

# Murrawarri Vowel Sounds

| Letter | How to say it   | Example words  | Linguistic details   |
|--------|---|--|--|
| a      | 'a' as in <b>but</b><br>(not as in apple)   | <b>Gabal-gabal</b><br>(old people)<br><br><b>Gudhara-gudhara</b><br>(many children)<br><br><b>Bambu</b><br>(head / hair) | Linguists call this a “short low vowel”.<br><br>IPA spelling: a  |
| aa     | 'aa' as in <b>dart</b>  | <b>Galгаа</b><br>(many, all)<br><br><b>Dhaa</b><br>(mouth)   | Linguists call this a “long low vowel”. It is a longer version of the short low vowel 'a'.<br><br>IPA spelling: a:<br><br>Also spelt: ä / a / ah / ā     |
| i      | 'i' as in <b>bit</b><br>(not as in I'm or idle)   | <b>Mayinj</b><br>(Aboriginal man)<br><br><b>Gubi</b><br>(clever man)   | Linguists call this a “short front vowel”.<br><br>IPA spelling: i  |
| ii     | 'ii' as in <b>feet</b> or <b>peel</b>   | <b>Miil</b><br>(eye)<br><br><b>Wii</b><br>(fire)   | Linguists call this a “long front vowel”. It is a longer version of the short front vowel, 'i'.<br><br>IPA spelling: i:<br><br>Also spelt: ĭ / e / i / ī |
| u      | 'u' as in <b>put</b> or <b>look</b><br>(not as in umbrella or cup)  | <b>Bambu</b><br>(head / hair)<br><br><b>Wadhul</b><br>(old man)  | Linguists call this a “short back vowel”.<br><br>IPA spelling: u<br><br>Also spelt: oo   |
| uu     | 'uu' as in <b>boot</b><br><br>(The long high back vowel uu is higher and more rounded than the short u. It occurs in both open and closed syllables and on the first or final syllable of a word, where it is always stressed). | <b>yuu</b><br>(sandhill)<br><br><b>muu</b> rla<br>(mole on skin)   | Linguists call this a “long back vowel”. It is a longer version of the short back vowel, 'u'.<br><br>IPA spelling: u:<br><br>Also spelt: ü / oo / u / ū  |