Klingon, Quenya, Parseltongue...

(some phonetic inventories)
Klingon (/tlh̷əŋ xol/)  

We’re going to discuss Klingon today.
Klingon (/tɬɪŋən xɔl/)

We’re going to discuss Klingon today.
I don’t speak it very well…
Klingon (/tɬίŋan xol/) 

We’re going to discuss Klingon today. 
I don’t speak it very well… 
…so I’m going to stop right now.
Klingon (/tɬɪŋən xol/)  

We’re going to discuss Klingon today.  
I don’t speak it very well…  
…so I’m going to stop right now.  

If there are any Klingons in this class,  
I don’t want to annoy them.
Klingon

Klingon was constructed by linguist Marc Okrand, whose first Star Trek-related job involved Vulcan…
# Klingon Consonant Inventory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bilabial</th>
<th>Labiodental</th>
<th>Dental</th>
<th>Retroflex</th>
<th>Palatal</th>
<th>Velar</th>
<th>Uvular</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>b, p</td>
<td>t</td>
<td>ɖ</td>
<td>q</td>
<td>?</td>
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<td>tɬ</td>
<td>tʃ, dʒ</td>
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<td>v</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>x, y</td>
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<td>liquids</td>
<td>r, l</td>
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<tr>
<td>nasals</td>
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<td>n</td>
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(vowels: a, e, i, o, u)
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</table>

(vowels: ɑ, ɛ, ɪ, o, u)

...and a pretty restricted syllable structure, mostly CVC, with a restricted set of possible final clusters, maybe just **ry** (**tʃɔry** ‘eight’)
Klingon alphabet (pîqad)
Tolkien’s *Quenya*
Ai! Laurië lantar lassi sûrinen, 
inyar únóti nar ve rámar aldaron! 
inyar ve linté yulmar vánier 
mi oromardi lisse-miruvóreva 
Andúnë pella, Vardo tellumar 
nu luine yassen tintilar i eleni 
ómaryo airetári-lírinen.

Ah! like gold fall the leaves in the wind, 
long years numberless as the wings of trees! 
The years have passed like swift draughts 
of the sweet mead in lofty halls beyond the West, 
beneath the blue vaults of Varda 
wherein the stars tremble 
in the song of her voice, holy and queenly.
The young Joukahainen,
Mouth awry and visage sneering,
Shook his golden locks and answered:
“Whoso fears his blade to measure,
Fears to test his strength at broadswords,
Into wild-board of the forest,
Swine at heart and swine in visage,
Singing I will thus transform him;
I will hurl such hero-cowards,
This one hither, that one thither,
Stamp him in the mire and bedding,
In the rubbish of the stable.”

(Excerpt from John Martin Crawford's 1910 translation of the Kalevala. This text is in the public domain.)
# Quenya Consonant Inventory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bilabial</th>
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# Quenya Consonant Inventory

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<td>c</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>n (n\textsuperscript{w})</td>
<td>j</td>
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<tr>
<td>glides</td>
<td>w, w</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

(Vowels: long and short versions of a, e, i, o, u)

No consonant clusters at the beginnings or ends of syllables: clusters only across syllable junctures, with a restricted set of possibilities (geminates, homorganic nasal-stop sequences…).
Ai! Laurië lantar lassi súrinen,
inyar únóti nar ve rámar aldaron!
inyar ve linté yulmar vánier
mi oromardi lisse-miruvóreva
Andúnë pella, Vardo tellumar
nu luine yassen tintilar i eleni
ómaryo airetári-lírinen.
Parseltongue (Francis Nolan)
# Parseltongue Inventory

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<td>?</td>
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<td>!</td>
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<td>ç</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>h̴</td>
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**Vowels (all voiceless):**

- i
- u
- ũ
- ʊ
- ɛ
- ʌ
- æ
- a
Na’vi (Paul Frommer)
# Na’vi Inventory

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<td>t’, t</td>
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<td>k’, k</td>
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<tr>
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<td>s, z</td>
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<td>r, l</td>
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<td>glides</td>
<td>w</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>j</td>
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</table>

Vowels: i, ɪ, u, o, ɛ, ə, æ, a
Dothraki (David Peterson)
# Dothraki Inventory

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<td>t̠, d̠</td>
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<td>tʃ, dʒ</td>
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<td>f, v</td>
<td>θ, s, z, ʃ, ʒ</td>
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Vowels: i, e, o, a
Back to Klingon...

Qagh ‘error’
Back to Klingon…

Qagh ‘error’
QaghHom ‘minor error’
Back to Klingon…

Qagh ‘error’
QaghHom ‘minor error’
QaghHommey ‘minor errors’
Back to Klingon…

Qagh ‘error’
QaghHom ‘minor error’
QaghHommey ‘minor errors’
QaghHommeyHey ‘apparent minor errors’
Back to Klingon…

Qagh  ‘error’
QaghHom  ‘minor error’
QaghHommey  ‘minor errors’
QaghHommeyHey  ‘apparent minor errors’
QaghHommeyHeyllj  ‘your apparent minor errors’
Back to Klingon…

Qagh ‘error’
QaghHom ‘minor error’
QaghHommey ‘minor errors’
QaghHommeyHey ‘apparent minor errors’
QaghHommeyHeyllj ‘your apparent minor errors’
QaghHommeyHeyllljmo’
‘due to your apparent minor errors’
Back to Klingon…

jIQong ‘I sleep’
bIQong ‘you sleep’
Qong ‘he/she/it sleeps’…
Back to Klingon…

qalegh ‘I see you’
cholegh ‘you see me’
vIlegh ‘I see him/her/it/them’
Dalegh ‘you see him/her/it/them’

…
Back to Klingon…

qIp ‘he/she/it/they hit him/her/it/them’
Back to Klingon…

qIp ‘he/she/it/they hit him/her/it/them’
qIpchuq ‘they hit each other’
Back to Klingon…

qIp ‘he/she/it/they hit him/her/it/them’
qIpchuq ‘they hit each other’
qIpchuqrup ‘they are ready to hit each other’
Back to Klingon…

qIp ‘he/she/it/they hit him/her/it/them’
qIpchuq ‘they hit each other’
qIpchuqrup ‘they are ready to hit each other’
qIpchuqrupchoH ‘they are getting ready to hit e.o.’
Back to Klingon…

qIp ‘he/she/it/they hit him/her/it/them’
qIpchuq ‘they hit each other’
qIpchuqrup ‘they are ready to hit each other’
qIpchuqrupchoH ‘they are getting ready to hit e.o.’
qIpchuqrupchoHlaH ‘they can get ready to hit e.o.’
Back to Klingon…

qIp ‘he/she/it/they hit him/her/it/them’
qIpchuq ‘they hit each other’
qIpchuqrup ‘they are ready to hit each other’
qIpchuqrupchoH ‘they are getting ready to hit e.o.’
qIpchuqrupchoHlaH ‘they can get ready to hit e.o.’
qIpchuqrupchoHlaHbej
   ‘they can undoubtedly get ready to hit e.o.’
Back to Klingon…

qIp ‘he/she/it/they hit him/her/it/them’
qIpchuq ‘they hit each other’
qIpchuqrup ‘they are ready to hit each other’
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qIpchuqrupchoHlaH ‘they can get ready to hit e.o.’
qIpchuqrupchoHlaHbej
    ‘they can undoubtedly get ready to hit e.o.’
qIpchuqrupchoHlaHbejneS
    ‘…sir/ma’am’
Back to Klingon…

Klingon is agglutinative.
Back to Klingon…

Klingon is *agglutinative*.

Poster child for agglutinative languages here on earth: Turkish.

\[
ev\text{-}ler\text{-}im\text{-}den \\
house\text{-}plural\text{-}my\text{-}from \\
\text{‘from my houses’}
\]