Basic Logograms for Shortened Notes

Originally developed as a writing system for faster note taking by creating a low-stroke-number; usually under 6 – less that the number of letters in common words, symbols for frequently used words. It contains a high proportion of technical vocabulary from science and engineering. The writing system further evolved to become its own language with its own grammar.

Creator: Maciej Zajaczkowski

Type of writing system: Logography, with 44 base sound shape pair abstract-idea letters (based on general concept round, pointy, wide, large small – shape not always the same) Generally voiceless consonants represent thin light objects whereas voiced consonants represent thick dark objects.

Direction: Generally, left to right but can also serve as a 2D/linear writing system for mind mapping

Used to write English and any other language, including itself as a language.

Largely a Priori, few borrowings of characters from Modern and Ancient Chinese (such as 大 小 火 and 水) ,Toki Pona and Blissymbolics.

As a logography, the system also contains a higher variety of strokes compare to an alphabet to decrease repetitive use of the same hand muscle combinations.

Notable features

-the characters get their pronunciation based on their underlying shapes in a similar way to the buoba-kiki effect.

-A has a large degree of inflection which one can keep at minimal quantity for fast note taking or use to varying degrees depending on need.

-Similar to existing Sign Languages and borrowing ideas presented by E-Prime, Basic Logograms for Shortened notes sparingly uses words such as 'to be, to' and also lacks articles including the and a'.

BLfSN also keep in mind precision, logical and technical, so words such as 'normal' (means: common, healthy, ok) and 'serious' (means: work in focus manner, to do in a strict/formal manner, and trying too hard) and other 'colloquial/ambiguous phrases' split into their specific logical meanings. It also, and hence, lacks tautologies as well as cuts down on ambiguous and imprecise phrases such as: 'it is said that, it is what it is, this is the way of things…'.

BLSfSN also contains a variety of language markers not present in English such as the 'disambiguation marker'- like a semicolon by for definitions and 'shape/drawing marker' to clarify the fine boundary between logograms and drawings.

Phonology and Conceptual Alphabet

rising wide	round-wide	round -simple	square heavy	triangle / ridges	arrows / pointing
[j]	[w]	[p]	[b]	[v]	[ŋ]
dot / individual	vertical line	emphasis dot	vertical / block	soft / membrane	spiky / pointed
[d]	[t]	[ɖ]	[t̪]	[c - ɟ]	[k]
deep curve / indent	waves/smooth	narrow / infold	small diminutive	rotation / curl / self-reference	fluid
[g]	[m]	[n]	[ɳ]	[ɻ]	[ɬ]
flow / parallel	roughness	cold / sputtering	movement	floating / cloud	sparks / hot
[x – h]	[ɣ-ʁ-ʀ]	[ʙ - br]	[ɾ-r]	[f]	[s]
horizontal block	wide sheets	focused points	filaments / thin	horizontal line	wide curves
[z]	[ʂ]	[ʐ]	[ɕ]	[ʑ]	[l]
sonorous stuff	sudden drop	sparks / bits	small spiky	middle sized	large / wide
[ŋ]	[ʔ]	[ǀ]	[i]	[ɛ/e]	[a]

wavy abstract 1	heavy bulky	empty space 0	diminutive	concave in bend	abstract idea
[ɔ/o]	[u]	[ɪ-ɨ-ʌ]	[y]	[ə]	[ʒ]

Vowel Colours (colour system)

a	ɛ	i	ɨ	u	ɔ
red	magenta	blue	cyan	green	yellow

Pronunciation Examples

Character		Analysis by Letters	Pronunciation
hand		Pointed curved large rising	[klaj]
towards		Arrow abstract pointed	[ŋok]
brain		Heavy wide bulky	[bwu]
`metacognition		[bwu] + self ref. ʹabstract idea	[bwuɹ-ʐo]
shape		Sheet large curved abstract	[ʂamlo]

Tones

BLfSN borrows the tones of Mandarin to further indicate the shapes of the characters

1- Staying Level	2- Rising	3- Dipping/Wavy	4- Falling	5- Neutral
/z̧āk/	/ŋók/	/ṣamlǒ/	/bozetè/	/bwu/
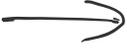
Logogram categories inspired by Chinese liushu (六书)	
Character type	**Example**
Pictogram -simple drawing of object	 <table><tr><td>brain</td><td>cell</td><td>fluid/water</td><td>hand</td></tr></table>
Ideogram -representation of an idea	 <table><tr><td>big</td><td>near</td><td>towards</td><td>before</td><td>inverse</td></tr></table>
Composite Character -consists of 2+ ideograms put together	 <table><tr><td>analogy (parallel+idea)</td><td>rub hands together</td><td>arbitrary (random choice)</td></tr></table>
Phonetic Hint Character -contain a letter to hint at sound -contain many physics concepts -can be used to specify similar looking object such as different types of plants, birds, animals…	 <table><tr><td>mass</td><td>force</td><td>acceleration</td><td>approximate</td></tr></table>
Highly Abstract Ideograms -the idioms and thought experiments of BLfSN -often summaries long sentences into one idea - contain ɮ sound	 <table><tr><td>narrow range for success</td><td>metacognition to look at one's own actions</td><td>limited perspective from limited knowledge</td><td>obvious but difficult to explain elephant test</td></tr></table>

Common elements

Hand Action	Brain Think	Electric	Idea Concept	Time	Space	Definite object	Indefinite Object	Number	Energy
Motion	Plane paper	Source purpose	Arrow Change	Choice	Exchange	Information	Imaginary	speech	person

Cases (all optional)

nominative	accusative	genitive	dative	instrumental	locative	causative	agentive	experiential

Inflection Particles

verb	noun	adjective	Noun -> verb (-tion)	Disambiguation marker (meaning specifier)	Shape/drawing marker (distinguishes pictures for logograms)

Example Characters

Meaning	Pronunciation
also	tɨpɔ
(be) at	pɔtɛ
continue	rɛ-rɛ
inside	tɔkla
outside	kɔtla
system	pɔɹəpɔ
electric	tsɨki
Field	tɔxɔkt
become	tɛzɔk
between	tɔkzɔkt
and	pɔz
big	da
fire	fɫɛts
method	pɔnɔk
cause	tɔnla
need	vivwa
after	pɔlts-rɛ
before	rɛ-pɔlts
depend on	bɔzɛtɛ
linked to	klajziklaj
example	klajʂaklaj
real	pɔdɛz
part	ʂapɛ
speak	pwats
biohazard	pɔɹiɹiɹi
think	bwutspɔ
then	zɔkdidi
affect	ŋɔkpɔbɔ
colour	pa-aiu
paradox	kwaɹək
dream	fapɔtpɔ
basic	vzɔzi
store	ʂwaɹə
contrasting	ʈʂɔtɛdʐɔ
math	pwatitiziɮɔ
cut	pɔʈiŋ
cancel-out	pɔtɫpɔ
response	kaʐamlɛ
tangent	zitpɔ
mutual	tɔɹə
show	ziwa
use	zɔ
can	ɹəl
turbulent	ɫaxaɹa
according to	ɹəzik
focus on	dʐak
spectrum	ktɛzatɛk
cover	ʂwapɔ
info	po-ɔi
inspiration	ɹəwapɔts
consider	zrɔbatɛ
create	klajɹəts
overlapping	pɔpwɔ
specific	pɔz̧
interesting	vɔvɔɮ
P.S.	ʙats
enjoy	ɹəmlts
privacy	pɔgɛʂwa
material	ʂazɛtɛ
protect	klajpɔʂa
solve	mlɔnɔk
energy	pɔmlts
overcome	raltɛ
itself	pɔgɛ-ɹɛ
Instead of	rɛpɔrɛ
switch	Klaj-kɛɹɛk
dual	xɔmlɔk
complex	lɔlɔɮɔpɔ
long	mlalɔ
loop	ɹɛ-ɹɛ
combine	pɔpɔzikpa
junction	zitiɖ

Highly abstract characters	
	To miss the point of something
	Narrow scope of knowledge/understanding E.g occurs when someone asks a question like 'If humans evolved from monkeys, then why are there still monkeys?"
	2 characters: Know in theory but not in practice Know in practice but not in theory
	Three blind men and elephant scenario (We can never 'see reality as it really is' due to only ever seeing part of it due to limited perception and our own worldview)
	When the difference between two things becomes clear only when a third, contrasting one, is introduced.
	Scenario where a model's limits become exceeded and no it no longer applies. ie Newtons second law near the speed of light.
	Overlapping ideas/concepts, from mathematics and logic to Spanish and Italian
	Different dimensions/facets of a situation/idea
	When two opposite things become the same. I.e. Fear and enjoyment seem opposite but then there are horror movies and extreme sports
	When a simple or complex method yield the same result (but the complex method reveals many hidden advantages). Ie rote memorization vs actually understanding can both get you a good grade in a test!
	When you let go of a problem and take a temporary break from it does the answer come to you.
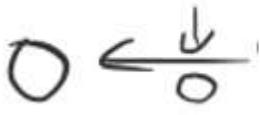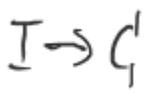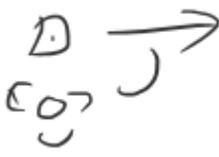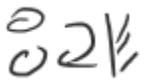
	One truth many reflections
	The 'ability' to tolerate something that still does you harm. One person may not feel bothered by cigarette smoke, but is he really better off?
	Different mapping of situations. From cartesian and cylindrical coordinates in mathematics to the '6' vs '9' scenario (both numbers consist of the same shape!)
	Small difference big effect. Can we call things 'small' when they have great effects?
	When having to compensate for a weakness gains you a hidden long-term advantage. E.g. a dyslexic person develops creative ways to learn to read more efficiently. (This does not, however, mean that can romanticize disabilities as this effect comes indirectly)
	Buoba-Kiki effect - the sound shape logogram connection used in this conlang.
	Thinking outside the box
	Blurring 2+ distinct ideas under one word I.e. normal meaning common, expected/'should be' and healthy (as in normal life - free of disease)
	WILD-Wake Induced Lucid Dream A technique in which one falls asleep consciously and directly enters a lucid dream. (not really an abstract character but still depicts a complex process)
	Motivation / purpose in life
	How symbols carry meaning but we cannot consider them the objects the mean themselves. E.g. the map represents the territory but is not itself the territory, and discrepancies can occur between the two.
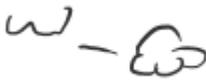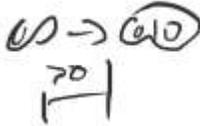
Sample texts

Basic Declaration of Human Rights

Jwadi pɔgɛ pɔz ʈɔ   pɔtsɨŋpɔ   pɔz kaxpɔziziɲi pɔlzpɔ bwu-pɔjipwa tsɨpɔzgɛ pɔz

klaj-mlɔg. pɔgɛtɨpɛda klaj-ŋa klajpɛ bwarɛtspɔ pɔz bwaʐatslaz tɨpɛ-pɔz vivwa ŋɔk ʂatɨpɔ tɔɹə

klajrə xɛɲ-ŋa ʐɛmtsɨɛ jwɛpɔgɛŋ-zi.

One's truest life is when we are in dreams awake

pwa ɹəmlts tɛzɔk tɔkla fapɔtpɔ ʂapɔgɛŋɔk