

Major allophonic variations

Vowels

	Phonemes	Allophones
/ i /	[i] [P] [y] [I]	
/ e /	[e] [E] and [ε]	
/ o /	[Ω] and [O]	
/ u /	[U] [V] and [I]	

Consonants

	Phonemes	Allophones
/ n /		[n and M]
/ h /		[h and x]

Phonemic distribution

Vowels

/ i , e , a , o , u and their lengthened counter parts occur in all the three positions initial, medial and final.

Consonants

/ p , b , t , d , T , D , k , c , j , s / all these occur initially and medially and / b , d and g / occur in all three positions (finally as checked consonant).

/ m , n , N and M / occur in all the three positions except [M] which never occurs in initial position and [N] always occurring v - v that is, intervocalic

/ h / occurs only initially
 / ? / occurs only finally

Vowel Clusters

When two vowels occur together vowel clusters are formed. Depending upon the position of the occurrence vowel clusters may be classified as - initial, medial and depending upon their nature as identical and non-identical. The vowel clusters are listed below:

Initial non-identical two vowels - V₁ V₂

ia -	iam	'cry'
ai -	aidari	'officer'
au -	aub	'evening'

Medial non-identical Vowel Clusters - V₁ V₂

- ia -	kamiako	'member'
- iu -	ka:TTiuL	'fox'
- iu: -	siu:d	'essence'
- ea -	reaLa	'cold'
- eu -	neula	'mongoose'
- ai -	sail	'baison'
- au -	maura	'poison'

