

Gerudo Language
*(The Legend of Zelda: Breath of
the Wild)*

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Known vocabulary

sav'aaq [sava:k]
“Good day”; “Hello”

sav'orr [savor]*
“Sleep well”; “Good
night”**

vai [vai]*
“woman” ; “women”

sav'otta [savottə]
“Good morning”

sav'orq [savork]*
“Good bye”

vehvi [ve:vi]*
“child”; “baby”**

sav'saaba [savəsa:bə]
“Good evening”

sarqso [sarkso]*
“Thank you”

voe [vo:] or [voe]*
“man” ; “men”

vasaaq [vasa:k]
“welcome”

vaba [vabə]*
“grandmother”

vure [vur] or [vure]*
“bird”

*IPA and pronunciation estimated

** Meaning estimated based on context

Assumed vocabulary

sav' [sav] or [savə]*
“good”

orr [or]**
“sleep”; “night”***

otta [ottə]
“morning”

orq [ork]**
“bye”

saaba [sa:bə]
“evening”

aaq [a:k]
“day”;

*The [ə] seems to be added when the second word begins with a consonant, but isn't present when the second word begins with a vowel

**IPA and pronunciation estimated

*** Meaning estimated based on context

Gerudo names

(not a complete list)

*many names seem Romanized and not spelled phonetically

Pasha	Dina	Urbosa	Spera	Nellie	Ardin
Saula	Essa	Frelly	Lashley	Muava	Greta
Nali	Fegran	Lorn	Isha	Olu	Romah
Estan	Makure	Danda	Ploka	Reeza	Riju
Buliara	Teake	Smaude	Liana	Leena	Barta
Kotta	Babi	Malena	Risa	Ashai	Rima
Kyra	Merina	Dorrah	Laine	Kohm	Calyban
Rhondson	Pritana	Emri	Maike	Ripp	Shailu
Konora	Kachoo	Calisa	Lukan	Flavi	Padda
Rotana	Furosa	Pokki	Yaido	Sumati	Pyra

Possible phonemic inventory

(created based on known vocabulary and Gerudo names)

Consonant

	Labial	Alveolar	Post-alveolar	Palatal	Velar
Nasal	m	n			
Stop	p b	t d			k g
Affricate			dʒ		
Fricative	f v	s z	ʃ		
Flap			r		
Approximate		l	(ɻ)	j	

Vowel

	Front	Center	Back
Close	i		u
Middle	e		o
Open		a	

- Gemination seems to be common (e.g. sav'otta [savottə])
- The letter “r” may be realized as either [r] or [ɻ]; my assumption is that “r” is realized as [ɻ] only at the beginning of a word and [r] elsewhere
- Many non-Gerudo speakers have problems hearing the difference between [b] and [v], so I assume that the Gerudo [v] is more similar to the common tongue [b].

- Diphthongs seem to be common (e.g. [ai])
- There hasn't been signs of vowel irregularity, so it's assumed that the vowel inventory is small and regular, like it is in Spanish or Japanese

Other observations

- There doesn't seem to be a distinction between singularity and plurality in nouns; "voe" can either refer to single man or men in general
- When speaking the common tongue, Gerudo show no problems with common tongue's syntax of SVO; this could mean that either Gerudo syntax is also SVO or all Gerudo learn common tongue as children and all Gerudo are perfect bilinguals
 - The latter may not be the case, as Estan said that she traveled the world and learned common tongue phrases like "tank you [sic]"
- Other language versions of the game have a different vocabulary (e.g. "voe" is "shiok" and "vai" is "shiak" in the Spanish version), so this grammar is not universal and thus the phonetic inventory may also not be universal