

GUIDE TO THE PHONETICS LINK

www.uiowa.edu/~acadtech/phonetics/english/frameset.html

This guide will help you find the pronunciation of consonants and vowels on the *Phonetics: The Sounds of American English* site.

CONSONANTS

The easiest way to find the sound(s) made by the consonant(s) is to start with how the sound is produced (the manner) and then look at the voice (whether the vocal chords vibrate during the production of the sound). The chart below helps you locate both the manner and the voice of each consonant.

Consonant	Sound	Sample Word	Manner	Voice
B	/b/	bat	stop	voiced
C	/k/	cow	stop	voiceless
	/s/	ice	fricative	voiceless
F	/f/	food	fricative	voiceless
G	/g/	goose	stop	voiced
	/dʒ/	cage	affricate	voiced
H	/h/	happy	fricative	voiceless
J	/dʒ/	job	affricate	voiced
K	/k/	wake	stop	voiceless
L	/l/	late	liquid	voiced
M	/m/	mask	nasal	voiced
N	/n/	knob	nasal	voiced
P	/p/	pot	stop	voiceless
R	/r/	rope	liquid	voiced
S	/s/	soap	fricative	voiceless
T	/t/	top	stop	voiceless
V	/v/	voice	fricative	voiced
W	/w/	wish	glide	voiced
Y	/j/	yellow	glide	voiced
Z	/z/	zipper	fricative	voiced
Th	/θ/	thing	fricative	voiceless
	/ð/	that	fricative	voiced
Sh	/ʃ/	shoe	fricative	voiceless
	/ʒ/	vision	fricative	voiced
Ch	/tʃ/	chop	affricate	voiceless
Ng	/ŋ/	ring	nasal	voiced

VOWELS

Vowel sounds are classified as either monophthongs or diphthongs. The easiest way to find the sound(s) made by each vowel is to start with whether the vowel is a monophthong or a diphthong. If the vowel is a monophthong, you need to know where the tongue is positioned when the sound is made. The chart below helps you locate both the type and tongue position (monophthongs only) of the long and short sounds for each vowel. The site has several more vowel sounds in addition to the ones listed here that may help you when pronouncing words.

Monophthongs

Vowel	Sound	IPA Symbol (found on site)	Sample Word	Tongue Position
A	/a/	/æ/	bat	front
	/ā/	/e/	ate	front
E	/e/	/ɛ/	egg	front
	/ē/	/i/	tree	front
I	/i/	/ɪ/	sit	front
O	/o/	/a/	top	back
	/ō/	/o/	over	back
U	/u/	/ʌ/	under	central
	/ū/	/u/	drew	back

Diphthong

Vowel	Sound	IPA Symbol (found on site)	Sample Word	Tongue Position
I	/ī/	/aɪ/	ice	