

Simpli Language Specification

| Field | Value |

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| Version | 0.1 (draft) |

| Document status | Archived reference (numbered sections) |

| Publication date | 2026-04-20 |

| Canonical site | [<https://simpli.global>](https://simpli.global) |

This document is the full, consolidated specification for the Simpli auxiliary language. It merges orthography, grammar, and vocabulary policy. Section numbers are stable for citation and archival. The same material is maintained in the repository under `spec/` as modular Markdown files (`ORTHOGRAPHY.md`, `GRAMMAR.md`, `VOCABULARY.md`).

1. Scope and normative sources

Simpli is a proposed international auxiliary language: English-derived vocabulary, Indonesian-style analytic grammar, and phonetic spelling. This specification defines the written standard for spelling, core grammar, and vocabulary strategy.

Informative references on the live site (replace /en/ with /fr/ or /es/ as needed):

- Spelling: <<https://simpli.global/en/spelling>>
- Alphabet rationale: <<https://simpli.global/en/spelling/alphabet-rationale>>
- Grammar overview: <<https://simpli.global/en/grammar>>
- Grammar rules: <<https://simpli.global/en/grammar-rules>>
- Vocabulary: <<https://simpli.global/en/vocabulary>>
- Essential words: <<https://simpli.global/en/essential-words>>
- Roots: <<https://simpli.global/en/roots>>

2. Orthography

2.1 Alphabet

- Vowels: a, e, i, o, u (long: aa, ee, ii, oo, uu — doubled letter).
- Consonants: p, b, t, d, k, g, m, n, f, s, l, r, h, v, w, y. No letter c (removed entirely). Use k for /k/. The sound /tʃ/ is written tj; /dʒ/ is written dj (symmetrical with tj). G always = /g/ (hard g). The [v]/[w] sound is written v (standard); w can still be used for familiarity with English. The two sounds are equivalent.

There is no th, z, sh in the inventory as in English; they map to other letters (see section 2.2).

2.2 Letter mappings

- th → d (dis, dat, dey)
- v / w — Simpli treats the English v and w sounds as equivalent. The standard spelling uses v: seven, vata (water), vuman (woman), hav, giv, liv, mov, river, even. W can still be used for familiarity (e.g. wata, wi, windo). Speakers may pronounce either way.
- ch → tj (no letter c in Simpli): tjaild (child), tiitjer (teacher), tjeendj (change), tjiiz (cheese). For /k/ always k: skul, akson.
- ph → f (fon)
- sh → s; z → s when needed
- g = /g/ (always hard): go, gud, giv, langwidj. G never represents /dʒ/.
- dj = /dʒ/ (symmetrical with tj = /tʃ/): djob, djeneral, djaiant, meidjer, bridj
- ou — The sound /u:/ or /ʊ/ is written u. Standard spelling is yu (you); you is acceptable for clarity or familiarity.

2.3 Orthography rules

1. One sound = one spelling; no silent letters (lait, windo, dor, bred, faind, plei).
2. Long vowels = doubled letter: Short vowel = single letter; long vowel = doubled letter. it vs iit, rod vs rood, rum vs ruum, ful vs fuul. The aim is to differentiate homonyms; in general context is enough. Diphthongs: /aɪ/ → ai (bai, tjaild), /eɪ/ → ei (plei).
3. Syllable structure: (C)V(C). Stress on second-to-last syllable (komputer, yesterde, tumoro).
4. Common endings: -tion/-sion → -son (akson, vison), -ture → -tur, -ous → -us.
5. ou → u: Standard writing is yu (you); you is acceptable for clarity or acceptability.
6. Double consonants: Not encouraged. Prefer single consonant: adres (not address). Double consonants are acceptable but the simplified form is preferred.

3. Grammar

3.1 Core rules (numbered)

0. Pronouns: One word for third-person singular: el = he, she, it. No separate “it”; el is used for people and things.
1. Word order: Subject - Verb - Object.
2. No verb conjugation. Time with words: yesterde, now, tumoro.
3. Negation: no before the verb.
4. Questions: Start with wat, hu, wer, wen, wai, hou.
5. Plural: Optional; numbers or meni.
6. Articles: None. No “a” or “the”; omit them.
7. Adjectives: Before noun, never change.
8. Possession: Noun + possessor (haus mi = my house). Optional of: haus (of) mi, haus (of) broder (of) mi = my brother’s house.
9. Prepositions: in, on, at, from, to, wit, for.
10. Connectors: and, or, but, becos, so.
11. Compounds: e.g. sun-light, fast-tren, wata-food.
12. Numbers (reading aloud): East Asian-style composition is recommended—name units from large to small, with tens as digit + ten + digit. Examples: 34 = tri ten for; 3253 = tri dausand tu hundrad faiv ten tri. Digits use the essential set (sero ... nain, ten); larger units hundrad (hundred), dausand (thousand).

4. Vocabulary

- Concept: English-derived, simplified and phonetic.
- Spelling and loans: Regularized spelling also takes inspiration from Spanish, which assimilates international words to its own norms instead of importing English historical spellings—so loans can be integrated cleanly (e.g. footbal → futbol in both Spanish and Simpli, beside English football).
- Why English (not another language or from scratch): English is the most widely learned L2 globally, so using it as a base gives the largest transfer benefit and fastest learnability. Other languages (Spanish, French, Mandarin, etc.) help fewer learners worldwide. A fully invented (a priori) vocabulary would be maximally neutral but much harder to learn; Simpli prioritizes quick adoption.
- Base: ~300-500 essential words for everyday use but could easily be extended as needed.
- Compounds: New ideas from existing words (sun-light, langwidj-study).

5. Document control

| Item | Detail |

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| PDF file name | simpli-specification-v0.1.pdf |

| Source Markdown | spec/SIMPLI-SPECIFICATION.md in the project repository |

| Change policy | Version number and date update when normative sections change |

End of specification v0.1.