

Oneida Sounds & Pronunciation

Vowels: *Oneida has six vowel sounds. Unlike English each letter stands for one and only one sound. Here are the letters used and the sounds they represent.*

- a** - has the sound of the 'a' in ah or father
- e** - has the sound of the 'e' in egg or eight
- i** - has the sound of the 'i' in ski or machine
- o** - has the sound of the 'o' in hope or low

The remaining two vowels are nasalized. That means they are pronounced more through the nose than the usual English sounds.

- u** - has the sound of the 'un' in tune
- Λ** (carot) - has the sound of the 'on' in son

Consonants: **Most of the consonants have the same sounds as they usually do in English. This is true for: h, l, n, w, and y**

The letters 't', 'k', and 's' each have two pronunciations depending on the other sounds near them.

t - normally has the sound of the 't' in city, water or stove.

Notice in those words 't' sounds more like 'd'.

If a 'k', 'h', or 's' follows; then the 't' has the usual English sound as in top.

k - normally has a 'g'-like sound as in skill, but if a 't', 's', or 'h' follows; then it sounds like the usual English 'k' as in kite.

s - often has a sound halfway between the 's' in sea and the z-like sound of the 's' in was.

When it comes between two vowels, it always has the z-like sound; and when it comes before or after 'h', then it has the sound of the 's' in sea.

Symbols used in writing Onlayota'á:ka

<p>Ꞥ</p> <p>glottal stop</p>	<p>Is used to represent a special consonant sound (called a glottal stop) that English doesn't have.</p> <p>The sound is made by quickly stopping the flow of air in the throat, a kind of catch</p>
<p>´</p> <p>á é í ó ú Á</p>	<p>This symbol is written above a vowel (see example's shown) to indicate the stressed syllable in a word.</p>
<p>■</p> <p>lengthened vowel</p>	<p>This symbol comes after a vowel to indicate the vowel is lengthened or dragged out a bit.</p> <p>Vowels marked with both a colon and the stress mark have a slightly rising tone.</p>
<p>Λ</p> <p>yawΛ</p> <p>yawΛ'ko</p>	<p>When the ending of a word is underlined it is silent or not pronounced. Sometimes it sounds like its barely whispered.</p> <p>If there are more words that follow the underlined word then the underline is removed and becomes pronounced.</p>

OnΛyota'a:ka Alphabet

This is the OnΛyota'a:ka alphabet used in writing -- a, e, h, i, k, l, n, o, s, t, u, w, y, ', Λ.

Some special combinations are:

'tsy' or 'tsi' which sounds like the 'j' in jam or judge.

'tshy' or 'tshi' which sounds like the 'ch' in church.

'sy' which sounds like the 'sh' in shoe or hush.

Chart 1

A	E	I	O	U	Λ
ha	he	hi	ho	hu	hΛ
la	le	li	lo	lu	lΛ
ya	ye		yo	yu	yΛ
ka	ke	ki	ko	ku	kΛ
ta	te	ti	to	tu	tΛ
sa	se	si	so	su	sΛ
na	ne	ni	no	nu	nΛ
wa	we	wi			wΛ

Chart 2

A	E	I	O	U	Λ
sna	sne	sni	sno	snu	snΛ
tna	tne	tni	tno	tnu	tnΛ
sla	sle	sli	slo	slu	slΛ
swa	swe	swi	swo	swu	swΛ
sta	ste	sti	sto	stu	stΛ
tya	tye		tyo	tyu	tyΛ
twa	twe	twi			twΛ
kla	kle	kli	klo	klu	klΛ

Chart 3

A	E	I	O	U	Λ
tla	tle	tli	tlo	tlu	tlΛ
kha	khe	khi	kho	khu	khΛ
tsa	tse	tsi	tso	tsu	tsΛ
tha	the	thi	tho	thu	thΛ
tka	tke	tki	tko	tku	tkΛ
kwa	kwe	kwi			kwΛ
sha	she	shi	sho	shu	shΛ

Chart 4

A	E	I	O	U	Λ
kya	kye		kyo	kyu	kyΛ
kna	kne	kni	kno	knu	knΛ
ska	ske	ski	sko	sku	skΛ
tsha	tshe	tshi	tsho	tshu	tshΛ
tsya	tsye	tsyi	tsyo	tsyu	tsyΛ
khwa	khwe	khwi	khwo	khwu	khwΛ
tkwa	tkwe	tkwi			tkwΛ
lya	lye		lyo	lyu	lyΛ