

Heritage Michif Pronunciation Guide

Double-vowel System



Michif	Pronunciation
aa	a drawn-out 'a' sound as in English aw
oo	a long 'o' like in over
ii	a long 'e' as in eel
ay	a long 'a' as in say
ae	similar to the 'e' in deck , but more drawn out
eu	similar to the 'u' in put , but more drawn out
uk	similar to the 'uck' in luck
a	a short 'a' as in apple
o	a short 'o' as in ought
i	a short 'i' as in it
zh	sounds like the 's' in usual
jh	sounds like the 'j' in jig
ow	sounds like the 'ow' in how but never like low
r	flick your tongue quickly from the top of your mouth to the bottom (similar to the realization of the 'tt' in butter)
h	the same as in English, but never silent; so, in words like itayhta (<i>think</i>), you need to push some air out and make an audible 'h'
n	the same as in English in Algonquian-origin words Example: nakamoo (<i>sing</i>), taanishi (<i>how</i>) but becomes a nasal vowel at the end of French-origin words mataen (<i>morning</i>), bitaen (<i>clothing</i>)
nn	indicates a regular 'n' sound in French-origin words Example: smenn (<i>week</i>), grenn, (<i>seeds/chokecherries</i>)

All the other letters are pronounced similar to what you would expect in English!

