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Puellic: A Constructed Language

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Puellic

In this language I have, called Puellic after the Latin word for girl, *puella*, created a world in which women and men are forced to be separate and in order to enforce that, the government has created a separate language for each gender which follows strict gender roles in stereotypes in order to ensure everyone knows their place.

Here is that language.

❖ Introduction:

- Puellic is spoken in an alternate universe where men and women speak different languages. In an attempt to purify society, the government dictated that men and women must be taught two separate languages so that they cannot communicate with each other without the presence of a translator/chaperone (someone who is employed by the government who can speak both languages). Through this language the government also wishes to heavily enforce gender roles due to the fact that they feel like it will help keep everyone “in their place.” For the sake of this project I will be only creating the language for the women.
- This language is based on the English alphabet but is of course not identical to English.

❖ Phonetics:

- IPA chart located below:
 - I removed all of the sounds that are most commonly aspirated (p,t,k) because typically women are seen as more soft and delicate, therefore it makes sense that their language would reflect that in this society. The aspiration makes those sounds sound rather intense therefore they probably wouldn't be included in a “delicate” language.
- Vowel chart located below:
 - I kept most of the vowel sounds that are typically made when speaking English, however I removed all of the sounds that are Open because the point of Puellic is to heavily enforce gender roles, therefore forcing the women to keep their mouths as closed as possible would make sense.
- Diphthongs:
 - aʊ
 - ə
 - eɪ
 - ju
 - ow
 - iy
 - dʒ

- tʃ

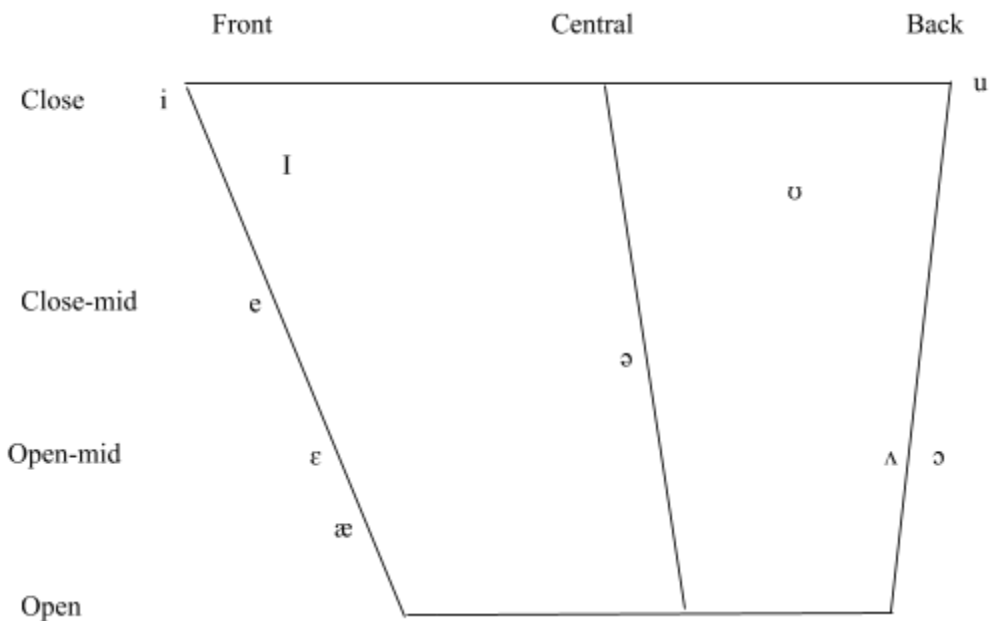
- The sounds of the letters are the same as the sounds made in English because they are being developed and spoken by a society that used to be primarily English speakers. The difference between English and Puellic is the certain sounds that are used (see charts below for more specific examples) and the actual words, syntax, etc.
- The language is Eggressive (airstream is being exhaled as they speak)
- Puellic has both voiceless and voiced sounds however the women typically speak in more breathy voice (or murmur) as typically women are told to be more docile and quiet therefore the women in this world have been conditioned to speak at a physically softer volume in order to keep both genders in their place.
- Active Articulators: lips tongue, uvula, and the glottis
- Inactive Articulators: teeth, nasal cavity, alveolar ridge, and palate
- Puelleic utilizes:
 - Stops: complete closure (sometimes called “plosives)
 - Affricative: a slow stopped release
 - Fricatives: produced by continuous airflow through a narrow opening
 - Nasals: involves exhalation out of the nasal cavity
 - Liquids: partial closing without the “hissing” of a fricative
 - Glides: rapid non-syllabic articulation
- Pitch: It is typically spoken at a higher pitch because women typically have higher pitched voices and it creates a more stereotypically feminine sounding language
- Stress: There is very little stress put on sounds because they speak at a lower, quieter volume. Their words typically run together because of the concentration on gender norms. They are conditioned to sound less confident and less sure of themselves therefore they speak quietly and with less space between words.

❖ Phonology:

- In Puellic there is a lot of complementary distribution because in this world there needs to be rules for everything. There is a certain way to pronounce everything and there is little to no free variation as to not leave any room for freedom.
- Example of phonological rules for Puellic:
 - /l/ is pronounced wherever it has historically occurred
 - The /i/ sound is drawn out therefore it is written/spoken as [i:]
 - “S” is used to denote the pluralization of words but is always pronounced /s/ and never /z/
- IPA Transcriptions (Utilizing the sounds that are available in IPA for Puellic)
 - I want to go for a walk.
 - [iy wʌnt ju gow fɔr ɔ wəl]
 - I love pizza.

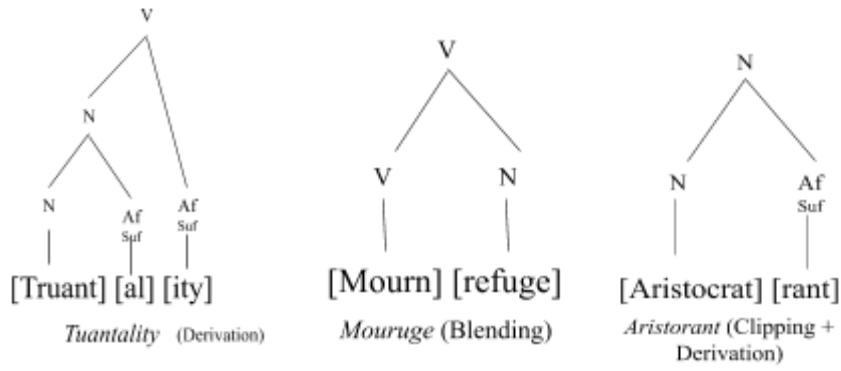
- [iɪ lʌv iːtʌ]
- She lives in Italy.
 - [ʃiː lɪvs ɪn ɪtəliː]

	Bilabial	Labiodental	Dental	Alveolar	Postalveolar	Retroflex	Palatal	Vela r	Uvular	Glottal
Plosive	b		d					g		ʔ
Nasal	m		n					ŋ		
Trill										
Flap										
Fricative		f	θ ð	s z	ʃ ʒ					h
Lateral Fricative										
Approximant			ɹ					w		



❖ Morphology

- Due to the fact that Puelllic is based on English, some of the words do come from English roots. However, most words that are derived from English are done through the morphological process of blending. For example: Mouruge comes from the words Mourn and Refuge and instead of just creating the word Mournrefuge, the words are blended.
- There are no pronouns in Puelllic because each gender has a different language that only they can understand and it is not encouraged for the women to discuss the men at all (explaining why they were not given a word for men).
- Words from the Puelllic
 - Tuantality (v): the act of being consistently late [junæIIdi:]
 - Knealining (v): the act of bowing down before someone who has a higher social status than you [ni:InθIŋ]
 - Gister (n): a man that enjoys controlling people [dʒɪsɪθ]
 - Raceded (adv): to do something abruptly [ɹædɪd]
 - Bratitist (adj): a person who is very demanding and needy [bræi:ɪs]
 - Groopster (n): a person who does what anyone tells them to do/ a person who is unable to stand up for themselves [gɹʊpsɪθ]
 - Hypornicaded (adj): a person who is constantly pregnant and has a lot of children [hiyɔwnɪeɪdɪd]
 - Impenelly (adj): dangerous [ɪmɛnɪli:]
 - Cipperd (n): someone who is an expert in something [sɪpɪd]
 - Submisitted (adj): a person who is very weak and demure [sɔbmɪsɪd]
 - Aristorant (n): a person who is regarded highly in society [ɹɪstɔɹɪn]
 - Overry (n): female [ɔvɪri:]
 - Vallume (n): vacuum cleaner [væljum]
 - Digisol (n): a phone [dɪdʒɪsɔl]
 - Infusidicienes (adv): to do something without caring [ɪnfjusi:dsɪnɪs]
 - Excusapsycholo (v): the act of not conforming to societal norms [ɛsjusAsiyɔwɪθ]
 - Mouruge (v): the act of forcing yourself to be happy [mɔɹjug]
 - Diwherder (n): dishwasher [dɪwɛdɛ]
 - Relidy (adj): logical [ɹɪɪɪdi:]
 - Franchans (n): money [frɔntʃæns]
 - Sub (prefix): lower [sɔb]
 - Brightyor (verb): to think (brɪjɹɔɹ)



❖ Syntax

- Due to the fact that the core of Puelllic is based on English, this language still employs the basic use of SVO word order. However, due to the sexist nature of this society the women are never able to make declarative statements. Instead, all of their sentences must start with the phrase “Brightyor” which means “to think”
- Puelllic has similar lexical categories to English (nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs) except it does not have pronouns. They are not encouraged to discuss men and if they were to talk about someone they would simply refer to them with their name rather than him/her/their.
- The way the lexical category is determined is not exactly straight forward like it is in English (ex: if a word ends with -ly in English that pretty much automatically means its an adverb). Due to the fact that most of these words are derived from English words the lexical category actually comes from the meaning. For instance Mouruge comes from the words Mourn and Refuge, therefore the word, in a sense, means getting refuge from mourning (forcing yourself to be happy) which is an action and therefore a verb.

