

Rumanian is a Romance language and it is the official language of Rumania. Of the nine Romance languages, Rumanian is the only one remaining that developed from the Latin once spoken in the East Roman Empire. There are approximately 20 million speakers in Rumania, 3 million in the former USSR, 300,000 in other areas of the Balkans, and 30 thousand in the United States. There are 4 principle dialects of Rumanian: 1) Daco-Rumanian - this is the basis for the standard dialect, 2) Aromanian / Maudo-Rumanian spoken in Greece, Yugoslavia, Albania, and Bulgaria 3) Megleno Rumanian spoken in northern Greece, and 4) Istro-Rumanian spoken in the northwest of the former Yugoslavia.

The speaker in this recording is female in her thirties from Bucarest.

Romanian Consonant Phonemes:

Stops:	p	t		k
	b	d		g
Affricates:		ts	tʃ	
			dʒ	
Fricatives:	f	s	ʃ	h
	v	z	ʒ	
Nasals:	m	n		
Liquids:		l		
		r		
Glides:			j	w

[r] occurs as well, but it does not contrast with the flap; it is not clear which is underlying.

Vowels and Diphthongs, and Triphthongs Exhibited:

i	i	u		iw ij	iw ij	uw uj ju
ɪ						
e	ə ʌ	o			əw əj jə	ow oj
ɛ		ɔ		ɛw jɛ jɛw jɛj		ɔw jɔ ɛo
	a				aw aj ja ɛa ɔa	
					jaw jaj ɔaw ɛaw ɛaj	

I. Spontaneous Speech

II. Word Lists

Vowels:

1. [unt] 'butter'
2. [guler] 'colour'
3. [gɔl] 'empty'

4.	[lɔk]	'place'
5.	[fak]	'make'
6.	[apə]	'water'
7.	[asɔsi]	'to arrive'
8.	[kibrɪt]	'a match'
9.	[inimɔ]	'heart'
10.	[k ^h ɛm]	'I call'
11.	[pɛpɛnɛ]	'melon'
12.	[tʃinɛ]	'who'
13.	[tʃina]	'meal'
14.	[kint]	'I sing'
15.	[iŋkə]	'yet'
16.	[vəɾ]	'cousin'
17.	[viɾ]	'I push into'
18.	[varə]	'summer'
19.	[var]	'lime, chalk'
20.	[urə]	'he wished'
21.	[uri]	'he hated'
22.	[piɾ]	'crack'
23.	[pəɾ]	'pear tree'
24.	[paɾ]	'club, pole'
25.	[pɔɾ]	'pore'
26.	[pur]	'pure'
27.	[arɛda]	'to render'
28.	[rid]	'I laugh'
29.	[ruda]	'relation'
30.	[rɔd]	'fruit'
31.	[radar]	'radar'
32.	[rɔmɪŋkə]	'Romanian woman'
33.	[padʒinɔ]	'page'
34.	[sɛptəmɪnə]	'week'

Onglides:

1.	[mjɛl]	'lamb'
2.	[fɛmɛjɛ]	'woman'
3.	[uɾɟijɛ]	'fingernail'
4.	[kjɔɾ]	'one-eyed'
5.	[jɔd]	'iodine'
6.	[jutɛ]	'quick'
7.	[jatɛ]	'here is'
8.	[jarbə]	'grass'
9.	[jə]	'he takes'
10.	[ɛa]	'she'
11.	[bɛa]	'he drinks'
12.	[fɛrɛastrə]	'window'
13.	[vrɛɔdatə]	'ever'
14.	[dɔwa]	'two'
15.	[rɔwa]	'dew'

16.	[ziwa]	'day'
17.	[skoalə]	'school'
18.	[oaməni]	'men'
19.	[skrisoare]	'letter'
20.	[steawa]	'the star'

Off Glides:

1.	[ftiw]	'I know'
2.	[ftij]	'you know'
3.	[now]	'new' (m. sg.)
4.	[noj]	'new' (m. pl.)
5.	[kontinuw]	'continuous'
6.	[spuj]	'you say'
7.	[kuj]	'nail'
8.	[rəw]	'bad' (m. sg.)
9.	[rəj]	'bad' (m. pl.)
10.	[riw]	'river'
11.	[kijne]	'dog'
12.	[pijne]	'bread'
13.	[daw]	'I give'
14.	[daj]	'you give'
15.	[lew]	'monetary unit'
16.	[grew]	'heavy' (m. sig.)
17.	[grɛj]	'heavy' (m. pl.)

Triphthongs:

1.	[jɛwsint]	'I am'
2.	[vrɔjaj]	'you wanted'
3.	[vrɛaw]	'I want'
4.	[tɔjaj]	'you were cutting'
5.	[tɔjaw]	'they were cutting'
6.	[jɛw]	'I'
7.	[jɛj]	'they'
8.	[ɛŋglɛzoəjka]	'English woman'
9.	[mjɛj]	'lambs'
10.	[jaw]	'I am taking'
11.	[spɛrjaj]	'you frightened'
12.	[trədʒɛaj]	'you pulled'
13.	[putɛaw]	'they were able'

Voiceless (short) [i]:

1.	[kɔs]	'I sew'
2.	[kɔfj]	'you sew'
3.	[krɛsk]	'I grow'
4.	[krɛftj]	'you grow'
5.	[pɔrt]	'I carry'

6.	[pɔrtsɨ]	'you carry'
7.	[frate]	'brother'
8.	[fratsi:]	'the brothers'
9.	[baŋkə]	'bank'
10.	[bintʃi]	'banks'
11.	[tinər]	'young man'
12.	[tinəri]	'young men'
13.	[muʃk]	'I bite'
14.	[muʃti]	'you bite'
15.	[rɔmiŋkə]	'Romanian women'
16.	[rɔmiŋi]	'Romanians'
17.	[undeɤvɔdʉʃi]	'Where are you going?'
18.	[grɔʃestɨ]	'you are wrong'

III. Reading Sample

References:

- Cazacu, Boris et al. 1939. A Course in Contemporary Romanian. Bucharest: Editura Didactica si Pedagogica
- Seiver, George O. 1953. Introduction to Romanian. New York: Hafner Publishing Co.
- Stefanescu-Drăganesti, Virgilui and Murrell, Martin. 1970. Romanian. London: The English Universities Press.