

The Tones

The Thai language has five tones, neutral tone, low tone, the falling tone, high tone and rising tone.

The same syllable with a different tone will sometimes radically different meanings.

A good understanding of tone is a prerequisite to learning capital of the Thai language.

Before detailing the rules governing the tone of a syllable, I offer a record of these five tones.

Listen and repeat, make sure you understand the difference between these five tones is crucial.

กา

ก่า

ก้า

Neutral Tone



Low Tone



Falling Tone ˆ

{play}images/son/Tons/ton1.mp3{/play}

{play}images/son/Tons/ton2.mp3{/play}

{play}images/son/Tons/ton3.mp3{/play}

กั

กั

All the tones

High Tone ˆ

Rising Tone

V



{play}images/son/Tons/ton1.mp3{/play} [son/Tons/ton5.mp3{/play}](#) {play}images/son/Tons/tousleston

The tones associated with syllables Thai depend on many factors: class of the initial consonant, vowel length, presence of a final consonant and accents.

We can combine all these combinations in tables.

With accent

Consonant

▪

๑

6/

+

Medium



High



don't exist

don't exist

Low



don't exist

don't exist

Without accent

Consonant

Long vowel or syllable ending in the letter ng,n,m

Long vowel and syllable ending in the letter k,p,t

Short vowel or syllable ending in the letter k,p,t

Medium



The Tones

