

Tcuubaspiku

Update on: 1.14.2024

Changelog:

- Small fixes
- New particles

Overview

This language is an a-posteriori conlang specific to Vtubia. It is a creole of Japanese and English, with English as the superstratum, and Japanese as the complimenting substratum. It contains a mix of vtuber culture and the slang that has been adopted among them (but not necessarily coined by them, e.g. *chuuni*) and as such, this involves a lot of weeboo slang that are not necessarily specific to the vtubersphere in general. This language, in lore, is implied to have been a bridge formed between languages of the Gods in different branches in corporations. As such, I am also throwing some very, very limited Indonesian and Korean slang in here. It is the most common language, spoken by almost the entire world, though with *wildly* varying dialects (for example, the languages of the western continent contain more English than Japanese grammar and loanwords, and Idol corp's followers straight up speak instead an English-Hebrew creole). All creoles here were at some point constructed pidgins, as such, they are not highly naturalistic.

The reason for this widespread adoption is that the Gods themselves speak these languages, so it needs to be known to pray and communicate amongst neighbors who might pray to a different God (it is thus assumed the reason prayers don't always work is because the Gods hardly know what the fuck they're saying most the time). As such, natural languages from before vtubers are all but extinct. It originally utilized the easier Japanese phonology, but over time has become more like English as children learned to speak like their English-speaking Gods, and intermingled with the rest of the world, most notably adding an *l* to the common phonology. I also assume that they cannot read or write the languages themselves, so I made an alphasyllabary that works for either Japanese or English.

Rules for word creation

- For **Japanese** words, verbs that come from nouns not ending in *u* will geminate the last consonant and add an *u* after it.
- For **English** words, geminate consonants are applied to where stress historically was in English if stress falls on a syllable that is CV(C-CCC) (e.g. *Procedure* → *prossidcyr*). This does not apply to words that are stressed in the first syllable. Rhotic mid-central vowels become just mid-central vowels, and unstressed *d* and *t* become *r* (e.g. *water* → *wary*)
- Tcuubaspiku has a historical ratio of **1 Japanese root word for every ~5 English root words**, keep this in mind when considering which language to steal from.

Phonology

consonants	bilabial	alv.	postalv.	palatal	velar	glottal
plosive	⟨p⟩ p ⟨b⟩ b	⟨t⟩ t ⟨d⟩ d			⟨k⟩ k ⟨g⟩ g	
nasal	⟨m⟩ m	⟨n⟩ n		⟨nj⟩ ɲ		
affricate		⟨ts⟩ t͡s ⟨dz⟩ d͡z	⟨tc⟩ t͡ʃ ⟨dc⟩ d͡ʒ			
fricative	⟨f⟩ f ⟨v⟩ β	⟨s⟩ s ⟨z⟩ z	⟨ç⟩ ʃ ⟨sz⟩ ʒ			⟨h⟩ h
tap		⟨r⟩ ɾ/r				
approx.	⟨w⟩ β̞			⟨j⟩ j		
lat.approx.		⟨l⟩ l				

vowels	front	central	back
close	⟨i⟩ i		⟨u⟩ u
close-mid	⟨e⟩ e		⟨o⟩ o
mid		⟨y⟩ ə	
open-mid			⟨y⟩ ʌ
open	⟨a⟩ a		

- There is lexically significant vowel and consonant gemination.

Script

k	j	l	r	m	n	s	t	p	h	c	w	nj	f
u	u	o	h	s	z	d	z	3	^	o	p	y	u
sz	tc	dc	ts	ds	a	e	i	y	u	o			
dd	zoo	zoo	zd	zd	\	^	-	v	-	'			

voiced



vowel carrier



example:

(holospiiku)

This is an alphasyllabary. The script is different from the romanization. For one, the vowel carrier lengthens the previous vowel if left empty (meaning just the vertical line itself). Otherwise, it can be used for diphthongs as well. As you can probably tell, the digraph *nj* only exists in the romanization, because I didn't have a single letter to use for it and I'm not using diacritics. There are no silent letters. Consonant gemination is achieved by just writing the consonant in question twice, in which the vowel goes over the second.

There are two ways to write out vowel length: a macron (lik→līk), or writing it twice (lik→liik), like consonants. I will probably use the latter but either works.

The reason why ⟨y⟩ is /ə/ and/or /ʌ/ is because I ran out of letters.

Grammar

- agglutinative.
- sov word order.
- Postpositions.
- accusative morphosyntactic alignment.
- head final phrase order, left branching sentence structure.
- heavy use of particles.
- pronoun dropping.
- adjectives and adverbs will follow the modified (with the exception of gerund verbs, they go before, in "base" form).

Particles

je→ copula. Tcuubaspiku equivalent of *desu*.

ex: **mi-arū spikugaku wo haitu je.**

ME-SUBJ LINGUISTICS DOBJ HATE COP

zu→ genitive case, follows possessor.

ex: **mi-zu bukkeis**

ME-POSS BOOKSHELF

ybaut→ topic marker.

ex: **ju-ybaut, ko spiku wo spikus.**

YOU-TOP, THIS LANGUAGE DOBJ SPEAK.

wo→ direct object.

ex: **ko spiku wo spikus.**

THIS LANGUAGE DOBJ SPEAK.

iz→ subject.

ex: **warystom iz waryus.**

RAINSTORM SUBJ RAINS

tu→ indirect object.

ex: **mi-ybaut kiddi tu hon wo givsid.**

ME-TOP KID.PL DAT BOOK DOBJ GAVE

(I gave those kids a book)

jay→ question marker. Tcuubaspiku equivalent of *ka*.

ex: **ju-ybaut ko tcuuba wo ossus jay?**

YOU-TOP THIS GOD DOBJ FOLLOW QUEST

(do you worship this god?)

til→ adverbial particle. Tcuubaspiku equivalent of *made*.

ex: **jukistom iz jukiboci til jukus.**

SNOW SUBJ SNOW-CAP UNTIL SNOWS

(the snowstorm snows until the mountains are snowcapped)

ov→ same as Japanese *yor* in terms of function.

ex: **mi-ybaut ame ov juki sukkus.**

ME TOP RAIN FROM SNOW LIKE

(I like rain more than snow).

mada→ Japanese particle *mada*, performs the exact same function

ex: **mi-ybaut mi-za arbeit mada haitu.**

ME TOP ME-GEN WORK YET HATE

(I don't hate my job yet)

Morphology

Verbs will have two different forms: “base” form and “normal” form. Normal form is the kind of thing you would find in a dictionary. For example, the word *spiku* (to speak) can be conjugated as either *spikus* in normal form or *spiku* in base form. *Spikus* is considered more polite.

For plurals, you take the last consonant and add an *i* after it (e.g. *kid* → *kiddi*, *boci* → *bocci*, *tcuuba* → *tcuubbi*)

Gerunds and action nouns in general are formed with the special ending *-inj* (e.g. *tsukuru* “to create” → *tsukurinj* “all of creation”)

Tense, aspect and mood.

There are three morphological tenses, past, present and ongoing that are inflected within conjugation, for both base and normal form. Past tense sees the change $u \rightarrow d$, $us \rightarrow sid$, progressive $u \rightarrow erinj$ $us \rightarrow oerinj$. Present, as you can guess, changes nothing.

Dictionary

givus	<i>Verb</i> <i>To give</i>
haitu	<i>Verb</i> <i>To hate</i>
spikus	<i>Verb</i> <i>To speak</i> <i>To be fluent in (a language)</i> <i>Noun</i> <i>Language</i>
lavu	<i>Verb</i> <i>To love (platonic)</i>
occu	<i>Verb</i> <i>To devote yourself to</i>
tsukuru	<i>Verb</i> <i>To create</i>
oshihennu	<i>Verb</i> <i>Sacrilege</i>
sukku	<i>Verb</i> <i>To enjoy</i>
warys	<i>Verb</i> <i>To rain/pour something through a mesh; to water.</i>
bukkeis	<i>Noun</i> <i>Bookshelf</i>
hon	<i>Noun</i> <i>Book</i>
tcuuba	<i>Noun</i> <i>(a) God</i>
kid	<i>Noun</i> <i>Everyone knows what a kid is</i>

spikugaku	<i>Noun</i> <i>Linguistics</i>
oshi	<i>Noun</i> <i>One's personal god</i>
boci	<i>Noun</i> <i>Hat</i>
tsukurinj	<i>Noun</i> <i>All of creation; reality</i>
wary	<i>Noun</i> <i>Water</i>
rivy	<i>Noun</i> <i>River</i>
wib	<i>Noun</i> <i>Nerd</i>
boci	<i>Noun</i> <i>Mountain peak</i>
juki	<i>Noun</i> <i>snow</i>
jukiboci	<i>Noun</i> <i>Snow capped</i>
ame	<i>Noun</i> <i>Rain.</i>
borrinj	<i>Adjective</i> <i>Boring</i>
wel	<i>Adjective</i> <i>Adverb</i> <i>Well; good</i>
beist	<i>Adjective</i> <i>good</i>
ko	<i>Pronoun</i> <i>This</i> <i>Determiner</i> <i>Indication of the topic at hand (said in place of the noun, is not a topic marker).</i>
mi	<i>Pronoun</i> <i>Me; I</i>

ju	<i>Pronoun</i> you
mii	<i>Pronoun</i> we