

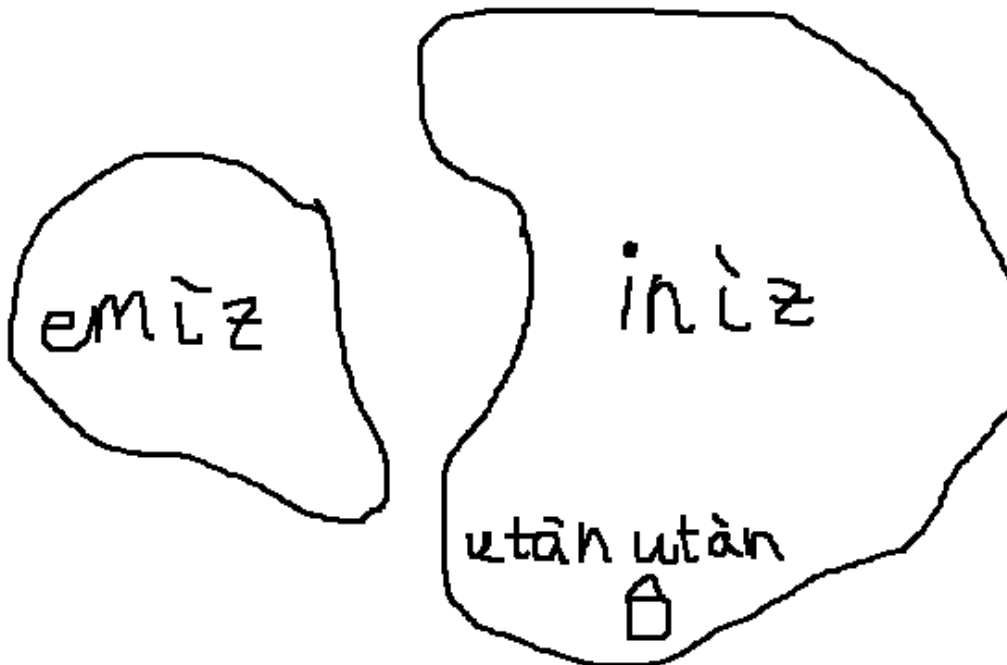
Lumócán

This is a (very) short description of lumócán created for speedlang XX.

Where is it spoken?

Lumócán is primarily spoken on two islands **inìz** and **emìz**. These islands have long been inhabited by the **asunem** people. There are small differences in the varieties of Lumócán spoken on the two islands but they are pretty similar. The dialect on inìz is considered the standard dialect while the variant spoken on emìz (**lumemìz**) is viewed as less formal.

Relatively recently there was a large influx of mimabi¹ speakers to **inìz** who mostly settled in and around the town **utàn utàn**. This influenced the local dialect significantly to produce the **lumutàn** dialect which is influenced by mimabi features.



¹ Mimabi is another speedlang I made before

Phonology

Standard lumóacán has a very standard five vowel system: a e i o u.

There are 14 consonants.

	labial	alveolar	lateral	post-alveolar	velar
nasal	m	n			
plosive	p b	t d		tʃ (written: c)	k g
fricative	f	z		ʃ (written: s)	
approximant	w		l		

All syllables either take the form V or (C)VC. Single syllable vowels are rare and only occur when breaking consonant clusters. There is a strict separation of consonants allowed between syllable onsets and codas. There is only one consonant which is allowed to appear in either, z.

The consonants allowed in the onset are liquids and approximants and c:
w, l, f, c, s, z

In the coda are allowed stops, nasals and z:
b, p, d, t, g, k, n, m, z

Lumóacán is a tonal language and each syllable has a tone. There are three tones, rising, falling and neutral. These are indicated by acute accent, grave accent and no accent on the syllable vowel.

Lumóacán does not allow vowel-vowel sequences, but these do not occur anyway due to the syllable structure.

Consonant clusters are mostly disallowed within words. In most cases, the vowel u or a is inserted between any clusters that would form.

For example, the verb sleep **zug**, when conjugated to I slept would be expected to become át-am-zug (PST-1S-sleep), but the mz combination is disallowed so it becomes finally **átamazug**.

The choice of a or u is made by the preceding tone. If the preceding tone is rising or neutral which follows rising, it is a (as in the example). Otherwise it will be u.

Some combinations of consonants instead delete one of the consonants. For example the word for day is **után** which was underlying ut-cán but the c is deleted to avoid the cluster. It resurfaces in the plural, **cubucán**.

A small number of consonant-consonant sequences are allowed, mainly involving w and few with l: pw, tw, mw, nw, zw, kl, zl.

All results are summarised in this table.

	w	l	f	c	s	z
b	b(u/a)w	b(u/a)l	b(u/a)f	b(u/a)c	b(u/a)s	b(u/a)z
d	d(u/a)w	d(u/a)l	d(u/a)f	d(u/a)c	d(u/a)s	d(u/a)z
g	g(u/a)w	g(u/a)l	g(u/a)f	g(u/a)c	g(u/a)s	g(u/a)z
p	pw	p(u/a)l	p	p	p	p(u/a)z
t	tw	t(u/a)l	t	t	t	t(u/a)z
k	k(u/a)w	kl	k	k	k	k(u/a)z
m	mw	m	f	c	s	m(u/a)z
n	nw	n	f	c	s	n(u/a)z
z	zw	zl	z(u/a)f	z(u/a)c	z(u/a)s	z

Nouns

Lumócan has 8 noun classes.

Each class will be represented in gloss as the class number.

Class Number	Class prefix (SG - PL)	Description
1	AM - ZAD	Humans
2	ON - FIK	Animals
3	IT - CUB	Long objects
4	UT - CUB	Plane-like objects
5	IN - IN	Large things
6	EM - SEP	Small things
7	LIK	Liquids, collections of similar objects, items that traditionally come in groups e.g. eyes

8	LUM	Collections of dissimilar objects, languages
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The class prefix presented above is the default, but due to consonant clusters being disallowed it may sometimes appear slightly differently e.g. **asín** (uncle on father's side) which would be **amsin** except **ms** is disallowed.

The plural for each class is consistent, with the exception of some words for family members in class 1 which take **SEP** in the plural rather than **ZAD** as expected. This applies to **amín** (younger sister), **amucet** (aunt on mother's side), **asín** (uncle on father's side) and a few others. Most words that do this are describing female relatives, but there are a few male relative terms that do the same. In the lumemìz dialect this is taken much further, so that all words for female people take **SEP** in the plural rather than **ZAD**. As an example, in lumemìz we have **sepàg** as the plural of **amàg** (mother), instead of the standard lumócán **zadàg**.

Pronouns

Third person pronouns are simply the same as the noun class prefix.

For first and second person there are pronouns:

1SNG **ep** 1PL **sez**

2SNG **óg** 2PL **sáz**

Verbs

Lumócán is an agglutinative language and verbs must mark for tense, number and class of the subject and object (if present). They may optionally also inflect for aspect and mood.

The template looks like this with optional parts in []:

TENSE1-[ASPECT1]-[TENSE2]-[ASPECT2]-[MOOD]-SUB-[OBJ*]-[RECIPROCAL]-verb

Object is marked with * as it is obligatory if the verb takes an object.

There are two tenses: past and non-past. These have different markers depending on whether the sense is positive or negative which differ only by tone:

positive

NPST - **át**

PST - **àt**

negative

NPST - **én**

PST - **èn**

Lumócán allows for two tense markers on each verbs. One is obligatory, while the other is optional. These markers may match or differ and different combinations provide different senses.

amín ituzet àtamiták

amín ituzet àt -am-it -ák
sister fish PST-1 -3 -eat
My sister ate a fish

amínet itezet àtátamiták

amínet itezet át -át -am-it -ak
sister fish PST.POS -NPST.POS-1 -3 -eat
My sister is still eating a fish (she was eating in the past, and she is still eating in present)

amínet itezet ènàtamiták

amínet itezet èn -át -am-it -ak
sister fish PST.NEG -PST.POS-1 -3 -eat
My sister started to eat a fish (she was not eating in the past, and then she was eating in the past)

For aspect if not provided it indicates a one-time action.

Possible aspect markers include:

repeatedly and regularly - **zuz**

repeatedly, but irregularly - **óm**

continuous - **ét**

If mood is not provided indicative is assumed.

Possible mood markers include:

hypothetical - **èb**

desire - **lók**

generalities - **còz**

The reciprocal particle is **-wet-**

Example sentences

1. "Both of them found each other quickly." JU5MOYD 2075

am ap am umén àtuzaduwetweg

am ap am um -én àt -uzad-uwet-weg
3SNG and 3SNG ADV -fast PST-1 -REC-find
He and he quickly found each other

2. "And after sleeping for a few days he got up." JU5MOYD 2076

am èmit cubucán àtétamazùg ím am ènàtamok

am èmit cubucán àt -ét -am-azùg
3SNG few days PST.POS-CONT-1 -sleep
ím am èn -àt -am-ok
afterwards 3SNG PST.NEG-NPST.POS-1 -stand
He was sleeping for a few days, then he stood up

3. "at that time, the river still used to flow" JU5MOYD 2101

ìm likeg àtuzuzénàlik

ìm likeg àt -uzuz -én -àlik
then river PST.POS-REG -NPST.NEG-FLOW
Then the river was flowing (but now it isn't)

4. "In the old days, the king treated people working in the palace very well." JU5MOYD 1830

likógum liklík àténík, amem ut ináp àtuzuzufém, amuwàgim umómùm àtuzuzadúpóm

lik-ógum liklík àt -én -ík,
CL7 -many tides PST.POS-NPST.NEG-FLOW
amem ut ináp àt -uzuz -ufém,
people in palace PST.POS-REG-work
amuwàgim um -ómùm à -uzuz-ad-úpóm
king ADV-proper PST.POS-REG-CL1 -treat
Many tides ago, the people working in the palace, the king treated them properly

5. Will you look up at the stars some nights and think of me? Starry's Quotes #40

ut utèn likuzet ènomèbógalikenùg ím ènétalókógepokík ikíg?

ut utèn likuzet èn -óm -èb -óg -alik -enùg,
in night stars NPST.POS-IRREG-HYP-2SNG-CL7-look,
ím èn -ét -alók -óg -ep -okík ikíg?
afterwards NPST.POS-CONT-DES-2SNG-1SG-think.about QUESTION
If you look up at the stars at night sometimes, I hope you will be thinking of me?

Dialect differences

lumemiz

- more consonant clusters are allowed - no a/u added between clusters which contain w, l, z
- expands the SEP plural to all feminine people in class 1
- some nouns in class 7, which traditionally does not distinguish between singular/plural, have a singular form which uses EM as per class 6 (e.g. eyes)

lumutàn

- All plurals for classes 3-6 collapse to the same class IN in the plural, as mimabi only distinguishes in the plural between animate/inanimate.
- All consonant clusters are disallowed with a/u added as per normal rules, as mimabi has strict CV structure
- Mimabi sentences place tense markers on the subject. Therefore lumutàn dialect has innovated some additional markers for nouns which indicate “ex” state e.g. **amwak** wife can be transformed to **amwakin** where the in suffix is a shortened form of the animate past tense marker from mimabi to indicate “ex-wife”. This is productive in lumutàn and unknown outside that region.

Some of these differences are displayed in this example sentence shown in each dialect:

Standard lumócán

zadín cubuzet umwatàn àtuzaducubák

amín cubuzet um -watàn àt -uzad -ucub -ák
sisters fish ADV-slow PST-CL1 -CL3 -eat
My sisters ate some fish slowly

lumemiz

sepín cubzet umwatàn àtzaducubák

amín cubzet um -watàn àt -zad -ucub -ák
sisters fish ADV-slow PST-CL1 -CL3 -eat
My sisters ate some fish slowly

lumutàn

zadín inuzet umuwatàn àtuzadinák

amín cubuzet um -uwatàn àt -uzad -ucub -ák
sisters fish ADV-slow PST-CL1 -CL3 -eat
My sisters ate some fish slowly

Requirements

https://odenevo.neocities.org/speedlang26_prompt.pdf

Phonological constraints:

- Include tone and/or phonation that is contrastive on the level of the word or lower. This could be tone/phonation that works on a word, foot, syllable, or mora level.
- Have some asymmetries between the set of consonants allowed to occur in the onset and coda, meaning that either more or less consonants are allowed in the onset than in the coda, or having consonants that only occur in either the onset or the coda.
 - Bonus: have restrictions specific for clusters that are different to the constraints for initial onsets and final codas.
- Include at least two different strategies for resolving clusters or hiatus at morpheme boundaries, distinct from how clusters or hiatus are resolved within roots. These strategies must both be synchronically active.

Grammatical constraints:

- Have a closed or near-closed set of words within a broader class (nouns, adjectives, verbs, demonstratives, numerals, etc) that take more and/or unique inflectional morphology. 1 Morphology here could be stem alternations (gradation/consonant mutation/apophony), or tone changes, not necessarily affixes. How small this set of words is isn't really important, as long as it does not constitute a majority of a given class.
 - Bonus: do this with more than one class.
- Have more than one morpheme that are complete homophones with at least one other, but appear in different contexts. An example of this in a natural language are the various English morphemes of the shape *-s /-z/*. This does not have to be an affix or alternation, and could be two or more grammatical morphemes that are simply homophones with each other.

Sociolinguistic constraints:

- Create at least two dialects, each of which differs from the main language in at least three grammatical or phonological features. These features need not be the same across dialects, but each dialect should have at least three clear distinguishing features from the main language¹. These dialects can be as distinct or similar to the main language, as long as they are still intelligible. Denote throughout your description where the dialects differ from the main language.
 - Bonus: create one or more sociolects/registers (as opposed to a geographically distinct dialect).

Notes

Sister - amín

brother - amèt

fish (dead) - ituzet fish (live) - onuzet

likuzet - star, stars

ócán - mouth and mouth related things

iz - island root in iz and emiz - big island and small island

new - sán

utàn - mine (of minerals)

eat unák

find - umweg

fast - lén

után (cán) - day cubucán - days

night - utèn (sèn)

èmit - few

umzùg - sleep

um(l)ok - stand

tide (sea) - liklík

flow - um(l)ík

amuwàgim - king

many sógum

proper, correct, good/well - ómùm

work - fém

in - ut

house - itáp

palace - ináp

father - amáp

treat someone - úpóm

look - enùg

think about - okík

yes/no question - ikíg

slow - watàn