



Lannang Orthography (LO)

Third Edition

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Introduction

The Lannang Orthography (LO) is a broad phonetic writing system based on nearly a decade of research within the Lannang community, originally developed in June 2020 by Lannang-identifying Dr. Wilkinson Daniel Wong Gonzales (Assistant Professor, CUHK). It draws significant inspiration from the ways Lannangs commonly spell Lánnang-uè during texting and on social media platforms, a method informed by interviews with over 150 Lannangs in metropolitan Manila. Polls were also conducted in Lannang group chats to vote on features to be included in this updated third edition.

Lánnang-uè is primarily an oral language in the Philippines and has historically lacked a standardized writing system. The language includes not only Hokkien-derived words but also incorporates elements from Tagalog, English, and other Philippine languages. The absence of a consistent writing system complicates efforts in language and cultural preservation, which are facilitated by stable orthographies. In the Philippines, attempts to adapt existing systems like Peh-ōe-jī and Tâi-lô to Lánnang-uè have not been entirely successful, particularly with non-Hokkien words. A pilot survey indicated that these systems are perceived as opaque and challenging for beginners. These findings led to the creation of a tailored Lannang orthography.

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Notes on the Third Edition

The third edition of LO attempts to more comprehensively describe a way of writing Lánnang-uè, and the many cases that one may encounter while doing so. Some gaps that were not covered by the second edition are covered here, as can be seen in the following new additions:

- Comprehensive charts for the sounds of Lánnang-uè, arranged by allophone (sound) with an exhaustive list of possible spellings for each one (mainly due to English-derived words)
- New sections covering the closed and open 'o', the diminutive suffix (â, sometimes á), syllabic nasals, hyphenation, and an appendix
- Slight changes to the rules in previously-covered sections
- Many new sample words throughout to illustrate the different cases one may encounter when using LO
- More consistent formatting and coherent connections between the sections

Additionally, given the goal of making LO a truly collaborative orthography made by and for the Lannang community, polls were conducted in Lannang group chats to vote on some of the features to be included in the third edition. More details regarding this are covered in the appendix.

Supplementary Links

This orthography is detailed in this document and is accompanied by an interactive online pronunciation guide: <https://www.lannangarchives.org/pronounce>. If you wish to see how LO works in long paragraphs, you can visit [Prof. Gonzales' dissertation abstract](#) or the following website: <https://lannangarchives.org/translations>.

Table of Contents

If accessing digitally, the sections are hyperlinked and can be clicked on to jump to a particular section.

I. The Sounds of Lánnang-uè.....	4
A. Consonants.....	6
B. Vowels.....	11
C. Consonants that Function as Vowels.....	14
D. Tones.....	15
II. Aspiration.....	16
III. Closed and Open O.....	17
IV. Glides.....	18
V. Glottal Stops.....	19
VI. Diminutive Suffix.....	20
VII. Syllabic Nasals.....	21
VIII. Nasalization.....	22
IX. Tone Mark Placement.....	23
X. Neutral Tones.....	24
XI. Concept of the Word.....	25
XII. Word Boundaries.....	26
XIII. Hyphenation.....	27
XIV. Non-Hokkien-Derived Words.....	28
XV. Capitalization.....	29
XIV. Sample text using the third edition of LO.....	29
XVI. Appendix - Community Polls.....	30

I. The Sounds of Lánnang-uè

Consonants

Labial	Dental	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
[m]		[n]		[ŋ]	
[p]		[t]		[k]	[ʔ]
[p ^h]		[t ^h]		[k ^h]	
[b]		[d]		[g]	
		[ts]	[tʃ]		
		[ts ^h]	[tʃ ^h]		
			[dʒ]		
[f]	[θ]	[s]	[ʃ]		[h]
[v]	[ð]	[z]	[ʒ]		
		[r]			
		[ɹ]	[j]	[w]	
		[l]			

Vowels

Front	Central	Back Unrounded	Back Rounded
[i]			[u]
[ĩ]			[ũ]
[ɪ]			[ʊ]
[e]	[ə]		[o]
[ɛ]		[ʌ]	[ɔ]
			[ɔ̃]
[æ]	[a]	[ɑ]	
	[ã]		

The consonant and vowel tables above are rearranged for readability. For the tones in the Lánnang-uè example words, the standing form is used unless it's virtually unheard

of, in which case the running form is used. This section is accompanied by a free, interactive, and open-access online pronunciation guide (www.lannangarchives.org/pronounce), which lists the sounds and tones found in Lánnang-uè as accurately as possible, represented using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and linked to LO. The guide includes audio clips of sample words, along with transcriptions in LO, word origins, English translations, and word frequency. For consonants and vowels, there are separate charts for those in Hokkien-derived words, and those in non-Hokkien-derived words. The consonants (including the consonants that function as vowels) are initially organized by place of articulation, and the vowels are initially organized by backness. For enhanced navigation, users are encouraged to filter entries by type (such as consonant, vowel, or tone), or by specific places of articulation. You could also filter the list by directly typing the LO spelling.

A. Consonants

Hokkien-Derived

Place of Articulation	Allophone (IPA)	Spelling (LO)	Lánnang-uè Example	English Gloss
Bilabial	[m]	m	mì	'noodles'
	[p]	p	pâ	'full (eating)'
	[p ^h]	ph	phā	'to park'
	[b]	b	bó	'not'
Alveolar	[n]	n	ní	'year'
	[t]	t	té	'tea'
	[t ^h]	th	thê	'attitude'
	[d]	d	dî	'you'
	[ts]	ts	tsē	'to sit'
	[ts ^h]	tsh	tshè	'to find'
	[s]	s	sī	'to be'
	[l]	l	lò	'road'
Postalveolar	[tʃ]	ch	chá	'here'
	[tʃ ^h]	chh	chhā	'car'
	[ʃ]	sh	shō	'hot'
Palatal	[j]	i y	haî yá	'sea' 'very'
Velar	[ŋ]	ng	ngô	'five (literary)'
	[k]	k	kā	'to bite'
	[k ^h]	kh	khà	'to knock'
	[g]	g	gú	'cow'
Labiovelar	[w]	u w	haû wà	'to cry' 'wow'
Glottal	[ʔ]	∅ (no letter) h	–ū pâh	'to have' 'hundred'
	[h]	h	hō	'good'

Non-Hokkien-Derived

Only major spellings of individual allophones (sounds) are listed. For simplicity, the following are not listed: marginal allophones (rare/foreign sounds), combinations of allophones (e.g. [lj] -> ll or [ks] -> x), unwritten allophones, rare/foreign spellings, and spellings involving English's "silent" word-final e. Silent letters in the spellings of the source languages are also written in LO, but are not listed here.

Place of Articulation	Allophone (IPA)	Spelling (LO)	Lánng-uè Example	English Gloss	Source Language
Bilabial	[m]	m mm	maskì hammèr	'even if' 'hammer'	Tagalog English
	[p]	p f pp ff gh ph	pero Fernandò appeàr offèr roûgh photò	'but' 'Fernando' 'appear' 'offer' 'rough' 'photo'	Tagalog Tagalog English English English English
	[p ^h]	p pp	paìn appeàr	'pain' 'appear'	English English
	[b]	b v bb vv	baka Vigân rabbît savvỳ	'maybe' 'Vigan' 'rabbit' 'savvy'	Tagalog Tagalog English English
Labiodental	[f]	f ff gh ph	Fernandò offèr roûgh photò	'Fernando' 'offer' 'rough' 'photo'	Tagalog English English English
	[v]	v vv	Vigân savvỳ	'Vigan' 'savvy'	Tagalog English
Dental	[θ]	th	thoûght	'thought'	English
	[ð]	th	thèn	'then'	English
Alveolar	[n]	n nn gn kn	namân innèr sìgn kneè	'request softener' 'inner' 'sign' 'knee'	Tagalog English English English
	[t]	t tt d ed	tapôs attâck iced tossed	'and then' 'attack' 'iced' 'tossed'	Tagalog English English English

		th	thoûght	'thought'	English
	[tʰ]	t tt	timè attâck	'time' 'attack'	English English
	[d]	d dd ed th	dapât puddlè corned thèn	'should' 'puddle' 'corned' 'then'	Tagalog English English English
	[ts]	ts tz zz	tsaka quârtz pizzà	'and also' 'quartz' 'pizza'	Tagalog English English
	[s]	s c z ss ps sc st x	sanà Cebù Zamboangà messỳ psychîc scenè fastèn xylophonè	'hopefully' 'Cebu' 'Zamboanga' 'messy' 'psychic' 'scene' 'fasten' 'xylophone'	Tagalog Tagalog Tagalog English English English English English
	[z]	z zz	Zamboangà sizzlè	'Zamboanga' 'sizzle'	Tagalog English
	[r]	r rr rh wr	rîn Torrês rhymè writê	'also' 'Torres' 'rhyme' 'write'	Tagalog Tagalog English English
	[ɹ]	r rr rh wr	rîn Torrês rhymè writê	'also' 'Torres' 'rhyme' 'write'	Tagalog Tagalog English English
	[l]	l ll	lâng pillòw	'only' 'pillow'	Tagalog English
Postalveolar	[tʃ]	tiy ty ch ts c t tch ti	tiyagâ mutyâ chismîs tsokolatè cellò tunè bâtch questiòn	'to put effort' 'amulet' 'gossip' 'chocolate' 'cello' 'tune' 'batch' 'question'	Tagalog Tagalog Tagalog Tagalog English English English English
	[tʰ]	ch c t	chàir cellò tunè	'chair' 'cello' 'tune'	English English English

	[dʒ]	diy dy j d dg di dj g gi	diy aryò sadyâ jaìl duty gadg èt soldi èr adj ùst genr è regi òn	'newspaper' 'on purpose' 'jail' 'duty' 'gadget' 'soldier' 'adjust' 'genre' 'region'	Tagalog Tagalog English English English English English English English
	[ʃ]	siy sy ci sh ch s si ss ssi ti z	siy emprè pasyâl Bonifaciò sh îrt chêf sugàr visi òn pressurè missiòn statiòn seizurè	'surely' 'to stroll' 'Bonifacio' 'shirt' 'chef' 'sugar' 'vision' 'pressure' 'mission' 'station' 'seizure'	Tagalog Tagalog Tagalog English English English English English English English
	[ʒ]	g s si z	genr è leisurè visi òn seizurè	'genre' 'leisure' 'vision' 'seizure'	English English English English
Palatal	[j]	y i iy	yung Baguiò niy ôg	'direct particle' 'Baguio' 'coconut'	Tagalog Tagalog Tagalog
Velar	[ŋ]	ng n	ngâ Francò	'indeed' 'Franco'	Tagalog Tagalog
	[k]	k c qu kk cc ch ck cq lk q	kasi Cavité Quezôn trekk èr acco ûnt chôrd pâck acquir è châlk que èn	'because' 'Cavite' 'Quezon' 'trekker' 'account' 'chord' 'pack' 'acquire' 'chalk' 'queen'	Tagalog Tagalog Tagalog English English English English English English English
	[kʰ]	k c cc ch	k ing c òrn acco ûnt chôrd	'king' 'corn' 'account' 'chord'	English English English English

		cq q	acquirè queèn	'acquire' 'queen'	English English
	[g]	g gu gg gh	ganyân Guevarrà daggèr ghôst	'like that' 'Guevarra' 'dagger' 'ghost'	Tagalog Tagalog English English
Labiovelar	[w]	w u uw wh	walâ Guadalupè buwân wheèl	'there isn't' 'Guadalupe' 'moon' 'wheel'	Tagalog Tagalog Tagalog English
Glottal	[ʔ]	-	pag-ibîg	'love'	Tagalog
	[h]	h g j wh	habang Geronimò Josè wholè	'while' 'Geronimo' 'Jose' 'whole'	Tagalog Tagalog Tagalog English

B. Vowels

Hokkien-Derived

Vowel Backness	Allophone (IPA)	Spelling (LO)	Lánngang-uè Example	English Gloss
Front	[i]	i	tsî	'to cook'
	[ĩ]	i ⁿ	tsí ⁿ	'money'
	[ɪ]	i	tsî	'this'
	[e]	e	pē	'to fly'
Central	[ə]	eu	peùng	'rice'
	[a]	a	tā	'dry'
	[ã]	a ⁿ	tà ⁿ	'mistake'
Back	[ɔ]	o' (formal) o (informal)	khô' khô	'bitter' 'bitter'
	[õ]	o ⁿ (formal) o ⁿ (informal)	khô ⁿ khô ⁿ	'test' 'test'
	[o]	o	hò	'yes'
	[ʊ]	u	tshû	'to exit'
	[u]	u	tshù	'house'
	[ũ]	u ⁿ	tshiù ⁿ	'to sing'

Non-Hokkien-Derived

Only major spellings of individual allophones (sounds) are listed. For simplicity, the following are not listed: marginal allophones (rare/foreign sounds), vowel-glide and glide-vowel combinations (e.g. [ow] -> oa or [ju] -> ew), unwritten allophones, rare/foreign spellings, and spellings involving English's "silent" word-final e. Silent letters in the spellings of the source languages are also written in LO, but are not listed here.

Vowel Backness	Allophone (IPA)	Spelling (LO)	Lánngang-uè Example	English Gloss	Source Language
Front	[i]	i e ea ee	dibá equàl beâch congeè	'isn't it' 'equal' 'beach' 'congee'	Tagalog English English English

		ei eo ey ie o oe u ui y	ceiling people alley field women amoeba busy build myth	'ceiling' 'people' 'alley' 'field' 'women' 'amoeba' 'busy' 'build' 'myth'	English English English English English English English English English
	[ɪ]	i e ie o u ui y	dibá pretty mischief women busy build myth	'isn't it' 'pretty' 'mischief' 'women' 'busy' 'build' 'myth'	Tagalog English English English English English English
	[e]	e	medyo	'somewhat'	Tagalog
	[ɛ]	e a ae ai ea ei eo ie u ue	medyo carry aerial mountain deaf foreign leopard friend bury guess	'somewhat' 'carry' 'aerial' 'mountain' 'deaf' 'foreign' 'leopard' 'friend' 'bury' 'guess'	Tagalog English English English English English English English English English
	[æ]	a ua	hand guarantee	'hand' 'guarantee'	English English
Central	[a]	a aa e ea o oo ou ow u ua	parang bazaar sergeant heart locker flood flour knowledge under guard	'it's like' 'bazaar' 'sergeant' 'heart' 'locker' 'flood' 'flour' 'knowledge' 'under' 'guard'	Tagalog English English English English English English English English English
Back	[ɑ]	a aa e ea	father bazaar sergeant heart	'father' 'bazaar' 'sergeant' 'heart'	English English English English

		o ou ow ua	lockèr floùr knowledgê guârd	'locker' 'flour' 'knowledge' 'guard'	English English English English
	[ʌ]	u a o oo ou	under about nothìng floôd toûch	'under' 'about' 'nothing' 'flood' 'touch'	English English English English English
	[ɔ]	o a au augh aw eo oa oo ou ough uo	porket stâlk authòr daughtèr làw luncheòn boârd floòr pouèr thoûght liquòr	'just because' 'stalk' 'author' 'daughter' 'law' 'luncheon' 'board' 'floor' 'pour' 'thought' 'liquor'	Tagalog English English English English English English English English English
	[o]	o	porket	'just because'	Tagalog
	[ʊ]	u o oo ou	ulît wôlf cookiè poroûs	'again' 'wolf' 'cookie' 'porous'	Tagalog English English English
	[u]	u eu ew o oe oo ou ough ue ui uo	ulît sleûth scrèw wômb canoè noodlè routinè through cluè recruît fluoridê	'again' 'sleuth' 'screw' 'womb' 'canoe' 'noodle' 'routine' 'through' 'clue' 'recruit' 'fluoride'	Tagalog English English English English English English English English English English

C. Consonants that Function as Vowels

Only major spellings of individual allophones (sounds) are listed. For simplicity, the following are not listed: marginal allophones (rare/foreign sounds), unwritten allophones, and rare/foreign spellings. Silent letters in the spellings of the source languages are also written in LO, but are not listed here.

Place of Articulation	Allophone (IPA)	Spelling (LO)	Lánng-uè Example	English Gloss	Source Language
Bilabial	[m̩]	m (frm.) eum (inf.)	m̩ eùm	'to refuse' 'to refuse'	Hokkien Hokkien
Alveolar	[ɹ]	er ear ir irr olo or our ur urr yr	lettèr early stìr whìrr colonèl worsèn journèy hurrỳ pùrr myrtlè	'letter' 'early' 'stir' 'whirr' 'colonel' 'worsen' 'journey' 'hurry' 'purr' 'myrtle'	English English English English English English English English English
	[l̩]	le ul	bottlè difficùlt	'bottle' 'difficult'	English English
Velar	[ŋ̩]	ng (frm.) eung (inf.)	ng̩ eúng	'yellow' 'yellow'	Hokkien Hokkien

D. Tones

All Lánnang-uè syllables have tones, which are shown with diacritics (marks) in LO. The second column of the table below uses ‘a’ as a placeholder to carry the tone mark.

Allotone (IPA)	Spelling (LO)	Lánnang-uè Example	English Gloss	Source Language
[⁵⁵] (high)	â	tô	‘to lie down’	Hokkien
[⁵¹] (falling)	à --a (neutral)	tò tsaû-- khi	‘left’ ‘to run away’	Hokkien Hokkien
[³⁵] (rising)	á	tó’	‘drawing’	Hokkien
[³³] (mid)	ā	tō	‘knife’	Hokkien
[³¹] (low falling)	--a (neutral)	tā-- khi	‘to become dry’	Hokkien
[²²] (low)	a (unmarked)	to	‘emphasis prt.’	Hokkien
[¹¹] (very low)	--a (neutral) -a (neutral)	khùn-- khi khùn-- khi-be	‘to fall asleep’ ‘fell asleep yet’	Hokkien Hokkien

II. Aspiration

Aspirated consonants end with 'h'. The following words are aspirated:

phē	[p ^h e ³³]	Hokkien-derived	'blanket'
thê	[t ^h e ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'attitude'
khè	[k ^h e ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	'to place'
tshè	[ts ^h e ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	'to find'

To contrast, the following words are not aspirated:

pē	[pe ³³]	Hokkien-derived	'to fly'
té	[te ³⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'tea'
kè	[ke ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	'to cross'
tsē	[tse ³³]	Hokkien-derived	'to sit'

III. Closed and Open O

Strictly speaking, there is a distinction between the closed and open 'o' sounds in Hokkien-derived words. The following are closed 'o' words:

bó	[bo ³⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'not'
hō	[ho ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'good'
tò	[to ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	'left'

Open 'o' words have an apostrophe after the 'o'. The following are open 'o' words:

bô'	[bo ⁵⁵ ']	Hokkien-derived	'wife'
hō'	[ho ³³ ']	Hokkien-derived	'rain'
tò'	[to ⁵¹ ']	Hokkien-derived	'degree'

But since many Lánnang-uè speakers don't make or perceive a distinction between the two sounds, the apostrophe can be omitted to merge the two sounds in writing:

bô	[bo ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'wife'
hō	[ho ³³]	Hokkien-derived	'rain'
tò	[to ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	'degree'

IV. Glides

a. For Hokkien-derived words, ‘w’ and ‘y’ are only used at the start of the syllable when there is no initial glottal stop. The following are recommended:

wà	[wa ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘wow’
yá	[ja ³⁵]	Hokkien-derived	‘very’
tsiû ⁿ -wâ	[tsjũ ⁵⁵ .wa ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	‘how’
aì--ya	[ʔaj ⁵¹ .ja ¹¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘ugh’

The following are not recommended:

uà	[wa ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘wow’
íá	[ja ³⁵]	Hokkien-derived	‘very’
tsiû ⁿ -uâ	[tsjũ ⁵⁵ .wa ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	‘how’
aì--ia	[ʔaj ⁵¹ .ja ¹¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘ugh’

b. In all other cases, ‘u’ and ‘i’ are used instead. The following are recommended:

ué	[ʔwe ³⁵]	Hokkien-derived	‘shoe’
íá ⁿ	[ʔjã ³⁵]	Hokkien-derived	‘to win’
kuì	[kwi ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘expensive’
phiò	[p ^h jo ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘ticket’
tsâû	[tsaw ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	‘to run’
khai	[k ^h aj ³³]	Hokkien-derived	‘to spend’

The following are not recommended:

wé	[ʔwe ³⁵]	Hokkien-derived	‘shoe’
yá ⁿ	[ʔjã ³⁵]	Hokkien-derived	‘to win’
kwì	[kwi ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘expensive’
phyò	[p ^h jo ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘ticket’
tsâw	[tsaw ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	‘to run’
khây	[k ^h aj ³³]	Hokkien-derived	‘to spend’

V. Glottal Stops

a. For Hokkien-derived words, the glottal stop is unmarked at the start of the syllable:

aú	[ʔaw ³⁵]	Hokkien-derived	‘throat’
iá ⁿ -hì	[ʔjã ³⁵ .hi ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘movie’
tiong-iaù	[tjon ²² .ʔjaw ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘important’

b. For Hokkien-derived words, ‘h’ marks the glottal stop at the end of the syllable:

puíh	[pwiʔ ³⁵]	Hokkien-derived	‘to pull forcefully’
kah-tshiû	[kaʔ ²² .ts ^h ju ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	‘to raise one’s hand’
thaū-thuéh	[t ^h aw ³³ .t ^h weʔ ³⁵]	Hokkien-derived	‘to steal’

c. For non-Hokkien-derived words, the glottal stop is unmarked at the start of the word:

iwân	[ʔi ²² .wan ⁵⁵]	Tagalog-derived	‘to leave behind’
applè	[ʔæ ²² .p ⁵¹]	English-derived	‘apple’
unclè	[ʔʌŋ ²² .k ⁵¹]	English-derived	‘uncle’

d. For Tagalog-derived words, ‘-’ marks the glottal stop in the middle of the word:

mag-isà	[mag ²² .ʔi ²² .sa ⁵¹]	Tagalog-derived	‘alone’
pag-asà	[pag ²² .ʔa ²² .sa ⁵¹]	Tagalog-derived	‘hope’
pang-inôm	[paŋ ²² .ʔi ²² .nom ⁵⁵]	Tagalog-derived	‘thing used for drinking’

e. The exception to (d.) is if the glottal stop is between two vowels, in which case it is unmarked:

daân	[da ²² .ʔan ⁵⁵]	Tagalog-derived	‘path’
kausâp	[ka ²² .ʔu ²² .sap ⁵⁵]	Tagalog-derived	‘person to talk to’
tîs	[ti ²² .ʔis ⁵⁵]	Tagalog-derived	‘to endure’

f. For Tagalog-derived words, the glottal stop is unmarked at the end of the word:

biglâ	[big ²² .laʔ ⁵⁵]	Tagalog-derived	‘suddenly’
pakô	[pa ²² .koʔ ⁵⁵]	Tagalog-derived	‘nail’
pasâ	[pa ²² .saʔ ⁵⁵]	Tagalog-derived	‘bruise’

VI. Diminutive Suffix

The diminutive suffix *â* (sometimes *á*) is very common, usually at the end of nouns. It doesn't have an initial glottal stop when spoken, so there are special rules for spelling it.

a. If the previous syllable ends with 'e' or 'i', the suffix becomes 'ya':

te-yâ	[te ²² .ja ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'pocket'
hi-yâ	[hi ²² .ja ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'ear'

b. If the previous syllable ends with 'o', 'ó', or 'u', the suffix becomes 'wa':

pho'-wâ	[p ^h ɔ ²² .wa ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'notebook'
bo-wâ	[bo ²² .wa ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'hat'
tu-wâ	[tu ²² .wa ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'cabinet'

c. If the previous syllable is nasalized, the suffix becomes 'wa' or 'ya' depending on the previous vowel:

t <i>si</i> ⁿ -wâ	[tsj ^ũ ⁵⁵ .wa ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'how'
k <i>hi</i> ⁿ -yâ	[k ^h i ²² .ja ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'pliers'

d. If the previous syllable ends with 'h', the suffix stays as 'a':

t <i>si</i> h-â	[tsi ^ʔ ²² .a ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'tongue'
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e. If the previous syllable ends with any other consonant or a syllabic nasal, the consonant gets duplicated in the suffix:

t <i>shiám</i> -mâ	[ts ^h jam ³⁵ .a ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'fork'
k <i>in</i> -ná	[kin ³³ .a ³⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'today'
t <i>hng</i> -ngâ	[t ^h ŋ ²² .ŋa ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'candy'
t <i>shat</i> -tâ	[ts ^h at ²² .a ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'thief'

VII. Syllabic Nasals

Syllables with syllabic nasals are spelled without vowels, with the tone mark going on the ‘m’ or ‘n’. The following are recommended:

m-kû	[ʔm̩ ²² .ku ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	‘but’
p̀ng	[p̩ ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘rice’

If one cannot type tone marks on the syllabic nasal, ‘eu’ can be added before it. The ‘u’ gets the tone mark:

eum-kû	[ʔm̩ ²² .ku ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	‘but’
peùng	[p̩ ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘rice’

The following are not recommended:

em-kû	[ʔm̩ ²² .ku ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	‘but’
pèng	[p̩ ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘rice’

VIII. Nasalization

Nasalized syllables are spelled with ‘ⁿ’ after the syllable:

huá ⁿ	[hwã ³⁵]	Hokkien-derived	‘to snore’
ì ⁿ	[ʔĩ ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘church’
siū ⁿ	[sjũ ³³]	Hokkien-derived	‘to think’

If one cannot type ‘ⁿ’, ‘nn’ can be used as a substitute:

huánn	[hwã ³⁵]	Hokkien-derived	‘to snore’
ìnn	[ʔĩ ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘church’
siūnn	[sjũ ³³]	Hokkien-derived	‘to think’

IX. Tone Mark Placement

a. For syllables that require tone marks, the vowel generally gets the tone mark:

hê	[he ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'light'
pàng--tshu-lai	[paŋ ⁵¹ ts ^h ɔ ¹¹ laj ¹¹]	Hokkien-derived	'to expel'
sayâng	[sa ²² .jaŋ ⁵⁵]	Tagalog-derived	'because'
strìng	[stɹɪŋ ⁵¹]	English-derived	'string'

b. If there are multiple vowels in the syllable (whether consecutive or not), the rightmost vowel gets the tone mark:

kaû	[kaw ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'dog'
suā ⁿ	[swã ³³]	Hokkien-derived	'mountain'
foôd	[fud ⁵⁵]	English-derived	'food'
timè	[t ^h ajm ⁵¹]	English-derived	'time'

c. If there are no vowels in the syllable, the rightmost 'm' or 'n' (if syllabic nasal) or the 'y' (if otherwise) gets the tone mark:

á-râm	[ʔa ³⁵ .ʔm̩ ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'dad's older brother's wife'
hñg	[hŋ ³³]	Hokkien-derived	'far'
rhythmè	[ɹɪ ²² .ðm̩ ⁵¹]	English-derived	'rhythm'
fancy	[fæn ²² .si ⁵¹]	English-derived	'fancy'

d. For Hokkien-derived words in (c.), if one cannot type tone marks on the syllabic nasal, 'eu' can be added before it. The 'u' gets the tone mark:

á-eûm	[ʔa ³⁵ .ʔm̩ ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'dad's older brother's wife'
heûng	[hŋ ³³]	Hokkien-derived	'far'

e. For acronyms and initialisms, the appropriate letter gets the tone mark:

KK ^è	[kej ²² .kej ²² .bi ⁵¹]	Tagalog-derived	'to pay for one's share'
CR ^è	[si ²² .ʔaɹ ⁵¹]	English-derived	'comfort room'
T ^è V	[t ^h i ²² .vi ⁵¹]	English-derived	'television'

f. For acronyms and initialisms, if one cannot type tone marks on the appropriate letter, the tone mark can be ignored:

KKB	[kej ²² .kej ²² .bi ⁵¹]	Tagalog-derived	'to pay for one's share'
CR	[si ²² .ʔaɹ ⁵¹]	English-derived	'comfort room'
TV	[t ^h i ²² .vi ⁵¹]	English-derived	'television'

X. Neutral Tones

Syllables with neutral tones attach to the previous syllable in writing regardless of word boundaries. They are pronounced depending on the tone of the previous syllable. Instead of getting tone marks, they are marked with ‘--’ at the start:

tsaû--khi	[tsaw ⁵⁵ k ^h i ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘to run away’
iú ⁿ --khi	[ʔjũ ³⁵ k ^h i ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘to melt away’
tā--khi	[ta ³³ k ^h i ³¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘to become dry’
khùn--khi	[k ^h un ⁵¹ k ^h i ¹¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘to fall asleep’

Succeeding neutral syllables use ‘-’ instead of ‘--’ if they appear consecutively:

tsaû--khi-be	[tsaw ⁵⁵ k ^h i ⁵¹ be ¹¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘ran away yet’
iú ⁿ --khi-be	[ʔjũ ³⁵ k ^h i ⁵¹ be ¹¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘melted away yet’
tā--khi-be	[ta ³³ k ^h i ³¹ be ¹¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘became dry yet’
khùn--khi-be	[k ^h un ⁵¹ k ^h i ¹¹ be ¹¹]	Hokkien-derived	‘fell asleep yet’

XI. Concept of the Word

What Lánnang-uè counts as a word generally follows what Hokkien, Tagalog, and English count as a word (specifically the idea of 詞 for Hokkien). A Hokkien-derived syllable is not necessarily a word in Lánnang-uè. The following are Lánnang-uè words:

á-tsî	[ʔa ³⁵ .tsi ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'older sister'
tshiám-mâ	[ts ^h jam ³⁵ .ma ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'fork'
pang-khùn	[paŋ ²² .k ^h un ⁵¹]	Lánnang-uè	'for sleeping'

The following are not Lánnang-uè words:

â	[ʔa ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'diminutive suffix'
pang	[paŋ ²²]	Tagalog-derived	'instrumental prefix'

XII. Word Boundaries

Word boundaries are generally marked with a single space. Syllables with neutral tones are the exception, since they attach to the previous syllable in writing regardless of word boundaries. If two morphemes (e.g. prefix, root, or suffix) are part of the same word, there should be no spaces between them. The following are recommended:

á-tsî	[ʔa ³⁵ .tsi ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'older sister'
tshiám-mâ	[ts ^h jam ³⁵ .ma ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'fork'
tò--khi-lo'	[to ⁵¹ k ^h i ¹¹ lo ¹¹]	Hokkien-derived	'go home already'
pang-khùn	[paŋ ²² .k ^h un ⁵¹]	Lánnang-uè	'for sleeping'

The following are not recommended:

á tsî	[ʔa ³⁵ .tsi ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'older sister'
tshiám mâ	[ts ^h jam ³⁵ .ma ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'fork'
tò --khi -lo'	[to ⁵¹ k ^h i ¹¹ lo ¹¹]	Hokkien-derived	'go home already'
pang khùn	[paŋ ²² .k ^h un ⁵¹]	Lánnang-uè	'for sleeping'

XIII. Hyphenation

To avoid ambiguity, Hokkien-derived words are generally hyphenated to separate every syllable:

di-tsî	[di ²² .tsi ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'second oldest sister'
dít--si	[dit ³⁵ .si ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	'daytime'
dit-tsî	[dit ²² .tsi ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'date'

Compound words that are often thought of as one unit and non-Hokkien-derived words are generally unhyphenated:

Lánnáng	[lan ³⁵ .nan ³⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'Lannang'
ampalayà	[ʔam ²² .pa ²² .la ²² .ja ⁵¹]	Tagalog-derived	'ampalaya'
aircòn	[ʔɛɹ ²² .kɔn ⁵¹]	English-derived	'aircon'

The exception would be non-Hokkien-derived words that were already hyphenated to begin with:

turo-turô	[tu ²² .roʔ ²² .tu ²² .roʔ ⁵⁵]	Tagalog-derived	'carinderia'
sister-in-làw	[sɪs ²² .tɿ ²² .ʔɪn ²² .lɔ ⁵¹]	English-derived	'sister-in-law'
well-mannerêd	[wɛl ²² .mæ ²² .nɿd ⁵⁵]	English-derived	'well-mannered'

XIV. Non-Hokkien-Derived Words

Words that were directly derived from non-Hokkien languages follow their original spellings, with tone marks added if needed. These include words that were originally from Hokkien but entered Lánnang-uè through non-Hokkien languages (e.g. lumpiâ ‘lumpia’, which would be a separate word from the original Hokkien-derived lun-piâⁿ). Words that were originally from non-Hokkien languages but entered Lánnang-uè through Hokkien (e.g. ba-sù ‘glass’) don’t count, since they are treated as Hokkien-derived words. The following are recommended:

basâ	[ba ²² .sa ⁷⁵⁵]	Tagalog-derived	‘wet’
lumpiâ	[lum ²² .pja ⁷⁵⁵]	Tagalog-derived	‘lumpia’
allòw	[ʔ ²² .law ⁵¹]	English-derived	‘allow’
lunchbôx	[lɛntʃ ²² .baks ⁵⁵]	English-derived	‘lunchbox’

The following are not recommended:

basâh	[ba ²² .sa ⁷⁵⁵]	Tagalog-derived	‘wet’
lumpiâh	[lum ²² .pja ⁷⁵⁵]	Tagalog-derived	‘lumpia’
alau	[ʔ ²² .law ⁵¹]	English-derived	‘allow’
lanchbâks	[lɛntʃ ²² .baks ⁵⁵]	English-derived	‘lunchbox’

XV. Capitalization

Proper nouns are generally capitalized at the start of the word like in Tagalog and English. Syllables in the middle of the word are generally never capitalized:

Bí-kôk	[bi ³⁵ .kok ⁵⁵]	Hokkien-derived	'United States'
Sók-bù	[sok ³⁵ .bu ⁵¹]	Hokkien-derived	'Cebu'
Cebù	[se ²² .bu ⁵¹]	Tagalog-derived	'Cebu'

Acronyms and initialisms are the exception:

KKB̂	[kej ²² .kej ²² .bi ⁵¹]	Tagalog-derived	'to pay for one's share'
CR̂	[si ²² .ʔa ⁵¹]	English-derived	'comfort room'
TV̂	[tʰi ²² .vi ⁵¹]	English-derived	'television'

XIV. Sample text using the third edition of LO

Formal/Literary Style

U tsi maî kô' ó', North Wînd kiaū Sùn lê uān-kē para e khuâⁿ siang-ngá khâ malakâs. Tsam-mâ--pa to bo lánġ, m-kú ĩn neung é tsâ khuâⁿ tloh tsi ge lánġ ti ng-siâk e kió, lê tshieung jackê^t habang lê kiaⁿ-lò'. ĩn siuⁿ bê ho' hî-ge jackê^t pē--khi-lai.

Informal/Convenience Style

U tsi maî kô ó', North Wînd kiaū Sùn lê uān-kē para e khuânn siang-ngá khâ malakâs. Tsam-mâ--pa to bo lánġ, eum-kú ĩn neung é tsâ khuânn tloh tsi ge lánġ ti eung-siâk e kió, lê tshieung jackê^t habang lê kiann-lò'. ĩn siunn bê ho' hî-ge jackê^t pē--khi-lai.

English Translation

Once upon a time, the North Wind and the Sun were arguing to see who was stronger. No one was around for quite some time, but then both of them spotted a person on a yellow bridge, wearing a jacket while walking around. They thought of making the jacket fly away.

XVI. Appendix - Community Polls

In the process of making the third edition of LO, polls were conducted in Lannang group chats (henceforth, the Committee) to vote on some of the features to be included. The following resolutions were passed:

Resolution 1 - Representation of Nasalization in Lánnang-uè

Adopted on July 14, 2024, 12:00 NN

Vote Distribution: 26-16

The Committee hereby mandates the use of the superscript ‘n’ (e.g. siāⁿ ‘sound’) in literary materials, education, and other formal writings where technological capabilities permit. In instances where technological constraints prevent the use of the superscript, ‘nn’ (e.g. siānn ‘sound’) shall be utilized to maintain orthographic consistency.

Resolution 2 - Segmentation of Compound Words in Lánnang-uè

Adopted on July 14, 2024, 8:00 PM

Vote Distribution: 34-1

Compound words in Lánnang-uè derived from Hokkien are to be hyphenated (e.g. tshût-sì ‘to be born’). Historically integrated compounds and words from other languages are to be written as single units without a hyphen (e.g. Lánnáng, ampalayà, aircòn).

Resolution 3 - Differentiation of O Variants in Lánnang-uè

Adopted on July 15, 2024, 8:00 PM

Vote Distribution: 14-4-3-1-1

The non-use of an apostrophe for closed ‘o’ sounds (e.g. guâ bó ‘I don’t have’) is hereby codified. The use of an apostrophe to indicate open ‘o’ sounds in formal contexts (e.g. pó'-khô^m ‘make-up test’) is mandated, with discretionary usage in practical or less formal applications.

Resolution 4 - Representation of Aspiration

Adopted on July 15, 2024, 9:00 PM

Vote Distribution: 8-0

The existing representation of aspiration, specifically the ‘h’, in Lánnang-uè shall not require amendment.

Resolution 5 - Representation of Syllabic Nasals

Adopted on July 16, 2024, 12:00 NN

Vote Distribution: 15-11-3-3-2

The Committee prescribes the use of ‘m’ (e.g. m sī ‘is not’) or ‘ng’ (e.g. tng ‘long’) in contexts where diacritics or tone marks are implementable. Alternate forms ‘eum’ (e.g. eum sī ‘is not’) or ‘eung’ (e.g. teung ‘long’) are prescribed for usage in informal settings or where technological limitations occur.

Resolution 6 - Representation of Neutral Tones

Adopted on July 17, 2024, 8:00 PM

Vote Distribution: 13-9-0

It is hereby mandated that double dashes ‘--’ shall be employed once before a word, phrase, or syllable to denote a neutral tone (e.g. bè--pa ‘not yet’), or before a series of syllables exhibiting neutral tones (e.g. bè--pa-la ‘not yet’). Following the initial use of the double dash within a word or phrase, only single dashes ‘-’ are to be used for subsequent neutral tones within the same sequence (e.g. thng--khi-lai ‘to remove’).

The following sample text showcases all the resolutions:

Formal/Literary Style

U tsi maî kô' ó', North Wînd kiaū Sùn lê uān-kē para e khuâⁿ siang-ngá khâ malakâs. Tsam-mâ--pa to bo lánġ, m-kú ĩn neung é tsâ khuâⁿ tloh tsi ge lánġ ti ng-siâk e kió, lê tshieung jackêť habang lê kiaⁿ-lò'. ĩn siuⁿ bê ho' hî-ge jackêť pē--khi-lai.

Informal/Convenience Style

U tsi maî kô' ó', North Wînd kiaū Sùn lê uān-kē para e khuân siang-ngá khâ malakâs. Tsam-mâ--pa to bo lánġ, eum-kú ĩn neung é tsâ khuân tloh tsi ge lánġ ti eung-siâk e kió, lê tshieung jackêť habang lê kiann-lò'. ĩn siunn bê ho' hî-ge jackêť pē--khi-lai.

English Translation

Once upon a time, the North Wind and the Sun were arguing to see who was stronger. No one was around for quite some time, but then both of them spotted a person on a yellow bridge, wearing a jacket while walking around. They thought of making the jacket fly away.

This confirmatory vote and its outcome hereby authorizes the changes to be legally binding, ensuring that the third edition of LO will serve its intended purpose of improving linguistic clarity and educational accessibility for the Lannang community. All stakeholders are expected to adhere to these standards upon their enactment.