

AILO 2026 team question

The **Oduduwa script** was created in 2016 or 2017 by a Beninese Yoruba chief named Tolúlàṣẹ̀ Ògúntósìn for the Yoruba language of Nigeria and Benin. Ògúntósìn says that the script was revealed to him by the Yoruba mythic ancestor Oduduwa in a series of dreams from 2011 to 2016.

You probably remember seeing Yoruba in Latin orthography in Round 1. The Oduduwa script closely follows the standard spelling for Yoruba when using the Latin alphabet though tones are not always indicated in the script. One thing to be aware of is that the script uses ‘ligatures’: when two adjacent letters share a vertical stroke, the two letters are combined. Also, they can appear joined up if their end- and start-strokes match. For example, the Yoruba word *iwe* is written as shown here, where the *i* and *w* share a vertical stroke, and the *w* and *e* are joined together. You should be aware that Yoruba has two ‘e’ vowels (open and close like in ‘met’ and ‘mate’, written **ẹ** and **e** when using Latin orthography), two ‘o’ vowels (similarly open as in ‘cot’ and close as in ‘coat’, written **ọ** and **o**), and also distinguishes ‘s’ and ‘sh’, written **s** and **ṣ**, respectively.



There follows a list of the 54 countries of Africa written in Oduduwa script, and listed in Oduduwa alphabetical order, which is not the same as English alphabetical order. Most of the names are phonetically similar to the English names, though of course some of them contain translated words.

1. Your first task is simply to supply the corresponding English names of the countries.

1	ፋርሮርጋ
2	የዕቅድ ፋብሪካ
3	ፋብሪካ
4	አሳሪ ስራ ስጦታ
5	ፋብሪካ
6	ፋብሪካ
7	ገቢዎች
8	ገቢዎች
9	ፋብሪካ አሳሪ ስራ ስጦታ
10	የፋብሪካ ገቢዎች ስጦታ
11	ፋብሪካ ስራ ስጦታ

12	ፋፑስፋርህ
13	ገሰገሰጋሰ
14	ፋስፋጸነረግሰ
15	ገፑስህባህሰ
16	ፑ5ፋኃ ገሰፋስገሃገባህሰ
17	ገረህህሰፉ
18	ፋገስፋጅስፋረ
19	ፑርፑረ
20	ፋገ5ገሰህረ
21	ፑፋጅረ
22	ፑረፑ5ጋጋ
23	ፋገባጋሰጋ
24	ፋጅገሰጋ
25	ባፋሃ5ፋርፋፑፋሂ
26	ገጸፋጋፋሂ
27	ገጋፋሂ
28	ፋገስፋረገባፑሂ
29	5ህጅገባፑሂ
30	ፑሃፑባፑሂ
31	ገሃገገሰፋ5ፑሂ
32	ፋገባፉፋስ
33	ፋገሰሂፋስ
34	ባርፉገስ
35	ፋፑስፋጸህባ

36	ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ ᐃᐃᐃ ᐃᐃᐃ ᐃᐃᐃ
37	ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ
38	ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ
39	ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ
40	ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ
41	ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ
42	ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ
43	ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ
44	ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ
45	ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ
46	ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ
47	ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ
48	ᐃᐃᐃ ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ
49	ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ
50	ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ
51	ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ-ᐃᐃᐃ ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ
52	ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ
53	ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ
54	ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ ᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃᐃ

2. Here are the names of some other countries in Yoruba. Write them in Oduduwa script, along with their English names.

- (a) Irlanda (b) Jẹmani (c) Şaina (d) Swidin (e) Orile-ede Amerika
 (f) Bẹljiomu (g) Kanada (h) Rọsia (i) Guusu Korea (j) Titun Ginea (k) Katar

3. Sort the Yoruba names (a)-(k) into Oduduwa alphabetical order.