

Iu Mien ALPHABET WORKBOOK

= Learn. Speak. Read. Write. =



PRONUNCIATION
GUIDE



VOCAB



SPELLING

PERFECT FOR
KIDS
AGES 4+

About This Workbook

The *lu Mien Alphabet Workbook* was produced by lu Mien Literacy Projects to support the learning and preservation of the lu Mien language for children, families, schools, and community members.

This workbook includes:

- Alphabet practice
- Pronunciation guides
- Vocabulary practice
- Spelling exercises

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The cover artwork for this workbook was generated with the assistance of artificial intelligence (AI) and further edited and customized by lu Mien Literacy Projects.

Our hope is that this workbook helps encourage future generations to learn, use, and take pride in the lu Mien language and culture.

For questions, suggestions, or collaboration opportunities, please contact us at:

iuMienLiteracyProjects@gmail.com

Note: For the best learning experience, this workbook should be used alongside a fluent lu Mien speaker who can provide guidance on pronunciation, tone, and proper usage.

Pronunciation Guide

CONSONANTS

SYM.	SOUND	SYM.	SOUND
b	“p” as in spin	m	mom
c	“t” as in tsetse fly	mb	“b” as in bank
d	“t” as in stone	n	new
f	five	nd	“d” as in down
g	“k” as in skate	ng	“ng” as in wing
h	hat	nj	“nj” as in George
hi	“h” as in huge	nq	“g” as in get
hl	“hlo” as in hello	ny	“ny” as in onion
hm	“hm” as in Hmong	nz	“z” as in zebra
hn	plain h + n	p	park
hng	plain h + ng	q	“ch” as in check
hny	plain h + ny	s	sing
hu	plain h + u	t	tall
j	“j” as in jerry	w	water
k	king	y	you
l	laugh	z	“ts” as in that’s

Note: There are 13 consonants in the Lu Mien language that have unique pronunciations and are pronounced differently from those in many other languages. These consonants are C, HI, HL, HM, HN, HNG, HNY, HU, NJ, NQ, NZ, NY, and Z. Therefore, the pronunciation guides for these consonants, while very close, are not precise. Please practice with an elder or native speakers in the community.

Pronunciation Guide

Iu Mien Tone Visual Symbols

MIEN SYM.	Tone	Visual Symbol	Example
∅ (unmarked)	mid-high level	˥	maa (mom)
v	high rise–fall	˥˩	juv (dog)
x	low rise	˨˨˥	toux (rabbit)
h	mid fall	˥˩˩	louh (bamboo rat)
z	low rise–fall	˨˩˩	maaz (horse)
c	low level	˨˨˨	doc (turtle)

More Examples

MIEN SYM.	Tone	Visual Symbol	Example
∅ (unmarked)	mid-high level	˥	cie (car)
v	high rise–fall	˥˩	jielv (bear)
x	mid-low rise	˨˨˥	namx (cold)
h	mid fall	˥˩˩	dieh (table)
z	low rise–fall	˨˩˩	dungz (pig)
c	low level	˨˨˨	mbiaatc (spicy)
∅ (unmarked)	mid-high level	˥	lui (shirt)
v	high rise–fall	˥˩	hmeiv (uncooked rice)
x	mid-low rise	˨˨˥	zaux (leg)
h	mid fall	˥˩˩	nyaanh (money)
z	low rise–fall	˨˩˩	mbiauz (fish)
c	low level	˨˨˨	zouc (chopsticks)

b

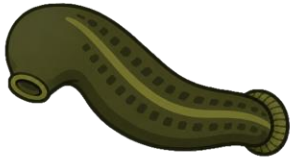
g))) b like spin



biangh
(pyang)
flower



biauv
(pyao)
house



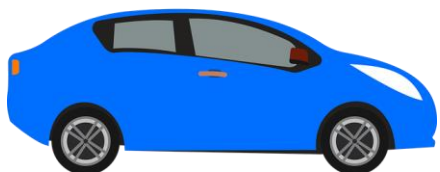
biom
(byom)
leech



buoz
(pwo)
hand

C

g)) c like tetsy fly



cie
(tsyeh)
car



caeng
(tseng)
pot/pan



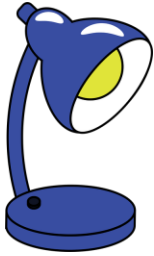
COUX
(tsoh)
bed



cong
(tsong)
onion

d

g)) d like thing



dang
(thahng)
lamp



dieh
(thyeh)
table



dungz
(thoong)
pig



dorngh
(thorng)
candy

f

g)) f like five



faanx
(fahn)
umbrella



fanh ziu
(fahn-tsyoo)
pepper



funx
(foon)
garlic



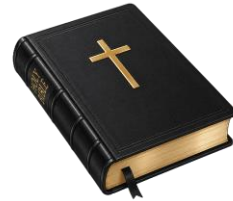
fangx
(fahng)
picture

g

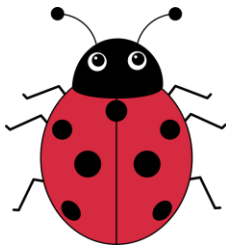
g)) g like America



gern-nyaapv
(kern-nyaap)
fork



ging-sou
(keeng-soh)
Bible



gaeng
(keng)
bug



gaengv
(kengh)
frog

h

g)) h like hat



heh
(heh)
shoes



houc
(hoh)
taro



houx
(hoh)
pants



hung
(hoong)
king/emperor

hi



hi like huge
*h + y



hiaamx
(hyaahm)
scatter



hiou suix
(hyoh)
stretch thread



hiun
(hyoon)
earring



hiuang
(hywahng)
fierce

hl



hl like hello
*a faint l



hlaax
(hlaah)
moon



hleix
(hlay)
star



hlauv
(hlow)
bamboo



hlieqv
(hlyek)
metal

hm



hm like hmong



hmeiv
(hmay)
uncooked rice



hmien
(hmyien)
face



hmuangx
(hmwang)
dark



hmuangv-doic
(hmwang-toy)
family

hn



hn like h + n



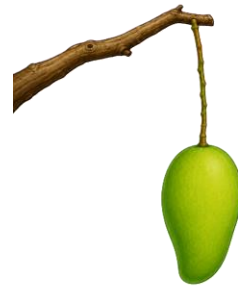
hnaav
(hnaah)
crosssbow



hnamv
(hnaahm)
love



hnaangx
(hnaahng)
rice



hnaeng-hnaeng
(hneng-hneng)
hanging

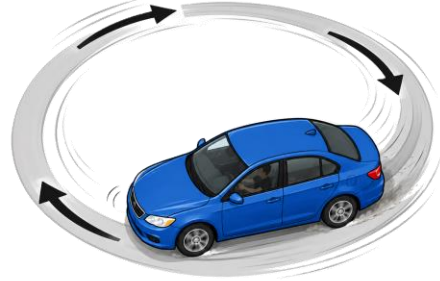
hu



hu like h + u



huingx
(hwing)
small garden



huing
(hweeng)
circling



huaang
(hwaang)
in a hurry



huin ngaang
(hween ngaahng)
turn around

j



j like job
* a softened j



jaux
(chow)
eggs



juv
(choo)
dog



jiem
(chiem)
gold



jiepv
(chiep)
bear

k

g)) k like king



koiv
(kyoh)
ocean



korng gueiv
(korng kweeh)
snail



kung
(koong)
spill



koi
(koy)
open

I

I like love



limc
(leem)
chain



laangz
(laahng)
village



lai
(lie)
vegetables



lui
(lwee)
shirt

m

g)) m like mom



matc
(maht)
socks



maaz
(maah)
horse



muoc
(mwo)
hat



mungz
(moong)
fly

mb



mb like bank



mbing
(beeng)
monkey



mbiauz
(byao)
fish



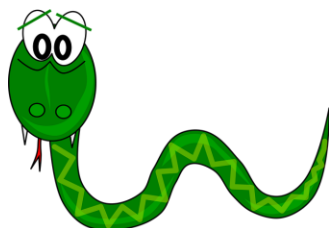
mbuonx
(bwoon)
cloud



mbuoqc
(bwok)
bag

n

g)) n like Nathan



naang
(naahng)
snake



naauz
(naow)
rat/mouse



norqc
(nork)
bird



normh
(norm)
leaf

nd

g)) nd like down



ndaan
(daahn)
basket



ndaatv
(daat)
wings



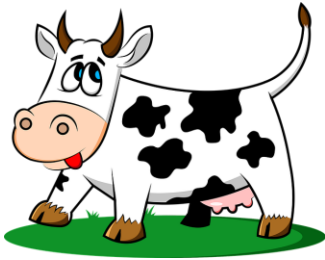
ndiangx
(dyang)
tree



ndie
(dyeh)
medicine

ng

ng like wing



ngongh
(ngong)
cow



nganh
(ngaahn)
pits



ngaengv
(ngeng)
knock



ngau
(ngow)
curvy/bent

nj

ng like George



njaangh
(jaahng)
pond



njaeh
(jeh)
deer



njiuv
(jyoo)
scissors



njuov
(jwo)
bread

nq

ng)) nq like get



nqim-nquaiz
(geem gwai)
crab



nqimh
(geem)
plyers



nqun
(goon)
crest



nqingh nqou
(geeng goh)
strawberry

ny

g))) ny like onion



nyaah
(nyaah)
teeth



nyaanh
(nyaahn)
money



nyaapv
(nyaap)
leaf rake



nyorx
(nyor)
milk

p

g))) p like park



piqv
(peek)
to cleave



porng
(porng)
hoe



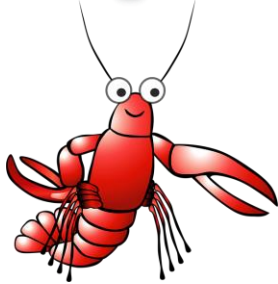
pui
(pwee)
dry



ping
(peeng)
wheel/tire

q

g)) q like check



qaa

(chaah)

shrimp/crawdad



qam

(chahm)

hug



qongx

(chong)

room/section



qouv

(choh)

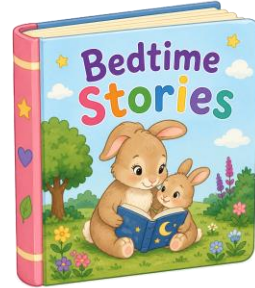
stir

S

g)) s like super



suix
(swee)
string/thread



sou
(soh)
book



suangx
(swang)
blanket



sapv
(sahp)
centipede

t

g)) t like tall



tei
(tay)
ladder



toux
(toh)
rabbit



taanx
(taahn)
charcoal



tongv
(tong)
bucket

W

g)) w like wow



waaz fangx
(waah fahng)
painting



wetv
(wet)
dig



wuotv
(wot)
bend



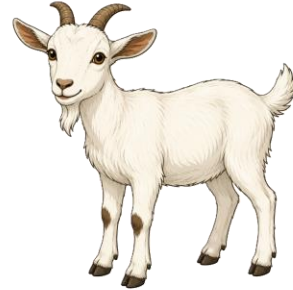
wuom/uom
(wom)
water

y

g)) y like you



yunh
(yoon)
bullet



yungh
(yoong)
goat



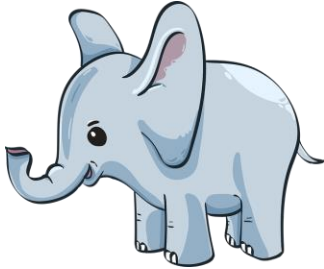
yienh si
(yehn see)
cilantro



yienv
(yien)
bowl

Z

g)) z like that's



zaangz
(tsaahng)
elephant



zueih
(tsway)
mallet



zinh
(tseen)
coins



zouc
(tsoh)
chopstick



For additional learning materials and resources to support
lu Mien language development, please visit:
www.iumienliteracyprojects.com.

The website offers a variety of tools designed to help
learners strengthen their lu Mien reading, writing,
speaking, and cultural knowledge.

By exploring these resources together, families can create
more opportunities to practice the language at home and
help preserve the lu Mien language and heritage for future
generations.