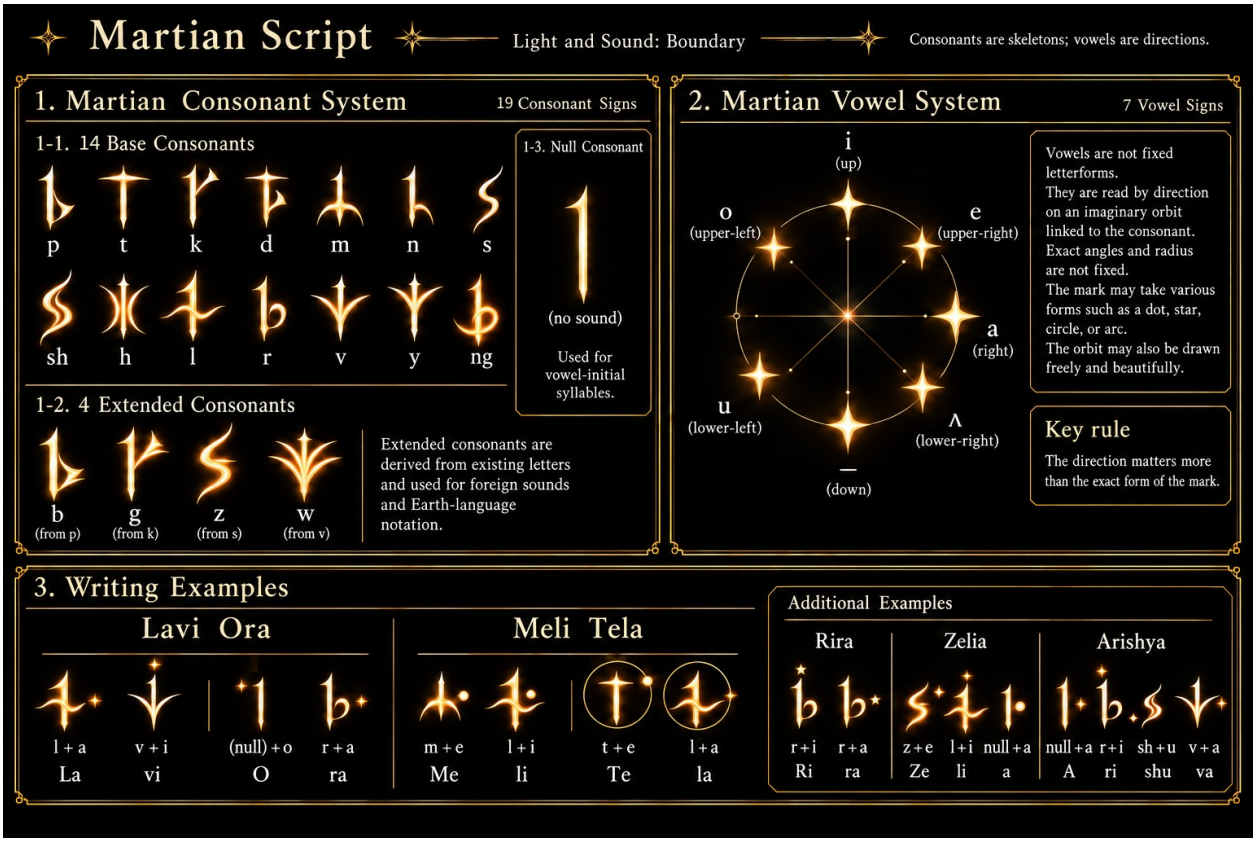
Official Martian Script Rules

Ver. 2.0

Martian Script - Core Specification



Martian Script Ver. 2.0 - Overview

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4.14 ŋ - Coiled Root Form

Its defining feature is a single root-like flow that coils around or passes across the basic stem. The coiled root may grow directly from the stem as part of a single body, or it may appear as a separate root line wrapping around or passing across the stem. At a crossing point, it should read as one continuous root interacting with the stem rather than as a new root branching from it. The direction of the coil may vary freely. In the Martian language, ŋ is normally used in coda position. The preferred auxiliary symbol is ŋ, while ng may be used when necessary.

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1. Core Principles

The Martian script is a writing system that represents sound by combining consonant form with vowel direction.

> **Consonants are skeletons; vowels are directions.**

Accordingly, the fundamental reading principle is:

> **Read consonants by form, vowels by direction.**

In Ver. 2.0, a consonant is not defined by one fixed outline. Each consonant is defined by morphological properties and structural relationships that distinguish it from the others. As long as those defining features remain intact, line length, curvature, position, proportion, and fine details may vary.

A variation must not lose so much of its defining structure that it can be mistaken for another consonant.

The Martian script is both a readable writing system and a freely expressive visual system.

2. Structure of the Script

The basic Martian script consists of:

- 1 empty consonant + 14 core consonants + 4 extended consonants = 19 consonant signs
- 7 directional vowels

The basic system therefore contains 26 fundamental graphemic units. Additional signs created to represent non-Martian languages more precisely are not included in this count.

2.1 Symbols Used in This Document

- C : consonant
- V : vowel
- N : empty consonant (null consonant)
- CV : consonant + vowel
- NV : empty consonant + vowel
- CVC : consonant + vowel + coda consonant
- NVC : empty consonant + vowel + coda consonant

3. Empty Consonant

The Empty Consonant is the simple vertical stem from which no additional consonantal element extends. In official charts, it is shown as a plain vertical, 1-shaped stem representing the central structural skeleton found in other consonants.

When a syllable begins with a vowel, the empty consonant provides the skeleton to which that vowel direction is attached.

Many Martian consonants can also be understood morphologically as transformations of, or additions to, this basic skeleton through elements such as leaves, roots, thorns, vines, and waves. The empty consonant is therefore both a functional sign and the morphological starting point of the consonant system.

4. Core Consonants

The Martian language has 14 Core Consonants.

Auxiliary Notation	Morphological Name
p	Bent Leaf Form
t	Thorn Form
k	Rising Leaf Form
d	Thorn + Rising Leaf Form
m	Double Root Form
n	Single Root Form
s	Vine Form
sh	Double Vine Form
h	Wind Form
l	Wave Form
r	Curled Leaf Form
v	Lower Orchid Form
y	Upper Orchid Form
ŋ	Coiled Root Form



Figure 1. Martian Consonant System Ver. 2.0

4.1 p - Bent Leaf Form

The identity of p lies in a bent leaf. Its exact curve and length may vary, but the defining feature is a single leaf that is sharply bent. The sharper quality of p distinguishes it intuitively from the softer curl of r.

4.2 t - Thorn Form

t is characterized by a thorn emerging from the basic skeleton. The thorn may vary in length, angle, curvature, and detail.

4.3 k - Rising Leaf Form

k is characterized by a leaf that rises upward. The Rising Leaf Form may be broad and ornamental, thin, drawn as a simple straight stroke, diamond-shaped, or expressed in many other forms. Its exact shape is unrestricted, provided that it preserves the characteristic of rising upward at approximately a 45-degree angle.

4.4 d - Thorn + Rising Leaf Form

d combines a thorn with a rising leaf. It belongs to the core consonant inventory rather than being treated as a mere extension of another consonant.

4.5 m - Double Root Form

m has two roots extending from the lower region of the basic skeleton.

4.6 n - Single Root Form

n has one root extending from the lower region of the basic skeleton.

4.7 s - Vine Form

s represents one continuous vine flow. The vine may bend, angle, wave, or coil freely; it is not required to resemble the Latin letter S.

4.8 sh - Double Vine Form

sh consists of two vine flows. The two vines may run beside each other, intertwine, or cross, as long as the presence of two vines remains recognizable.

4.9 h - Wind Form

h visually evokes wind flowing or passing through an opening. Openness, division, and flow are its defining qualities.

4.10 l - Wave Form

l is characterized by a wave in relation to the basic skeleton. The wave may grow directly out of the skeleton as one continuous body, or it may pass over or around the skeleton as a distinct wave. In either treatment, the relationship between the skeleton and the wave must remain clear. The width and curvature of the wave are flexible and need not be so wide that they interfere with vowel marks.

4.11 r - Curled Leaf Form

r is characterized by a curled or rolled leaf. Where p is sharply bent, r is defined by a softer curling motion.

4.12 v - Lower Orchid Form

v carries an orchid-like branching form in the lower region of the basic skeleton.

4.13 y - Upper Orchid Form

y carries an orchid-like branching form in the middle or upper region of the basic skeleton.

5. Extended Consonants

The Martian language has 4 Extended Consonants.

Auxiliary Notation	Morphological Structure
b	Bent Leaf + Side Leaf
g	Rising Leaf + Side Leaf
z	Vine + Side Leaf
w	Double Orchid

5.1 Side Leaf

The Side Leaf is a small auxiliary element that generally extends horizontally or slightly upward. It may be drawn as a straight stroke, a gentle curve, an arc, a leaf-like form, or another shape. Its exact form is unrestricted, but it should remain smaller and more subsidiary than the Rising Leaf Form and generally point from the horizontal direction to no more than approximately 30 degrees upward.

5.2 b

b extends p and is formed as Bent Leaf + Side Leaf.

5.3 g

g extends k and is formed as Rising Leaf + Side Leaf.

5.4 z

z extends s and is formed as Vine + Side Leaf.

5.5 w - Double Orchid

w combines the Lower Orchid and Upper Orchid structures in a single consonant.

6. Directional Vowels

The Martian Script has seven basic vowels. The auxiliary notation is: a · e · i · o · u · — · ʌ.

Vowel	Direction
a	right
e	upper-right
i	up
o	upper-left
u	lower-left
—	down

ʌ	lower-right

The symbol − is used as an auxiliary notation for the /ɯ/ vowel category.

Each vowel is defined by direction rather than by one exact angle. A vowel is valid as long as its intended directional region is clearly distinguishable.

6.1 Basic Arrangement of the Vowels

The vowel directions can be understood easily by imagining a clock face. Beginning with a at the 3 o'clock direction and moving counterclockwise at intervals of approximately one hour and thirty minutes, the vowels appear in the following order: a → e → i → o → (9 o'clock left empty) → u → − → ʌ. Thus, with the 9 o'clock position left unused, the vowels follow the easily remembered sequence a · e · i · o · u · − · ʌ. The clock-face model is an explanatory and mnemonic reference, not a rule that fixes every vowel marker to an exact angle.

6.2 Why the 9 O'Clock Direction Is Left Empty

No basic vowel is assigned to the 9 o'clock direction. This also functions as structural spacing that reduces collisions between neighboring characters in horizontal writing. A marker directly to the left of a character could interfere with the right-side elements of the preceding character, while the upper and lower directions are less likely to interfere. Leaving the 9 o'clock direction unused therefore improves readability, separation between characters, and visual stability.

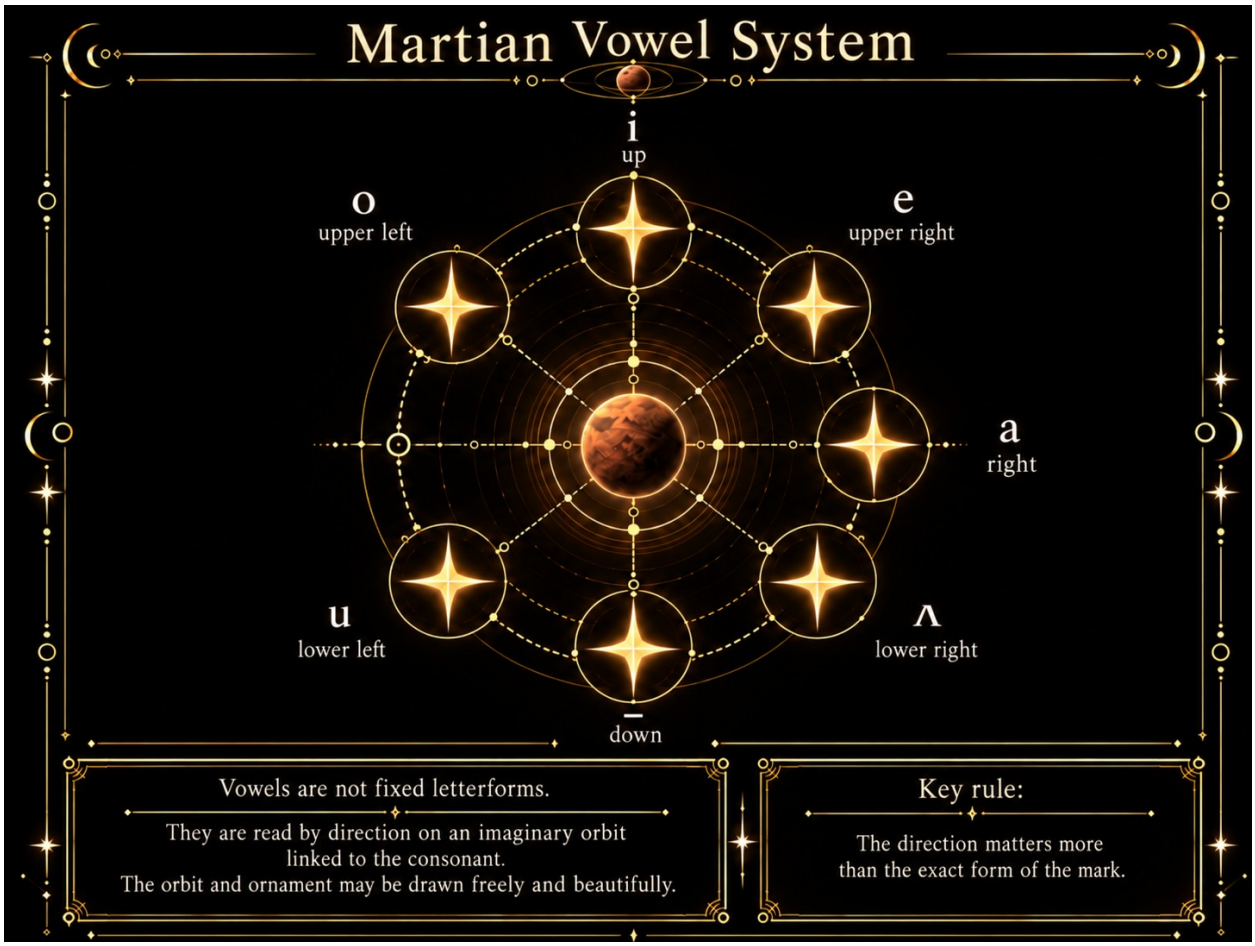


Figure 2. Martian Vowel System Ver. 2.0

7. Vowel Marks and Orbits

Vowels are read through directional relationships linked to the consonant skeleton. A vowel mark may be rendered as a four-point star, dot, circle, diamond, short line, arc, gap, or another visual device.

Official diagrams use the four-point star as a representative mark, but the star itself is not the vowel. The vowel is determined by direction, not by the shape of the mark.

The orbit is likewise not fixed to one shape. It may be circular, elliptical, polygonal, partial, open, or otherwise freely shaped. If direction is sufficiently clear, the orbit may be omitted entirely.

The orbit is not the vowel.
Direction is the vowel.

8. Consonant-Vowel Combination

Adding one vowel direction to a consonant skeleton produces the basic consonant-vowel unit.

$$C + V \rightarrow CV$$
$$N + V \rightarrow NV$$

When a syllable begins with a vowel, the empty consonant is used. Consonant and vowel form one visual unit, while a coda consonant may follow as a separate consonant skeleton.

9. Codas

Martian allows syllable codas, but it does not use a separate set of coda letters. A coda uses the same consonant skeleton as an onset consonant.

- CV
- NV
- CVC
- NVC
- C / CC / CCC ...

A coda consonant carries no vowel-direction mark. A decorative orbit may remain, but without a vowel-direction mark the consonant is read as vowelless.

10. Coda Pronunciation and Liaison

Martian does not use Korean-style coda neutralization. A consonant in coda position normally retains its own inherent sound value.

If a coda is followed by a vowel syllable beginning with an empty consonant and there is no audible pause between them, the coda may link naturally to the following vowel.

$$CVC + NV$$

If there is a pause, or if the following syllable begins with an actual consonant, the coda retains its position and inherent sound value.

11. Compound Vowels

When two or more vowels combine into a single vowel unit, they form a compound vowel. Diphthongs, triphthongs, four-part, five-part, and still higher compound vowels are possible.

11.1 One Orbit

When the pronunciation order is unambiguous, or when there is no need to mark the order explicitly, multiple vowel directions may be placed on a single orbit.

11.2 Multiple Orbits

When pronunciation order needs to be made explicit, multiple orbit radii may be used. They are read from the inner orbit to the outer orbit.

Direction determines the vowel type;
when needed, orbit radius determines pronunciation order.

Multiple orbits are optional. They are used only when the pronunciation sequence needs to be marked.

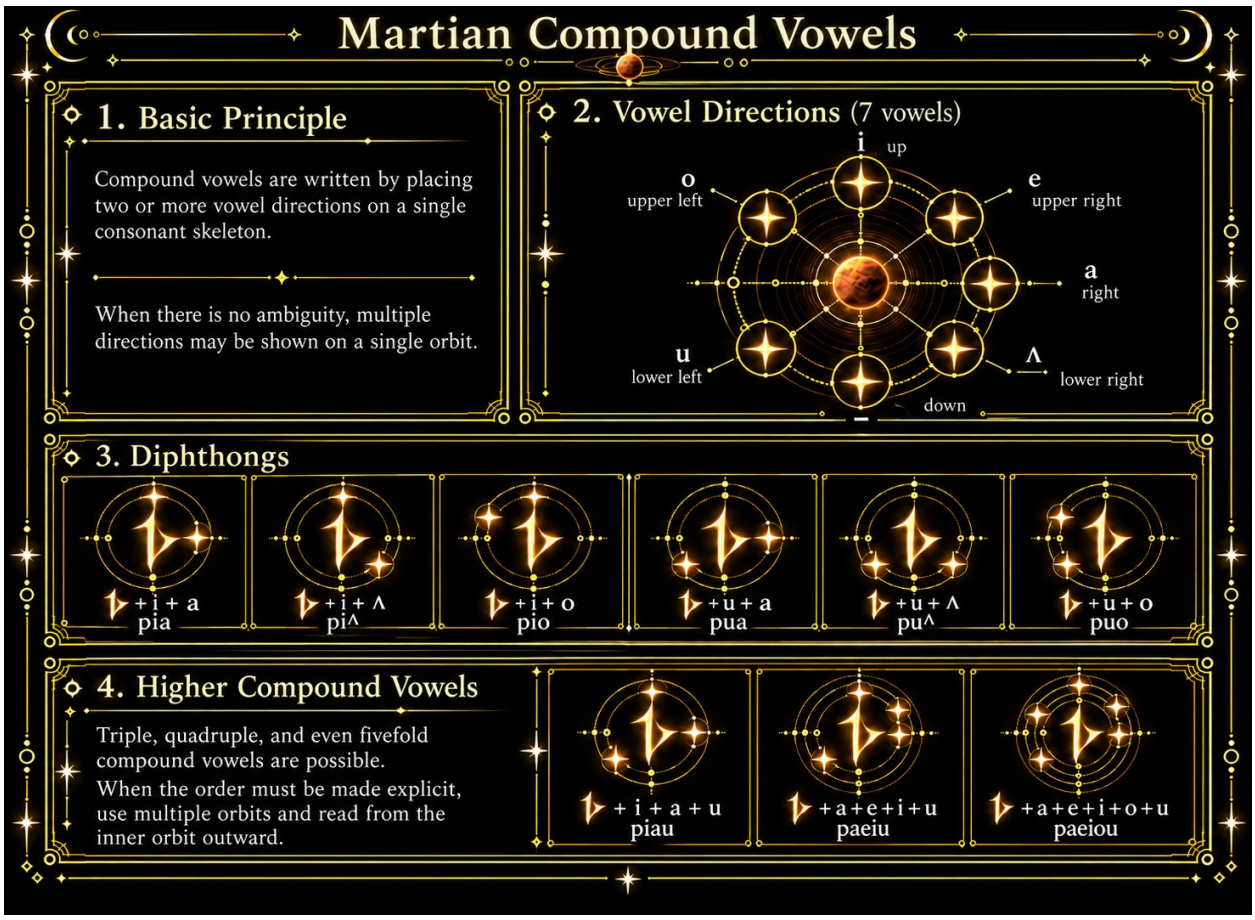


Figure 3. Martian Script Compound Vowels Guide Ver. 2.0

12. Independent Vowels and Compound Vowels

A sequence of two or more vowels does not automatically form one compound vowel. If the vowels are pronounced as independent vowels or syllables, each may be written with its own empty consonant.

The Martian script can therefore distinguish a single compound vowel from a sequence of independent vowels.

13. Consonant-Vowel Duality of Y and W

In the Martian script, y- and w-type sounds may be treated either as consonants or as vowel components.

When treated as consonants, a y or w consonant skeleton is combined with one directional vowel. When treated as vowel components, the relevant pronunciation may instead be represented as a compound vowel using multiple vowel directions.

The same pronunciation may therefore have more than one valid spelling. Both treatments are permitted. This is a separate principle of consonant-vowel duality and should not be confused with the general rules for compound vowels.

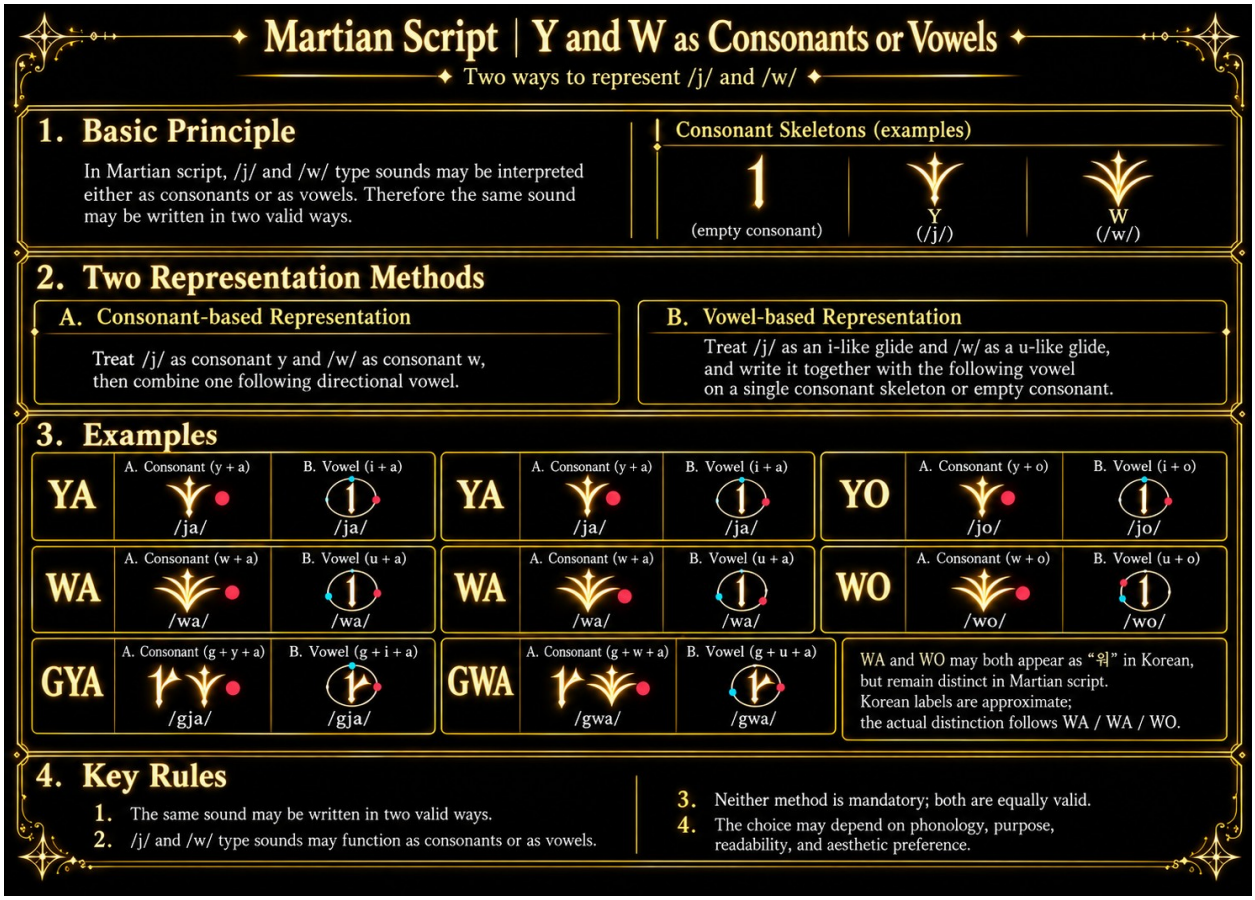


Figure 4. Consonant-Vowel Duality of Y and W

14. Word Spacing

Words are normally separated by spaces in the Martian script. For titles, logos, decorative lettering, and other visual uses, however, multiple words may be joined for compositional purposes.

When words are joined, boundaries may still be indicated through spacing, scale, position, orbit treatment, or other visual means when needed.

Words are normally spaced apart,
but may be joined for visual composition.

15. Punctuation

Ordinary punctuation such as periods, commas, and question marks may be used. Punctuation may also be stylized to suit the visual language of a work. Punctuation designs are not counted among the basic characters of the Martian script.

16. Stylistic Freedom of All Characters

The forms shown in official charts are representative reference forms, not fixed outlines. Every character in the Martian Script may be freely decorated and transformed as long as the essential visual features and structural relationships that define its identity are preserved.

Stroke thickness and length, curvature, terminal shapes, ornamentation, proportions, orbit shapes and sizes, and the forms of vowel markers may all vary freely. Calligraphic, ornamental, geometric, painterly, and other visual interpretations are all permitted.

The same character may be represented in a very simple form or in a highly complex and decorative form. This principle applies to the Empty Consonant, all other consonants, and all vowel expressions. What matters is not the exact outward appearance of a character, but the preservation of the essential form, direction, position, and structural relationships that define its identity.



Artistic example: Zelia



Artistic example: Lavi Ora lyrics

17. Non-Martian Phonetic Extension Set

The Martian Script was created for the phonological system of the Martian language. When it is used to write another language, sounds may be required that do not exist in Martian. Existing Martian letters should be reused whenever possible.

When the existing system cannot adequately represent a necessary phonetic distinction, new extension characters may be created using the existing visual elements of the Martian Script. These extension characters are not included in the 26 basic graphemic units.

The Non-Martian Phonetic Extension Set does not belong exclusively to any particular Earth language. Phonetic value takes priority over spelling. Different languages may share the same extension character when they use the same sound, while identical spellings may be represented by different extension characters when their actual phonetic values differ.

17.1 Examples for Korean and Other Languages

Korean	Auxiliary Notation	Morphological Principle
ㄲ	kk	Two Rising Leaves
ㄸ	tt	Two Thorns
ㅃ	pp	Two Bent Leaves
ㅆ	ss	Vine + Double Thorn
ㅉ	jj (zz)	Vine + Two Side Leaves
ㅊ	ch	Vine + Side Leaf + Thorn

These signs do not alter the core Martian consonant inventory. They are auxiliary extensions for representing phonetic values required by non-Martian languages.

17.2 /tʃ/ Category - ch

ch = Vine Form s + Side Leaf + Thorn. This character is a Non-Martian Phonetic Extension for the /tʃ/ sound category. In Korean, it may be used for ㅊ. It is not Korean-specific and may be shared by other non-Martian languages that require the /tʃ/ sound category.

17.3 /f/

The Martian language does not include /f/ as a basic phoneme. When /f/ is required in a non-Martian language, the extension f = p + Thorn may be used.

17.4 /θ/

This corresponds to the th sound in English think. /θ/ = t + Side Leaf.

17.5 /ð/

This corresponds to the th sound in English this. /ð/ = t + Two Side Leaves. Although both /θ/ and /ð/ are spelled th in English, Martian Script distinguishes them because actual phonetic value takes priority over spelling.

17.6 /ʒ/

/ʒ/ = s + Upper-Right Leaf. A leaf element pointing toward the upper-right is added to the Vine Form of s.

17.7 /dʒ/

/dʒ/ = s + Lower-Left Leaf. A leaf element pointing toward the lower-left is added to the Vine Form of s. The official rules treat /ʒ/ and /dʒ/ as different phonetic values represented by different extension characters.

17.8 Extension Principle

Non-Martian Phonetic Extension characters should reuse the existing visual language of the Martian Script whenever possible. New sounds should be incorporated by combining or modifying existing elements such as leaves, thorns, vines, roots, orchids, and side leaves, preserving the overall visual identity of the script.

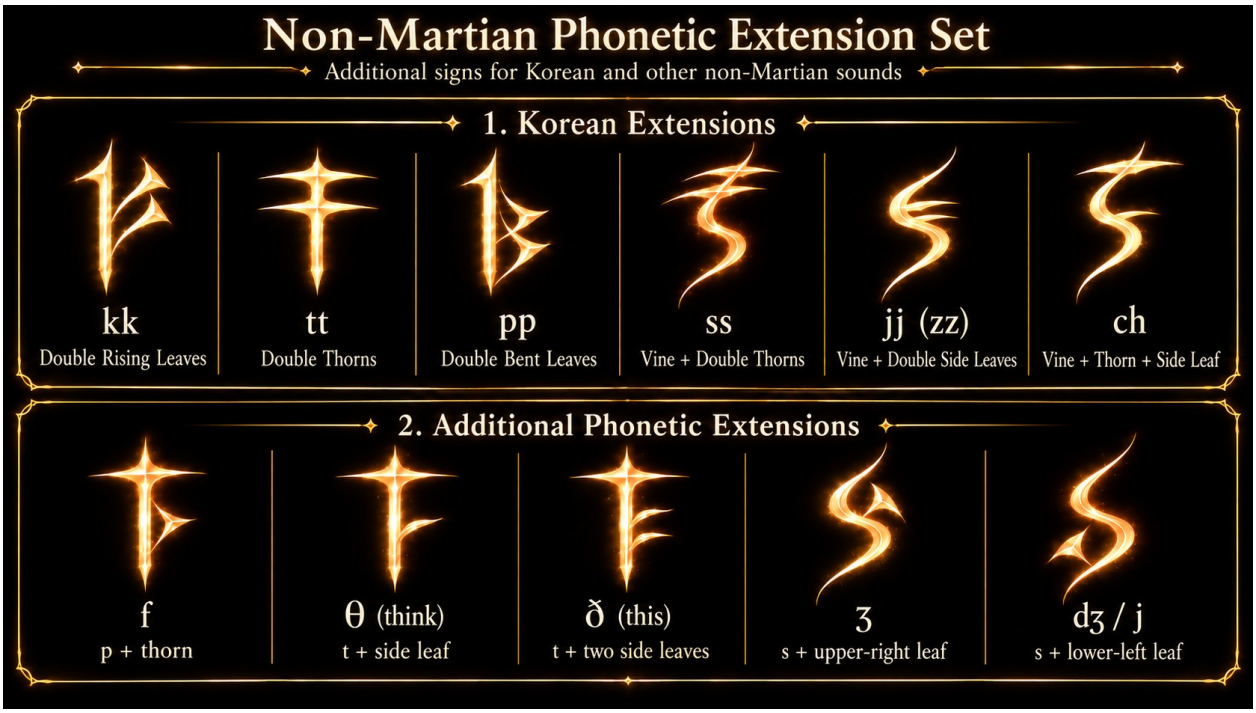


Figure 5. Non-Martian Phonetic Extension Set

18. Core of Ver. 2.0

Martian Script Ver. 2.0 is not a writing system based on memorizing exact outlines.

The identity of a character lies in its morphological relationships and rules.

Consonants are read through their essential forms and structural relationships, while vowels are read through direction. The same character may be represented in a very simple form or in a highly decorative form. Orbits and ornamentation may vary freely, but the structures that define character identity must remain recognizable.

Consonants are skeletons; vowels are directions.
Read consonants by form, vowels by direction.

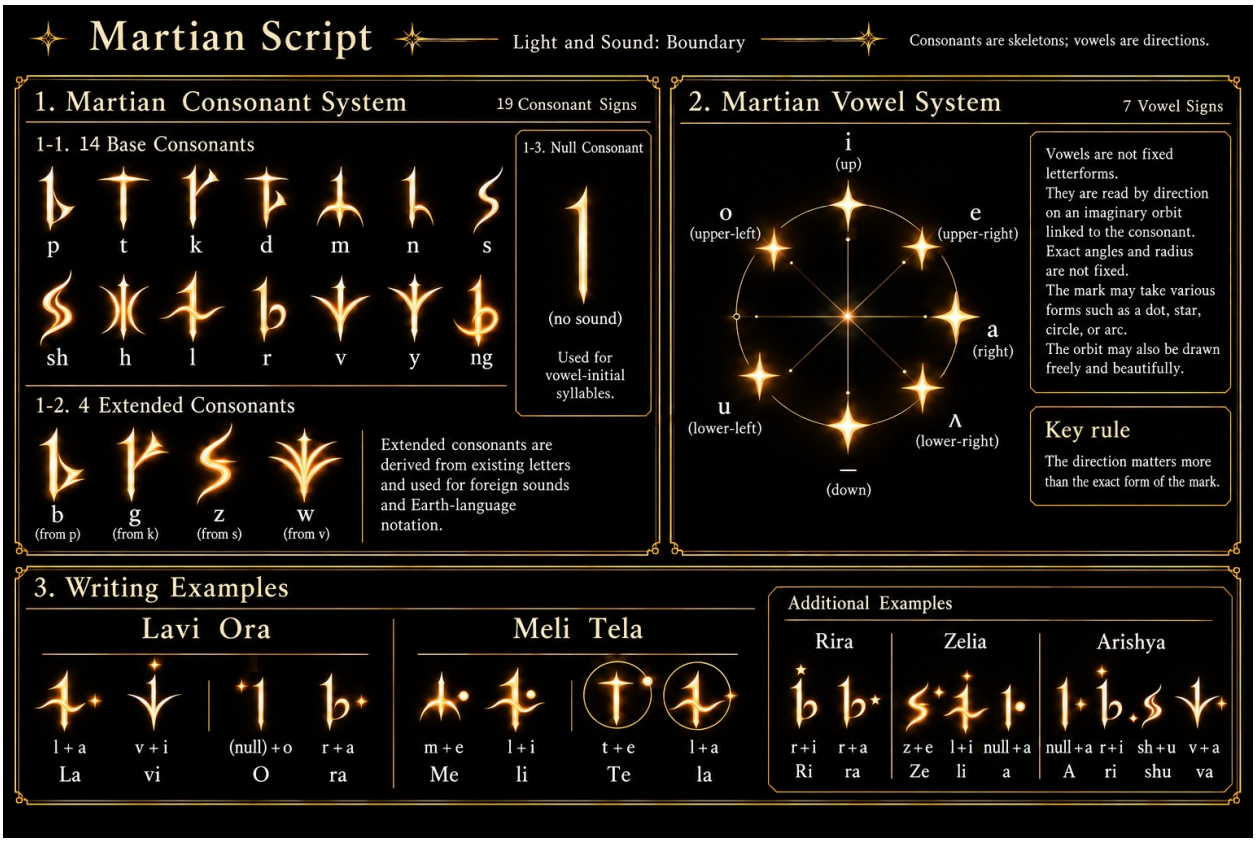


Figure 6. Martian Script Ver. 2.0 - Overview

Probable Garden · Martian Script Ver. 2.0