_____ add
- 4) t_____ bowl
- 5) ml_____ listen
- 6) n_____ mother
- 7) s_____ rest
- 8) y_____ buy

9) _____ do 10) ny_____ hard

Progress Checklist

After finishing this lesson, you should be able to

-  Understand and distinguish the differences between the eight tone markers.
-  Understand and distinguish the differences between the 13 vowels
-  Be able to pronounce and identify tone marker and vowel from any words.

* When you are able to do the above, move on to the lesson test 1 and lesson 5! If you are still having troubles, review the lesson until you fully understand all tone markers, simple and complex vowels.

Next Lesson : Simple Consonants T , K , P