



# BAMA Learn Burmese 30 Day Challenge

## Book 1

v. 1.3.20170314

“If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head.  
If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart.”  
– Nelson Mandela

ပညာလို အိုသည့်မရှိ  
– Burmese Proverb

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Hello!

One day I think, what if I learn a bit of Burmese every day, how much can I learn in a year?

HFGL,

Helena Jane

[facebook.com/bamalearnburmese/](https://facebook.com/bamalearnburmese/)

Thanks a lot to our friends for the feedbacks!

This book is Burmese colloquial workbook, using John Okell's romanization.

This book is **NOT comprehensive**! Always check on Okell, J., and A. Allott. 2001. Burmese/Myanmar Dictionary of Grammatical Forms., other dictionaries and books, or ask Burmese friends for **further** definitions and functions of words and sentences.

English translation might be vary depending on the context.

## Day 1 : 33 initial consonants (BBE p. 138)

|    |       |    |    |     |
|----|-------|----|----|-----|
| က  | ခ     | ဂ  | ဃ  | င   |
| k- | k'-   | g- | g- | ng- |
| စ  | ဆ     | ဇ  | ဈ  | ည/ဉ |
| s- | s'-   | z- | z- | ny- |
| တ  | ထ     | ဒ  | ဗ  | ဏ   |
| t- | t'-   | d- | d- | n-  |
| တ  | ထ     | ဒ  | ဗ  | န   |
| t- | t'-   | d- | d- | n-  |
| ပ  | ဖ     | ဗ  | ဘ  | မ   |
| p- | p'-   | b- | b- | m-  |
| ယ  | ရ     | လ  | ဝ  | သ   |
| y- | y-/r- | l- | w- | th- |
|    | ဟ     | ဠ  | အ  |     |
|    | h-    | l- | -* |     |

These are the 33 Burmese initial consonants.

Write them on paper while reading them out loud.

The script shape tends to be circle and written counter clock.

Find the audio and how to write (stroke order) [here](#). You can now print out an exercise book from [here](#).

### Notes

1. You don't have to try to memorize them all in one day, instead, download the cheatsheet from [here](#) and always peek on it on the go.

2. Burmese people recognize the script with a set of words as you can find [here](#) on the wikipedia screenshot. So they say:

- ká-jì | k'á-gwè | gá-ngeh | gá-jì | ngá instead of k | k' | g | g | ng
- so on

Find the complete set of how to read them in Appendix 1: 33 Initial Consonants

\* "This symbol is used to write syllables that have no initial consonant, ..."

ဆရာကြီး /s'ăya-jì/ teacher

ဆရာ /s'ăya/ male teacher

ဆရာမ /s'ăya-má/ female teacher

## Day 2 : tones & vowels (BBE p. 131 - 132, p. 139)

According to John Okell (Burmese by Ear), Burmese has 3 tones, plus glottal stop and weak syllable.

Alone, initial consonants have creaky high tone with vowel “a”. Below are Burmese vowels. Notice how adding symbol(s) changes tones.

Write them on paper while reading them out loud.

Find the tones audio [here](#) and the vowels audio [here](#). The syllables are just for illustration.

| Tones illustrated with vowel “a” |     |    | Vowels illustrated with က |     |     |     |     |     |      |      |            |
|----------------------------------|-----|----|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------------|
| Creaky high tone                 | အံ့ | á  | Creaky high tone          | က   | ကိ  | ကု  | ကေ့ | ကဲ  | ကော့ | ကို  | ကည့်       |
| Low tone                         | အာ  | a  | Low tone                  | ကာ  | ကီ  | ကူ  | ကေ  | ကယ် | ကော် | ကို  | ကည်        |
| Plain high tone                  | အား | à  | Plain high tone           | ကား | ကီး | ကူး | ကေး | ကဲ  | ကော  | ကိုး | ကည်း       |
| Glottal stop*                    | အာ် | aq |                           |     |     |     |     |     |      |      |            |
| Weak syllable*                   | အ   | ǎ  |                           |     |     |     |     |     |      |      |            |
|                                  |     |    |                           | -a  | -i  | -u  | -e  | -eh | -aw  | -o   | -i/-e/-eh/ |

**The tone is VERY IMPORTANT.** When you are trying to memorize a new vocab, always remember to also memorize its tone as a set!

စ /sá/ means to start; စာ /sa/ means text, lesson, writing; and စား /sà/ means to eat!

Some words sound similar for certain ears. We do not want to mess up with the amount of money we pay in the market:

သုံးထောင် /thoùn-daun/ is 3,000;

while သုံးသောင်း /thoùn-dhaùn/ is 30,000.

ဦးလေး /ù lè/ uncle  
 ဒေါ်ဒေါ် /daw daw/ aunt  
 အစ်ကို /ǎko/ older brother

### Day 3 : medial consonants & modified pronunciations (BBE p. 139)

These are the medial consonants illustrated with initial consonant က.

Write them on paper while reading them out loud.

The script shape tends to be circle and written counter clock. Find the cheatsheet [here](#). Find the audio [here](#).

#### Medial consonants

|     |     |      |     |
|-----|-----|------|-----|
| ကျ  | ကျဲ | ကျဝ် | ကျှ |
| -y- | -y- | -w-  | h-  |

#### Modified pronunciations

|    |     |     |     |     |        |          |
|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|----------|
| ကျ | ကျဲ | ကျှ | ကျဲ | ကျှ | ကျဲ    | ကျှ      |
| ကျ | ကျဲ | ကျှ | ကျဲ | ကျှ | ကျဲ    | ကျှ      |
| c- | c'- | j-  | ny- | sh- | ly-/y- | hly-/sh- |

အစ်မ /ámá/ older sister  
 ညီလေး /nyi/ younger brother (male speaker)  
 မောင် /maun/ younger brother (female speaker)

## Day 4 : final consonants (BBE p. 140)

These are final consonants and the combinations of vowel symbol and final consonants illustrated with initial consonant က.

Write them on paper while reading them out loud.

The script shape tends to be circle and written counter clock. Find the cheatsheet [here](#). Find the audio [here](#).

| Stopped finals |     |     | Nasal finals |           |
|----------------|-----|-----|--------------|-----------|
| ကစ်            | ကက် | ကတ် | ကင်          | ကန်       |
|                |     | ကပ် | ကဉ်          | ကမ် or ကံ |
| kiq            | keq | kaq | kin          | kan       |

| Stopped finals |       |       |      |      | Nasal finals |       |       |             |             |
|----------------|-------|-------|------|------|--------------|-------|-------|-------------|-------------|
| ကိတ်           | ကိုက် | ကောက် | ကုတ် | ကွတ် | ကိန်         | ကိုင် | ကောင် | ကုန်        | ကွန်        |
| ကိပ်           |       |       | ကုပ် | ကွပ် | ကိမ်         |       |       | ကုမ် or ကုံ | ကွမ် or ကွံ |
| keiq           | kaiq  | kauq  | kouq | kuq  | kein         | kain  | kaun  | koun        | kun         |

ညီမ /nyi má/ younger sister

သား /thà/ son

သမီး /thǎmì/ daughter

## Day 5 : syllable, suffix, & other notes

Okell BBE 2009: 136-142:

*“Burmese Syllable = Head + Rhyme.*

*Head can be:*

- 1) initial consonant or*
- 2) medial consonant.*

*Rhyme can be:*

- 1) attached vowel symbol or*
- 2) a consonant with ၵ [ǎtha - “killer” sign] or*
- 3) combination of an attached vowel symbol and a final consonant.”*

စာ = စ + ဝ + ဝ + ဝ

Syllables combined to form words and sentences.

Okell BBE 2009: 146-161:

*“A suffix is an element that is attached to the end of a word, like the English -ing in words like learning, thinking, etc. Most of the grammatical information in a Burmese sentence is carried by suffixes. Most suffixes are used with just one part of speech.”*

စာတယ်။ စာပါ။

Suffixes can be attached to sentence, statement, phrase, verb, noun, and as subordinate one sentence to another.

Okell BBE 2009: 146:

*“Although we have to translate ပူတယ် pu-deh, အေးတယ် è-deh and similar words with the English adjectives: “hot”, “cold”, and so on, in terms of Burmese grammar they must be classified as verbs: “to be hot”, “to be cold”, etc.”*

ဗိုလ်ချုပ် /bo-jouq/ General

ဗိုလ်မှူး /bo-hmù/ Major

မင်္ဂလာပါ /min-gála-ba/ greetings

## Day 6 : review

Open these URLs to find various notes with some audio:

1. [Introduction](#)
2. [Pronunciation & John Okell's Romanization](#)
3. [Basic Scripts](#)
4. [Basic Rules](#)

### Notes

1. Unlike Chinese Pinyin, there is no official standardized romanization for Burmese script yet. Though it is best to mimic local pronunciation rather than memorize romanization; romanization might be a good tool to know how to pronounce new vocab. There are a lot of options for Burmese Romanization. Here we use the one from John Okell.
2. There are some differences between words used for male speakers and female speakers; such as:
  1. Male speaker will use ကျွန်တော် /cănaw/ to say “I”. ကျွန်တော် စားမယ်။ /cănaw sà-meh/ I am going to eat.
  2. While female speaker will use ကျွန်မ /cămá/ to say “I”. ကျွန်မ စားမယ်။ /cămá sà-meh/ I am going to eat.
3. Like other languages in this world, there might be some variations to write and pronounce a word, some words might have many meanings, and there might also be many possibilities to address a thought. We cannot cover every single details here, yet we hope we can introduce to you some basic of Burmese.

ကျွန်တော် /cănaw/ I (male speaker)

ကျွန်မ /cămá/ I (female speaker)

ငါ /nga/ I \*INFORMAL\*

## Day 7 : how to greet someone

How to greet someone you don't know in office; or, say we are walking through the street stalls and want to buy a bag, we can greet the shop assistant with these. When you already know the person, Burmese normally will use prefix + the person name to address them.

|            |            | lit. means      | can be used to call                         |
|------------|------------|-----------------|---|
| 1 ဆရာကြီး  | /s'ăya-jì/ | “big” teacher   | a professional (more respect)               |
| 2 ဆရာ      | /s'ăya/    | male teacher    | a male professional                         |
| 3 ဆရာမ     | /s'ăya-má/ | female teacher  | a female professional                       |
| 4 ဦးလေး    | /ù lè/     | uncle           | older man                                   |
| 5 ဒေါ်ဒေါ် | /daw daw/  | aunt            | older woman                                 |
| 6 အစ်ကို   | /ăko/      | older brother   | man about same age or a bit older           |
| 7 အစ်မ     | /ămá/      | older sister    | woman about same age or a bit older         |
| 8 ညီလေး    | /nyi-lè/   | younger brother | young man younger than you (male speaker)   |
| 9 မောင်လေး | /maun-lè/  | younger brother | young man younger than you (female speaker) |
| 10 ညီမ     | /nyi má/   | younger sister  | young woman younger than you                |
| 11 သား     | /thà/      | son             | young boy                                   |
| 12 သမီး    | /thămì/    | daughter        | young girl                                  |

မိသားစု /mí-thà-sú/ family

အဖေ /ăp'e/ father

အမေ /ăme/ mother

## Day 8 : suffix —ပါ

|                             |                                |                          |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 ကျွန်မနာမည်က မနေနေပါ။     | /cǎmá na-meh-gá má Ne Ne ba/   | My name is Ne Ne.        |
| 2 ကျွန်မ အစ်မနာမည်က မAnaပါ။ | /cǎmá ǎmá na-meh-gá má Ana ba/ | My sister's name is Ana. |
| 3 သူ့အဖေ ဆရာဝန်ပါ။          | /thu ǎp'e s'ǎya-wun ba/        | His father is a doctor.  |
| 4 ပူပါတယ်။                  | /pu-ba-deh/                    | It is hot.               |
| 5 လာပါ။                     | /la ba/                        | Please come.             |

### What is your name?

#### Notes

1. ကျွန်တော် = “I” for male speaker.
2. ကျွန်မ = “I” for female speaker.
3. ပါ “is a suffix people add in to show they are being polite” (Okell BBE 2009: 17).

အိမ်ထောင် /ein-daun/ household

အမျိုးသား /ǎmyò-dhà/ husband, man

အမျိုးသမီး /ǎmyò-tǎmì/ wife, lady, woman

## Day 9 : name prefix

Burmese people usually put prefix before the name to show respect:

|    |            |            |  |
|----|------------|------------|--|
| 1  | ဗိုလ်ချုပ် | /bo-jouq/  | General                                      |
| 2  | ဗိုလ်မှူး  | /bo-hmù/   | Major  |
| 3  | ဆရာကြီး    | /s'ăya-jì/ | for respected person                         |
| 4  | ဆရာ        | /s'ăya/    | for man, respected person, teacher, doctor   |
| 5  | ဆရာမ       | /s'ăya-má/ | for woman, respected person, teacher, doctor |
| 6  | ဦး         | /ù/        | for older man (lit. uncle)                   |
| 7  | ဒေါ်       | /daw/      | for older woman (lit. aunt)                  |
| 8  | ကို        | /ko/       | for man (lit. older brother)                 |
| 9  | မောင်      | /maun/     | for younger man (lit. younger brother)       |
| 10 | မ          | /má/       | for woman (lit. older sister)                |

- |                         |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. ဗိုလ်ချုပ် အောင်ဆန်း | 4. ဦးကိုကို        |
| 2. ဒေါ်အောင်ဆန်းစုကြည်  | 5. မ Jane          |
| 3. ဆရာဂျွန် (John)      | 6. မောင်မောင်မောင် |

ကလေး: /k'ălè/ child

ယောက်ျားလေး: /yauq-cà-lè/ son

မိန်းကလေး: /mein-k'ălè/ daughter

## Day 10 : you & I

|                     | Male speaking                             | Female speaking                  |
|---------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| I                   | ကျနော် ၊ ကျွန်တော် /cǎnaw/                | ကျွန်မ /cǎmá/                    |
| I *INFORMAL*        | ငါ /nga/                                  | ငါ /nga/                         |
| you (sg)            | ခင်ဗျား /k'in-byà/                        | ရှင် /shin/                      |
| you (sg) *INFORMAL* | မင်း /mìn/                                | နင် /nin/                        |
| he/she/it           | သူ /thu/                                  | သူ /thu/                         |
| we                  | ကျနော်တို့ /cǎnaw-dó/                     | ကျွန်မတို့ /cǎmá-dó/             |
| you (pl)            | ခင်ဗျားတို့ /k'in-byà-dó/                 | ရှင်တို့ /shin-dó/               |
| they                | သူတို့ /thu-dó/                           | သူတို့ /thu-dó/                  |
| myself              | ကျွန်တော့်ကိုယ်ကျွန်တော် /cǎnaw-ko-cǎnaw/ | ကျွန်မကိုယ်ကျွန်မ /cǎmá-ko-cǎmá/ |

-အကြီး /-ǎcì/ the older  
 -အငယ် /-ǎngēh/ the younger  
 -အလတ် /-ǎlaq/ the middle

## Day 11 : suffix -တယ်

-တယ် (V~)

Romeo 2008: 67-68:

“တယ် ‘REALIS’ *obligatorily occurs at the end of clauses to mark:*

- 1) *the reality of the event, i.e. its past or present existence in the real world of events in esse, as well as*
- 2) *the declarative quality of the utterance that describes the event itself.”*

မိုးရွာနေတယ်။ /mò-ywa ne deh/ (It is/was raining.) [Okell and Allott 2001: 94]”

Okell & A 2001: 94:

“တယ် (V~) => *indicates general statement of realised or non-future state; also habitual action, ...*”

|             |                |                                 |
|-------------|----------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 စားတယ်။   | /sà-deh/       | (s.o.) eats. OR (s.o.) ate.     |
| 2 သောက်တယ်။ | /thauq-teh/    | (s.o.) drinks. OR (s.o.) drank. |
| 3 လာတယ်။    | /la-deh/       | (s.o.) comes. OR (s.o.) came.   |
| 4 ထိုင်တယ်။ | /t'ain-deh/    | (s.o.) sits. OR (s.o.) sat.     |
| 5 အိပ်တယ်။  | /eiq-pyaw-deh/ | (s.o.) sleeps. OR (s.o.) slept. |

Notice that Burmese conversation often omit the subject and object. Who the subject is and what the object is will depend on the context of conversation.

အဖိုး /ǎp'ò/ grandpa

အဘွား /ǎp'wà/ grandma

မြေး /myè/ grandchild

## Day 12 : object

Objects are usually placed before the verb:

|   |                        |                           |                                 |
|---|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | ထမင်းစားတယ်။           | /t'əmìn-sà-deh/           | (s.o.) eats rice.               |
| 2 | မုန့်ဟင်းခါးစားတယ်။    | /moún-hìn-gà-sà-deh/      | (s.o.) eats mohinga.            |
| 3 | ဟင်းသီးဟင်းရွက်စားတယ်။ | /hìn-thì-hìn-yweq-sà-deh/ | (s.o.) eats vegetables.         |
| 4 | ကော်ဖီသောက်တယ်။        | /kaw-p'i-thauq-deh/       | (s.o.) drinks coffee.           |
| 5 | လက်ဖက်ရည်သောက်တယ်။     | /lǎp'eq-yeh-thauq-deh/    | (s.o.) drinks Burmese milk tea. |

Write down 9 sentences about what you eat and drink. Read it out loud.

|   |                |    |
|---|----------------|----|
| 1 | Coke သောက်တယ်။ | 6  |
| 2 |                | 7  |
| 3 |                | 8  |
| 4 |                | 9  |
| 5 |                | 10 |

အရောင် /ǎyaun/ colour

အနက် ၊ အမည်း /ǎneq, ǎmèh/ black

အဖြူ /ǎp'yu/ white

## Day 13 : negative sentence မ — ဘူး

| Affirmative | Negative   | Romanization  | Depend on context, it can mean: |
|-------------|------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 စားတယ်။   | မစားဘူး။   | /mǎsà-bù/     | (I) am not eating.              |
| 2 သောက်တယ်။ | မသောက်ဘူး။ | /mǎthauq-p'ù/ | (He) doesn't drink.             |
| 3 လာတယ်။    | မလာဘူး။    | /mǎla-bù/     | (They) didn't come.             |
| 4 ပူတယ်။    | မပူဘူး။    | /mǎpu-bù/     | (It)'s not hot.                 |
| 5 အေးတယ်။   | မအေးဘူး။   | /mǎ-è-bù/     | (It) was not cold.              |

Write down 5 sentences (verbs) along with the negative sentences. Read it out loud.

| Affirmative | Negative |
|-------------|----------|
| 1           |          |
| 2           |          |
| 3           |          |
| 4           |          |
| 5           |          |

ပူတယ် /pu-deh/ to be hot  
 အေးတယ် /è-deh/ to be cold  
 ကောင်းတယ် /kaùn-deh/ to be good

## Day 14 : V-ing —နေ

| Affirmative | V-ing       | Romanization   | Depend on context, it can mean: |
|-------------|-------------|----------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 စားတယ်။   | စားနေတယ်။   | /sà-ne-deh/    | (He) is eating.                 |
| 2 သောက်တယ်။ | သောက်နေတယ်။ | /thauq-ne-teh/ | (They) are drinking.            |
| 3 လာတယ်။    | လာနေတယ်။    | /la-ne-deh/    | (I) am coming.                  |
| 4 ထိုင်တယ်။ | ထိုင်နေတယ်။ | /t'ain-ne-deh/ | (Mom) is sitting.               |
| 5 အိပ်တယ်။  | အိပ်နေတယ်။  | /eiq-ne-deh/   | (Grandpa) is sleeping.          |

Write down 5 sentences (verbs) along with the V-ing sentences. Read it out loud.

| Affirmative | V-ing |
|-------------|-------|
| 1           |       |
| 2           |       |
| 3           |       |
| 4           |       |
| 5           |       |

အိပ်ပျော်တယ် /eiq-pyaw-deh/ to sleep  
 ဖတ်တယ် /p'aq-teh/ to read  
 ရေးတယ် /yè-deh/ to write

## Day 15 : please don't မ — ပါနဲ့

| Affirmative | Don't —      | Romanization    | Depend on context, it can mean: |
|-------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 စားတယ်။   | မစားပါနဲ့။   | /mäsa-ba-né/    | Please don't eat (that).        |
| 2 သောက်တယ်။ | မသောက်ပါနဲ့။ | /mäthauq-ba-né/ | Please don't drink (that).      |
| 3 လာတယ်။    | မလာပါနဲ့။    | /mäla-ba-né/    | Please don't come.              |
| 4 ထိုင်တယ်။ | မထိုင်ပါနဲ့။ | /mä'tain-ba-né/ | Please don't sit.               |
| 5 အိပ်တယ်။  | မအိပ်ပါနဲ့။  | /mäeiq-ba-né/   | Please don't sleep.             |

Write down 5 sentences (verbs) along with the don't sentences. Read it out loud.

| Affirmative | Don't — |
|-------------|---------|
| 1           |         |
| 2           |         |
| 3           |         |
| 4           |         |
| 5           |         |

ပေးတယ် /pè-deh/ to give  
ယူတယ် /yu-deh/ to take, to have (in cafe, ...)  
စီးတယ် /sì-deh/ to ride

## Day 16 : question with —လား:

| Affirmative | Question  | Romanization | Depend on context, it can mean: |
|-------------|-----------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 စားတယ်။   | စားလား။   | /sà-là/      | Are (you) eating?               |
| 2 သောက်တယ်။ | သောက်လား။ | /thauq-là/   | Did (she) drink (that)?         |
| 3 လာတယ်။    | လာလား။    | /la-là/      | Does (he) come?                 |
| 4 ပူတယ်။    | ပူလား။    | /pu-là/      | Was (it) hot?                   |
| 5 အေးတယ်။   | အေးလား။   | /è-là/       | Is (it) cold?                   |

Write down 5 sentences (verbs) along with the questions. Read it out loud.

| Affirmative | Questions |
|-------------|-----------|
| 1           |           |
| 2           |           |
| 3           |           |
| 4           |           |
| 5           |           |

မောင်းတယ် /màun-deh/ to drive  
 ဖွင့်တယ် /p'wín-deh/ to open sth  
 ပိတ်တယ် /peiq-teh/ to close sth

## Day 17 : voicing rules (BBE p. 132)

Burmese has voicing rule (Okell BBE 2009: 132-133):

*“When two syllables are joined together to form a compound word, there is often a change in the second syllable: its first consonant is “voiced”.”*

Voicing rule applied: စားတယ် /sa + teh/, teh will be voiced to deh, so we will pronounce it sa-deh (means to eat).

Voicing rule is blocked when the syllable end with glottal stop /-q/.

Voicing rule blocked: စစ်တယ် /saq + teh/, teh is NOT voiced to deh, so we will pronounce it saq-teh (means to be spicy).

| Voicing rule applied |              | Voicing rule is blocked |               |
|----------------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1 လာတယ်။             | /la-deh/     | သောက်တယ်။               | /thauq-teh/   |
| 2 ထိုင်ပါ။           | /t'ain-ba/   | သောက်ပါ။                | /thauq-pa/    |
| 3 မပူဘူး။            | /măpu-bù/    | မသောက်ဘူး။              | /măthauq-p'ù/ |
| 4 သုံးဆယ်            | /thoùn-zeh/  | ရှစ်ဆယ်                 | /shiq-s'eh/   |
| 5 သုံးခွက်           | /thoùn-gweq/ | ရှစ်ခွက်                | /shiq-k'weq/  |

More examples:

- ပြောတတ်တယ် /pyàw + taq + teh/: taq will be voiced to daq, teh is NOT voiced to deh, so we will pronounce it /pyàw-daq-teh/.

ထားတယ် /t'à-deh/ to put, to place sth  
 ထည့်တယ် /t'èh-deh/ to put in  
 ရေ /ye/ water

## Day 18 : weakening (BBE p. 134)

Okell BBE 2009: 134-135:

*“When a syllable is weakened, its rhyme is replaced by the vowel -ă. Weakening occurs regularly with tiq, hniq, k’un-hniq (“one, two, seven”) when they are joined to a following word; Weakening also occurs regularly in combinations in which -meh or -teh/-deh is followed by -là or -lèh; In most other contexts weakening occurs sporadically and unpredictably.”*

End with -q:

- တစ်ဆယ် tiq + s'eh = /tă-s'eh/.
- နှစ်ရာ hniq + ya = /hnă-ya/.

Combination with particle:

- စပ်သလား။ (စပ် + တယ် + လား) saq-teh + là = /saq-thălà/.
- ဘာစားမလဲ။ (ဘာ + စား + မယ် + လဲ) ba + sa-meh + lèh = /ba sa-mălèh/.

Unpredictably:

- ငါးကင် ngà + gin = /ngăgin/ (grilled fish).

(နွား)နို့ / (nwà)-nó/ milk

ကော်ဖီ /kaw-p'i/ coffee

ရေနွေးကြမ်း /ye-nwè-jàn/ plain tea

## Day 19 : Burmese aspect versus English tense

Romeo 2008: 1:

*“Aspect is the verbal category that most typically describes the ways “... of viewing the internal temporal constituency of a situation” (Comrie 1976: 3).*

*Aspect differs considerably from tense, “... which relates the time of the situation referred to to some other time, usually to the moment of speaking” (Comrie 1976: 1-2).*

*In other words, aspect indicates the temporal structure of an event, while tense indicates the temporal location of an event (Bhat 1999:43).”*

Romeo 2008: 67-68:

တယ် “*REALIS*’ obligatorily occurs at the end of clauses to mark

1) *the reality of the event, i.e. its past or present existence in the real world of events in esse, as well as*

2) *the declarative quality of the utterance that describes the event itself.”*

မိုးရွာနေတယ် (*It is/was raining.*) [Okell and Allott 2001: 94]

မယ် “*IRREALIS*’ marks the non-reality of the event, i.e. its description as existing not in the real world of events in esse, but only in the non-real, possible, or projected world of events in posse.”

သွားပါအုံးမယ် (*“I’ll be going.”*) [Okell and Allott 2001: 161]

လက်ဖက်ရည် /lăp’eq-ye/ tea

ထမင်း /t’ămìn/ cooked rice

အာလူး /a-lù/ potato

## Day 20 : suffix —မယ်

- မယ် (V~)

Romeo 2008: 67-68:

မယ် “*IRREALIS*’ marks the non-reality of the event, i.e. its description as existing not in the real world of events in esse, but only in the non-real, possible, or projected world of events in posse.”

သွားပါအုံးမယ် (“I’ll be going.”) [Okell and Allott 2001: 161]

Okell & A 2001: 161:

“မယ် (V~) => will V, is going to V, would V, must V; ...”

| Realis      | Irrealis  |             |
|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1 စားတယ်။   | စားမယ်။   | /sà-meh/    |
| 2 သောက်တယ်။ | သောက်မယ်။ | /thauq-meh/ |
| 3 လာတယ်။    | လာမယ်။    | /la-meh/    |
| 4 ထိုင်တယ်။ | ထိုင်မယ်။ | /t’ain-meh/ |
| 5 အိပ်မယ်။  | အိပ်မယ်။  | /eiq-meh/   |

ခေါက်ဆွဲ /k’auq-s’wèh/ noodle

နန်းကြီး /nàn-jì/ thick noodle

ကြာဇံ /ca-zan/ vermicelli

## Day 21 : vocab: verbs

Write down the negative, V-ing, question, and irrealis of these sentences

|    |            |             | Negative             | V-ing | Question | Irrealis |
|----|------------|-------------|----------------------|-------|----------|----------|
| 1  | ဖတ်တယ်။    | /p'aq-teh/  | to read              |       |          |          |
| 2  | ရေးတယ်။    | /yè-deh/    | to write             |       |          |          |
| 3  | ပေးတယ်။    | /pè-deh/    | to give              |       |          |          |
| 4  | ယူတယ်။     | /yu-deh/    | to take, to have     |       |          |          |
| 5  | စီးတယ်။    | /sì-deh/    | to ride              |       |          |          |
| 6  | မောင်းတယ်။ | /màun-deh/  | to drive (car)       |       |          |          |
| 7  | ဖွင့်တယ်။  | /p'wín-deh/ | to open sth          |       |          |          |
| 8  | ပိတ်တယ်။   | /peiq-teh/  | to close sth         |       |          |          |
| 9  | ထားတယ်။    | /t'à-deh/   | to put, to place sth |       |          |          |
| 10 | ထည့်တယ်။   | /t'éh-deh/  | to put in            |       |          |          |

အသား: /ǎthà/ meat

ကြက်သား: /ceq-thà/ chicken

ဘဲသား: /bèh-dhà/ duck

## Day 22 : suffix —ပြီ

Okell & A 2001: 128:

“ပြီ (V~) => is V-ing (now), has (already) V-ed, is V-ed (by now);

- ရောက်ပြီလား။ *Is he here yet? Has he arrived yet?*
- ရေဆူနေပြီလား။ *Is the water boiling yet? Has the water started boiling?*
- ထမင်းကျက်ပြီလား။ *Is the rice cooked yet?*”

1 စားပြီ။ /sà-bi/

2 သောက်ပြီ။ /thauq-pi/

3 လာပြီ။ /la-bi/

4 ထိုင်ပြီ။ /t'ain-bi/

5 အိပ်ပြီ။ /eiq-pi/

ဝက်သား /weq-thà/ pork

အဲသား /ámèh-dhà/ beef

ငါး /ngà/ fish

## Day 23 : suffix —ပြီး

Okell & A 2001: 130:

“(a) ပြီး as a suffix (V~) => “to finish, to complete V-ing;”

- ငါ့ စာအုပ်ဖတ်ပြီးပြီလား။ *Have you finished reading my book?*
- မနက်ဖန် ကျွန်ုပ်မှ ဖတ်ပြီးမယ်။ *I won't finish reading it till tomorrow.*

“(b) ပြီး as a suffix (V~) => “to have V-ed, have already V-ed;”

- အဲဒီကား ကြည့်ပြီးပြီလား။ *Have you seen that film (yet)?*
- အိမ်ပြန်ရောက်ပြီးတဲ့အခါ။ *After they had got back home.*”

1 စားပြီးပြီ။ /sà-pì-bi/

2 သောက်ပြီးပြီ။ /thauq-pì-bi/

3 လာပြီးပြီ။ /la-pì-bi/

4 ထိုင်ပြီးပြီ။ /t'ain-pì-bi/

5 အိပ်ပြီးပြီ။ /eiq-pì-bi/

ပုစွန် /bǎzun/ prawn

ကြက်ဥ /ceq-ú/ chicken egg

သက်သတ်လွတ် /theq-thaq-luq/ vegetarian food

## Day 24 : vocab: food

Okell BBE 2009: 173-178

|                |               |              |                   |                 |                       |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1) ရေ          | /ye/          | water        | 16) ငါး           | /ngà/           | fish                  |
| 2) (နွား)နို့  | /(nwà)-nó/    | milk         | 17) ပုစွန်        | /băzun/         | prawn                 |
| 3) ကော်ဖီ      | /kaw-p'i/     | coffee       | 18) ကြက်ဥ         | /ceq-ú/         | chicken egg           |
| 4) ရေနွေးကြမ်း | /ye-nwè-jàn/  | plain tea    | 19) သက်သတ်လွတ်    | /theq-thaq-luq/ | vegetarian food       |
| 5) လက်ဖက်ရည်   | /lăp'eq-ye/   | tea          | 20) ဟင်း          | /hìn/           | curry                 |
| 6) ထမင်း       | /t'ămìn/      | cooked rice  | 21) ရေခဲမုန့်     | /ye-gèh-moún/   | ice cream             |
| 7) အလူး        | /a-lù/        | potato       | 22) ကိတ်မုန့်     | /keiq-moún/     | cake                  |
| 8) ခေါက်ဆွဲ    | /k'auq-s'wèh/ | noodle       | 23) ပေါင်မုန့်    | /paun-moún/     | bread                 |
| 9) နန်းကြီး    | /nàn-jì/      | thick noodle | 24) ပေါက်စီ       | /pauq-si/       | Chinese dumpling      |
| 10) ကြာဇံ      | /ca-zan/      | vermicelli   | 25) ကော်ပြန်ကြော် | /kaw-byán-jaw/  | spring roll           |
| 11) အသား       | /ăthà/        | meat         | 26) -ကြော်        | /caw/           | fried                 |
| 12) ကြက်သား    | /ceq-thà/     | chicken      | 27) -ပေါင်း       | /paùn/          | steamed               |
| 13) ဘဲသား      | /bèh-dhà/     | duck         | 28) -ပြုတ်        | /pyouq/         | boiled                |
| 14) ဝက်သား     | /weq-thà/     | pork         | 29) -ခြောက်       | /c'auq/         | dried                 |
| 15) အမဲသား     | /ămèh-dhà/    | beef         | 30) -ကင်          | /kin/           | baked, roast, grilled |

ဟင်း /hìn/ curry

ရေခဲမုန့် /ye-gèh-moún/ ice cream

ကိတ်မုန့် /keiq-moún/ cake

## Day 25 : suffix —လဲ (1)

|   |                 |                    |                               |
|---|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | ဘာလဲ။           | /ba-lèh/           | What? / What is it?           |
| 2 | ဒါဘာလဲ။         | /da-ba-lèh/        | What is that?                 |
| 3 | ဒါဘာရေလဲ။       | /da-ba-ye-lèh/     | What (kind of) water is that? |
| 4 | ဘယ်ရေခွက်လဲ။    | /beh-ye-gweq-lèh/  | Which water?                  |
| 5 | ဘယ်သူလဲ။        | /beh-du-lèh/       | Who?                          |
| 6 | ဘယ်သူထိုင်လဲ။   | /beh-du-t'ain-lèh/ | Who is sitting?               |
| 7 | ဘယ်ဟာလဲ။        | /beh-ha-lèh/       | Which one?                    |
| 8 | ဘယ်ဟာဈေးကြီးလဲ။ | /beh-ha-zè-ji-lèh/ | Which one is expensive?       |

ပေါင်မုန့် /paun-moún/ bread

ပေါက်စီ /pauq-si/ Chinese dumpling

ကော်ပြန့်ကြော် /kaw-byán-jaw/ spring roll

## Day 26 : suffix —လဲ (2)

|    |                  |                        |                                      |
|----|------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1  | ဘယ်မှာလဲ။        | /beh-hma-lèh/          | Where?                               |
| 2  | ဘယ်မှာနေလဲ။      | /beh-hma-ne-lèh/       | Where do (you) live?                 |
| 3  | ဘယ်ကလဲ။          | /beh-gá-lèh/           | Where are (you) from?                |
| 4  | ဘယ်ကလာလဲ။        | /beh-gá-la-lèh/        | Where are (you) coming from?         |
| 5  | ဘယ်ကိုလဲ။        | /beh-go-lèh/           | Where are (you) going?               |
| 6  | ဘယ်ကိုသွားလဲ။    | /beh-go-thwà-lèh/      | Where are (you) going?               |
| 7  | ဘယ်တုန်းကလဲ။     | /beh-douùn-gá-lèh/     | When? (happened in the past)         |
| 8  | ဘယ်တုန်းကဝယ်လဲ။  | /beh-douùn-gá-weh-lèh/ | When did (you) buy (it)?             |
| 9  | ဘယ်တော့လဲ။       | /beh-dáw-lèh/          | When? (irrealis)                     |
| 10 | ဘယ်တော့ဝယ်လဲ။    | /beh-dáw-weh-lèh/      | When will (you) buy (it)? (irrealis) |
| 11 | ဘယ်အချိန်လဲ။     | /beh-ăc' ein-lèh/      | What time?                           |
| 12 | ဘယ်နှစ်နာရီလဲ။   | /beh-hnăna-yi-lèh/     | At what hour?                        |
| 13 | ဘယ်နေ့လဲ။        | /beh-né-lèh/           | What day is it?                      |
| 14 | ဘယ်နှစ်ရက်နေ့လဲ။ | /beh-hnăyeq-né-lèh/    | What date is it?                     |

-ကြော် /caw/ fried

-ပေါင်း /paùn/ steamed

-ငြုတ် /pyouq/ boiled

## Day 27 : suffix —လဲ (3)

|   |                   |                        |  |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|--|
| 1 | ဘယ်လိုလဲ။         | /beh-lo-lèh/           | How?                                       |
| 2 | ဘယ်လိုသွားလဲ။     | /beh-lo-thwà-lèh/      | How do/did (you) go?                       |
| 3 | ဘာဖြစ်လို့လဲ။     | /ba-p'yiq-ló-lèh/      | Why? What is happening?                    |
| 4 | ဘာဖြစ်လို့သွားလဲ။ | /ba-p'yiq-ló-thwà-lèh/ | Why do/did (you) go?                       |
| 5 | ဘယ်လောက်လဲ။       | /beh-lauq-lèh/         | How much (is it)?                          |
| 6 | ဘယ်နှစ်ခုယူမလဲ။   | /beh-hnăk'ú-yu-mălèh/  | How many item(s) would you (like to) take? |

-ခြောက် /c'auq/ dried  
 -ကင် /kin/ baked, roast, grilled  
 -ယောက် /yauq/ c.w. for persons

## Day 28 : numbers

|    |         |             |              |         |
|----|---------|-------------|--------------|---------|
| 1  | ၁       | တစ်         | /tiq/        | 1       |
| 2  | ၂       | နှစ်        | /hniq/       | 2       |
| 3  | ၃       | သုံး        | /thouìn/     | 3       |
| 4  | ၄       | လေး         | /lè/         | 4       |
| 5  | ၅       | ငါး         | /ngà/        | 5       |
| 6  | ၆       | ခြောက်      | /c'auq/      | 6       |
| 7  | ၇       | ခုနစ်       | /k'un-niq/   | 7       |
| 8  | ၈       | ရှစ်        | /shiq/       | 8       |
| 9  | ၉       | ကိုး        | /kò/         | 9       |
| 10 | ၁၀      | (တစ်)ဆယ်    | /(tǎ)-s'eh/  | 10      |
| 11 | ၁၀၀     | တစ်ရာ       | /tǎ-ya/      | 100     |
| 12 | ၁၀၀၀    | (တစ်)ထောင်  | /(tǎ)-t'aun/ | 1000    |
| 13 | ၁၀၀၀၀   | (တစ်)သောင်း | /(tǎ)-thaùn/ | 10000   |
| 14 | ၁၀၀၀၀၀  | (တစ်)သိန်း  | /(tǎ)-thein/ | 100000  |
| 15 | ၁၀၀၀၀၀၀ | (တစ်)သန်း   | /(tǎ)-thàn/  | 1000000 |

ကောင် /kaun/ c.w. for animals

ခု /k'ú/ c.w. for items (general classifier)

ချောင်း /jaùn/ c.w. for thin, long items: sticks,

## Day 29 : counter words

|    |         |         |   |                   |                                      |
|----|---------|---------|---|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1  | ယောက်   | /yauq/  | persons (general classifier)  | မိန်းကလေး(၁)ယောက် | 1 daughter                           |
| 2  | ကောင်   | /kaun/  | animals   | ခွေး(၃)ကောင်      | 3 dogs                               |
| 3  | ခု      | /k'ú/   | items (general classifier)  | Hamburger (၅)ခု   | 5 hamburgers                         |
| 4  | ချောင်း | /c'aùn/ | thin, long items: pencils, sticks, ...  | ထီး(၁)ချောင်း     | 1 umbrella                           |
| 5  | ချပ်    | /c'aq/  | flat items: tables, ...   | စားပွဲ(၁)ချပ်     | 1 piece of table                     |
| 6  | စီး     | /sì/    | vehicles and transport  | ကား(၃)စီး         | 3 cars                               |
| 7  | ဆောင်   | /s'aun/ | buildings: houses, monasteries and royal buildings, ...                                       | အိမ်(၂)ဆောင်      | 2 houses                             |
| 8  | ပွဲ     | /pwèh/  | dishes; offertories   | ထမင်းကြော်(၃)ပွဲ  | 3 portions of fried rice             |
| 9  | ပုလင်း  | /pǎlìn/ | container made of glass: wine, beer, ...  | ပိုင်(၂)ပုလင်း    | 1 bottle of wine                     |
| 10 | လုံး    | /loùn/  | round, long, globular things, fruit, furniture, electronic appliance: phone, TV, aircon, ...  | ဖုန်း(၁)လုံး      | 1 phone                              |
| 11 | ခွက်    | /k'weq/ | cups  | လက်ဖက်ရည်(၈)ခွက်  | 8 cups of tea                        |
| 12 | ထည်     | /t'eh/  | articles of clothing  | လုံချည်(၁)ထည်     | 1 piece of longyi                    |
| 13 | ထုပ်    | /t'ouq/ | packages, paper binded, food packages: take away food package, coffee mix plastic sachet, ... | ကြက်ကြော်(၄)ထုပ်  | 1 take away package of fried chicken |
| 14 | ဘူး     | /bù/    | paper/plastic container: water bottle, ...  | ရေဘူး(၅)ဘူး       | 1 bottle of water                    |

စီး /sì/ c.w. for vehicles and transport

ပွဲ /pwèh/ c.w. for dishes; offertories

ပုလင်း /pǎlìn/ c.w. for container made of glass

## Day 30 : round number rule (BBE p. 165)

Similar to Mandarin and Indonesian (and some other languages), Burmese use counter words.

- English: One book.
- Burmese: စာအုပ်(၁)အုပ် /sa-ouq tə-ouq/ [book-1-counter word].
- Mandarin: 一本书 [1-counter word-book].
- Indonesia: Satu buah buku [1-counter word-book].

We sometimes use counter word in English:

- English: Three cups of coffee.
- Burmese: ကော်ဖီ(၃)ခွက် /kaw-p'i tòun-gweq/ [coffee-3-counter word].
- Mandarin: 三杯咖啡 [3-counter word-coffee].
- Indonesia: 3 cangkir kopi [3-counter word-coffee].

Additionally, Burmese has **Round Number Rule** (Okell BBE 2009: 165).

When the # ends in 0, the sequence of # and counter words (c.w.) are different:

1) For round number (number ends with 0, EXCEPTION 10):

[N] + (အ) c.w. + # + [V]

ဟော့ဒေါ့အခုနှစ်ဆယ်ပေးပါ။ /háw-dáw ṣgu hnăs'eh pè ba/ = Twenty hotdog, please. [object + c.w. + #]

2) For 10 and when the number does not end with 0:

[N] + # + c.w. + [V]

ဟော့ဒေါ့တစ်ခုပေးပါ။ /háw-dáw tǎk'u pè ba/ = 1 hotdog, please. [object + # + c.w.]

ဟော့ဒေါ့(၅)ခုပေးပါ။ /háw-dáw ngà-gu pè ba/ = 5 hotdog, please. [object + # + c.w.]

ဟော့ဒေါ့ဆယ်ခုပေးပါ။ /háw-dáw s'eh-gu pè ba/ = 10 hotdog, please. (notice when we say 10: it is s'eh, not tǎs'eh)

လုံး /loùn/ c.w. for globular things, fruit, furniture, electronic

ခွက် /k'weq/ c.w. for cups

ဘူး /bù/ c.w. for paper/plastic container

## Notes

Let us know your feedback! Visit [facebook.com/bamalearnburmese/](https://facebook.com/bamalearnburmese/).

### Setting up your computer:

- [Setting up on Windows](#)
- [Setting up on MAC](#)
- [Zawgyi Unicode Converter](#)

### Dictionaries:

- Judson Dictionary. 1921.
- Burmese & English Compact Dictionary, compiled by Nance Cunningham & Aung Soe Min by Paiboon Publishing. 30,000 words. 2009. Abe Books.
- <http://sealang.net/burmese/dictionary.htm>

### References and other resources:

- Burmese By Ear (BBE), by John Okell. <http://www.soas.ac.uk/bbe/>. 2009.
- Burmese/ Myanmar: a dictionary of grammatical forms, by John Okell and Anna J. Allott, Curzon Press. 2001.
- Burmese: An Introduction to the Spoken Language, Books 1 and 2, by John Okell. 1994.
- First Steps in Burmese, by John Okell. 1989.
  
- [BAMALearnBurmese.com](http://BAMALearnBurmese.com)
- <https://quizlet.com/BAMALearnBurmese> for flashcards
- <http://www.seasite.niu.edu/burmese/language.htm>
- [www.asiapearltravels.com/language/intro\\_burmese.php](http://www.asiapearltravels.com/language/intro_burmese.php)

# Appendix 1: 33 Initial Consonants

Source: မြန်မာဖတ်စာ သူငယ်တန်း page 16

|                     |              |                 |                   |                         |
|---------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| က<br>ကကြီး          | ခ<br>ခကွေး   | ဂ<br>ဂငယ်       | ဃ<br>ဃကြီး        | င<br>င                  |
| စ<br>စလုံး          | ဆ<br>ဆလိမ်   | ဇ<br>ဇကွဲ       | ဈ<br>ဈမုဉ်းဆွဲ    | ည/ဥ<br>ညကြီး /<br>ညကလေး |
| ဋ<br>ဋသန်လျင်းချိတ် | ဌ<br>ဌဝမ်းဘဲ | ဍ<br>ဍရင်ကောက်  | ဎ<br>ဎရေမှုတ်     | ဏ<br>ဏကြီး              |
| တ<br>တဝမ်းပူ        | ထ<br>ထဆင်ထူး | ဒ<br>ဒထွေး      | ဓ<br>ဓအောက်ခြိုက် | န<br>နငယ်               |
| ပ<br>ပစောက်         | ဖ<br>ဖဦးထုပ် | ဗ<br>ဗထက်ခြိုက် | ဘ<br>ဘကုန်း       | မ<br>မ                  |
| ယ<br>ယပက်လက်        | ရ<br>ရကောက်  | လ<br>လငယ်       | ဝ<br>ဝ            | သ<br>သ                  |
|                     | ဟ<br>ဟ       | ဠ<br>ဠကြီး      | အ<br>အ            |                         |

## Appendix 2: 3 words a day (1)

|    |   |    |  |    |   |
|----|---|----|--|----|---|
| 1  | ဆရာကြီး /s'äya-jì/ teacher                          | 16 | ကျွန်တော် /cǎnaw/ I (male speaker)                   | 31 | အဖိုး /ǎp'ò/ grandpa                            |
| 2  | ဆရာ /s'äya/ male teacher                            | 17 | ကျွန်မ /cǎmá/ I (female speaker)                     | 32 | အဖွား /ǎp'wà/ grandma                           |
| 3  | ဆရာမ /s'äya-má/ female teacher                      | 18 | ငါ /nga/ I *INFORMAL*                                | 33 | မြေး /myè/ grandchild                           |
| 4  | ဦးလေး /ù lè/ uncle                                  | 19 | မိသားစု /mí-thà-sú/ family                           | 34 | အရောင် /ǎyaun/ colour                           |
| 5  | ဒေါ်ဒေါ် /daw daw/ aunt                             | 20 | အဖေ /ǎp'e/ father                                    | 35 | အနက် ၊ အမည်း /ǎneq, ǎmèh/ black                 |
| 6  | အစ်ကို /ǎko/ older brother                          | 21 | အမေ /ǎme/ mother                                     | 36 | အဖြူ /ǎp'yu/ white                              |
| 7  | အစ်မ /ǎmá/ older sister                             | 22 | အိမ်ထောင် /ein-daun/ household                       | 37 | ပူတယ် /pu-deh/ to be hot                        |
| 8  | ညီလေး /nyi/ younger brother (male speaker)          | 23 | အမျိုးသား /ǎmyò-dhà/ husband, boyfriend, man         | 38 | အေးတယ် /è-deh/ to be cold                       |
| 9  | မောင်လေး /maun-lè/ younger brother (female speaker) | 24 | အမျိုးသမီး /ǎmyò-tǎmì/ wife, girlfriend, lady, woman | 39 | ကောင်းတယ် /kaùn-deh/ to be good                 |
| 10 | ညီမ /nyi má/ younger sister                         | 25 | ကလေး /k'ǎlè/ child                                   | 40 | အိပ်ပျော့တယ် /eiq-pyaw-deh/ to sleep            |
| 11 | သား /thà/ son                                       | 26 | ယောက်ျားလေး /yauq-cà-lè/ son                         | 41 | ဖတ်တယ် /p'aq-teh/ to read                       |
| 12 | သမီး /thǎmì/ daughter                               | 27 | မိန်းကလေး /meìn-k'ǎlè/ daughter                      | 42 | ရေးတယ် /yè-deh/ to write                        |
| 13 | ဗိုလ်ချုပ် /bo-jouq/ General                        | 28 | —အကြီး /—ǎcì/ the older / larger                     | 43 | ပေးတယ် /pè-deh/ to give                         |
| 14 | ဗိုလ်မှူး /bo-hmù/ Major                            | 29 | —အငယ် /—ǎngeh/ the younger / smaller                 | 44 | ယူတယ် /yu-deh/ to take, to have (in cafe, shop) |
| 15 | မင်္ဂလာပါ /min-gǎla-ba/ greetings                   | 30 | —အလတ် /—ǎlaq/ the middle                             | 45 | စီးတယ် /sì-deh/ to ride                         |

## Appendix 2: 3 words a day (2)

|    |                                       |    |  |    |   |
|----|---------------------------------------|----|--|----|---|
| 46 | မောင်းတယ် /màun-deh/ to drive (car)   | 61 | အသား /ǎthà/ meat                           | 76 | -ကြော် /caw/ fried  |
| 47 | ဖွင့်တယ် /p'wín-deh/ to open sth      | 62 | ကြက်သား /ceq-thà/ chicken                  | 77 | -ပေါင်း /paùn/ steamed  |
| 48 | ပိတ်တယ် /peiq-teh/ to close sth       | 63 | ဘဲသား /bèh-dhà/ duck                       | 78 | -ပြုတ် /pyouq/ boiled   |
| 49 | ထားတယ် /t'à-deh/ to put, to place sth | 64 | ဝက်သား /weq-thà/ pork                      | 79 | -ခြောက် /c'auq/ dried   |
| 50 | ထည့်တယ် /t'éh-deh/ to put in          | 65 | အမဲသား /ǎmèh-dhà/ beef                     | 80 | -ကင် /kin/ baked, roast, grilled  |
| 51 | ရေ /ye/ water                         | 66 | ငါး /ngà/ fish                             | 81 | ယောက် /yauq/ c.w. for persons   |
| 52 | (နွား)နို့ /((nwà)-nó/ milk           | 67 | ပုစွန် /bǎzun/ prawn                       | 82 | ကောင် /kaun/ c.w. for animals   |
| 53 | ကော်ဖီ /kaw-p'i/ coffee               | 68 | ကြက်ဥ /ceq-ú/ chicken egg                  | 83 | ခု /k'ú/ c.w. for items (general classifier)  |
| 54 | ရေနွေးကြမ်း /ye-nwè-jàn/ plain tea    | 69 | သက်သတ်လွတ် /theq-thaq-luq/ vegetarian food | 84 | ချောင်း /jaùn/ c.w. for thin, long items: pencils, sticks, ...                            |
| 55 | လက်ဖက်ရည် /lǎp'eq-ye/ tea             | 70 | ဟင်း /hìn/ curry                           | 85 | စီး /sì/ c.w. for vehicles and transport  |
| 56 | ထမင်း /t'ǎmìn/ cooked rice            | 71 | ရေခဲမုန့် /ye-gèh-moún/ ice cream          | 86 | ပွဲ /pwèh/ c.w. for dishes; offertories   |
| 57 | အာလူး /a-lù/ potato                   | 72 | ကိတ်မုန့် /keiq-moún/ cake                 | 87 | ပုလင်း /pǎlìn/ c.w. for container made of glass: wine, beer, ...                          |
| 58 | ခေါက်ဆွဲ /k'auq-s'wèh/ noodle         | 73 | ပေါင်မုန့် /paun-moún/ bread               | 88 | လုံး /loùn/ c.w. for round, long, globular things, fruit, furniture, electronic appliance |
| 59 | နန်းကြီး /nàn-jì/ thick noodle        | 74 | ပေါက်စီ /pauq-si/ Chinese dumpling         | 89 | ခွက် /k'weq/ c.w. for cups  |
| 60 | ကြာဇံ /ca-zan/ vermicelli             | 75 | ကော်ပြန်ကြော် /kaw-byán-jaw/ spring roll   | 90 | ဘူး /bù/ c.w. for paper/plastic container   |

# Appendix 3: BAMA Cheatsheet

**Initial consonants** (in traditional alphabetical order)

|       |     |    |     |     |
|-------|-----|----|-----|-----|
| က     | ခ   | ဂ  | ဃ   | င   |
| k-    | k'- | g- | g'  | ng- |
| စ     | ဆ   | ဇ  | ည   | ဗ   |
| s-    | s'- | z- | ny- | ny' |
| တ     | ထ   | ဒ  | န   | ဓ   |
| t-    | t'- | d- | d'  | n-  |
| ပ     | ဖ   | ဗ  | မ   | မ   |
| p-    | p'- | b- | m-  | m-  |
| ယ     | ရ   | လ  | ဝ   | သ   |
| y-/r- | r-  | w- | th- | th- |
| ဟ     | အ   | အ  |     |     |
| h-    | .   | .  |     |     |

**Medial consonants**

|     |     |     |    |
|-----|-----|-----|----|
| ချ  | ပြ  | ဝ   | ှ  |
| -y- | -y' | -w- | h- |

**Modified pronunciations**

|    |     |    |     |     |         |
|----|-----|----|-----|-----|---------|
| ကျ | ချ  | ရ  | ယ   | ယ   | ယျ      |
| ကြ | ခြ  | ရ  | ရ   | လျ  | လျ      |
| င- | c'- | f- | ny- | sh- | ly-/sh- |

**Attached vowel symbols and tone marking**

*Creaky high tone*

|    |    |     |    |     |     |    |
|----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|----|
| ဝ  | ဝိ | ဝိ* | ဝဲ | ဝဲ  | ဝဲ  | ဝဲ |
| -á | -i | -ú  | -é | -éh | -áw | -ò |

*Low tone*

|     |    |     |    |     |     |    |
|-----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|----|
| ဝာ* | ဝိ | ဝိ* | ဝေ | ဝေ  | ဝေ* | ဝေ |
| -á  | -i | -ú  | -e | -éh | -áw | -ò |

*Plain high tone*

|     |    |     |    |     |     |    |
|-----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|----|
| ဝာ* | ဝိ | ဝိ* | ဝေ | ဝေ  | ဝေ* | ဝေ |
| -á  | -i | -ú  | -é | -éh | -áw | -ò |

\* has elongated version.

**Final consonants**

|     |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| ဝစ် | ဝက် | ဝတ် | ဝင် | ဝန် |
| -iq | -eq | -aq | -in | -an |

**Combinations of vowel symbol and final consonant**

*Stopped finals*

|      |       |       |      |      |
|------|-------|-------|------|------|
| ဝိတ် | ဝိုက် | ဝောက် | ဝုတ် | ဝွတ် |
| -eiq | -aiq  | -auq  | -ouq | -uq  |

*Nasal finals*

|      |       |       |       |      |
|------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| ဝိန် | ဝိုင် | ဝောင် | ဝိုန် | ဝွန် |
| -ein | -ain  | -aun  | -oun  | -un  |

**Tones**

|                  |          |                 |
|------------------|----------|-----------------|
| လန်              | လန်      | လန်             |
| lán              | lan      | lán             |
| creaky high tone | low tone | plain high tone |

**Free-standing vowel syllables**

|    |   |    |   |    |
|----|---|----|---|----|
| အ  | ဇ | ဃ  | ဇ | အ  |
| á  | f | ú  | é | áw |
| အ  | ဃ | ဃ  | ဇ | အ  |
| a  | i | u  | e | aw |
| အ: | - | ဃ: | - | -  |
| á  | . | ú  | . | .  |

\* In certain words this syllable is read with a high tone é.

**Numbers**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ၀ | ၁ | ၂ | ၃ | ၄ | ၅ | ၆ | ၇ | ၈ | ၉ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|