

## Nuuchahnulth alphabet summary • Kyuquot-Checleseht\*

## 1. Alphabetical order

a	aa	c	č	č̌	e	ee	h	ȟ	i	ii	k	kʷ	ḱ	
kʷ	ɬ	ƛ	ƛ̌	m	m̌	n	ň	o	oo	p	پ	q	qʷ	s
š	t	ት	u	uu	w	ʷw	x	xʷ	ጀ	ጀʷ	y	ጀ̌	?	f

## 2. Sounds by place and manner

	lips	tongue tip	tongue back		throat
plain plosives	p	t	ƛ	c	č
hard plosives	پ	ት	ƛ̌	č	č̌
spirants			ł	s	š
plain resonants	m	n		y	w
hard resonants	m̌	ň		ጀ	ጀ̌
high vowels			ii	i	u
mid vowels			ee	e	oo
low vowels					a aa

## 3. Letters and example words

letter name	how it is said	word	translation
a short a	uh	patpat	inboard motorboat
aa long a	long ah	waa	say
c plain cee	ts	caapin	sawbill duck
č hard cee	explosive ts	čawaak	one
č̌ cee wedge	ch	čakup	man
č̌ hard cee wedge	explosive ch	čapic	canoe
e short e	as in pet	čuu wey	See you!
ee long e	as in eh, and long	yuucyuučeey	Safe travels!
h aitch	h	husmin	kelp
ȟ back aitch	like breathing on glass	ḥayu	ten
i short i	as in pit	himiks	deer fat lotion
ii long i	as in ski, and long	tiič	alive
k kay	k	kuuk	packed lunch
kʷ round kay	k with rounded lips	kʷistuup	something different

\* (CC BY) 2016–2017 Quuquatsa Language Society. See [quuquatsa.ca](http://quuquatsa.ca) and [creativecommons.org](http://creativecommons.org).

ḱ	hard kay	explosive <i>k</i>	kaa?in	crow
ḱʷ	hard round kay	ḱ with rounded lips	kʷiis	snow
ɬ	barred el	a hissed <i>l</i> , like <i>lth</i>	ɬuucma	woman
ɻ	barred lambda	<i>tl</i>	ɻama	house post
ɻ̥	hard barred lambda	explosive <i>tl</i>	ɻisuk	white
m	em	<i>m</i>	maamaat	bird
ṁ	hard em	<i>m</i> with a catch	ṁaamiiqs	older sibling
n	en	<i>n</i>	nunuuk	sing
ń	hard en	<i>n</i> with a catch	huuñii	drift whale
o	short o	<i>oh</i> or <i>aw</i>	mako?s	selling outdoors
oo	long o	long <i>oh</i> or <i>aw</i>	hinkoos	dog salmon
p	pee	<i>p</i>	paawic	nest
ṗ	hard pee	explosive <i>p</i>	ṗaṗii	ear
q	cue	back <i>k</i>	qawii	salmonberry
qʷ	round cue	<i>q</i> with rounded lips	qʷinii	seagull
s	ess	<i>s</i>	saasin	hummingbird
š	ess wedge	<i>sh</i>	šuukʷaa	sugar
t	tee	<i>t</i>	tupkak	black
ṫ	hard tee	explosive <i>t</i>	ṫaṫuu	star
u	short u	as in <i>put</i>	mukmukʷ	rockfish
uu	long u	as in <i>due</i> , and long	muu	four
w	double-u	<i>w</i>	wi?ak	warrior
ẁ	hard double-u	<i>w</i> with a catch	suʷaaq	you
x	front ex	like a cat's hiss	xa?uumin	pigeon
xʷ	round front ex	<i>x</i> with rounded lips	xʷakyuu	swollen
᷊	back ex	like hawking to spit	᷊axaškkʷ	pilot biscuit
᷊ʷ	round back ex	᷊ with rounded lips	muxʷaškin	soapberry
y	wye	<i>y</i>	yačaa	dogfish
᷊y	hard wye	<i>y</i> with a catch	si᷊aaq	me
?̥	glottal stop	a catch, as in <i>uh-oh</i>	?aama	loon
?̥	pharyngeal stop	a catch plus <i>r</i>	?aanis	heron