

## Consonants

| <u>IPA</u> | Spelling                                                                                    | Examples                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| /m/        | m, mm, chm, gm, lm, mb, mbe, me, mh, mme, mn, tm                                            | mine, hammer, drach <b>m</b> , phleg <b>m</b> , salmon, climb <b>, combe, forme, mho, femme, autumn, tmesipteris</b>                                                                                                                   |
| /n/        | n, nn, cn, dn, gn, gne, kn, ln, mn, mp, nd, ne, ng, nh, nne, nt, pn, sne                    | nice, inn, <b>cn</b> idarian, <b>Wed</b> nesday, <b>gn</b> ome, coigne, <b>knee</b> , Lincoln, <b>mn</b> emonic, <b>compt</b> roller, <b>hand</b> some, borne, studdingsail, piranha, tonne, topgallant-sail, <b>pn</b> eumonia, mesne |
| /ŋ/        | ng, n, nc, nd, ngh, ngue                                                                    | sing, link, charabanc, handkerchief, dinghy (GA), tongue                                                                                                                                                                               |
| /p/        | p, pp, gh, pe, ph, ppe                                                                      | pill, apps, hiccough, thorpe, diphthong (UK)*, shoppe                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| /b/        | b, bb, be, bh, pb, (p)                                                                      | bit, ebb, barbe, bhang, cupboard, (thespian (US)**)                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| /t/        | t, tt, bt, cht, ct, d, ed, ght, pt, te, th, tte, tw                                         | ten, sett, doubt, yacht, victual, iced, dressed, lighter, pterodactyl, forte, thyme, cigarette, two                                                                                                                                    |
| /d/        | d, dd, de, dh, ed, ld, t, tt (in some dialects)                                             | dive, odd, bdellium, horde, dharma, abandoned, solder, kindergarten (GA), (flatter)                                                                                                                                                    |
| /k/        | c, k, cc, cch, ch, ck, cq, cqu, cque, cu, ke, kh, kk, lk, q, qu, que, x                     | cat, key, account, zucchini, chord, tack, acquire, lacquer, sacque, biscuit, burke, khaki, trekker, polka-dotted, quorum, liquor, mosque, excitement                                                                                   |
| /g/        | g, gg, ckg, gge, gh, gu, gue                                                                | gig, egg, blackguard, pogge, ghost, guard, catalogue                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| /s/        | s, ss, c, cc, ce, ps, sc, sce, sch (in some dialects), se, sse, st, sth, sw, ts, tsw, tz, z | song, mess, city, flaccid, ounce, psalm, scene, coalesce, (schism), horse, finesse, listen, asthma (RP), sword, tsunami, boatswain, waltz (RP), quartz                                                                                 |
| /z/        | z, zz, cz, s, sc, se, sp, ss, sth, ts, tz, x, ze, c (in some dialects)                      | zoo, fuzz, czar, has, crescent (UK)**, tease, raspberry, dissolve, asthma (GA), tsarina, tzar, xylophone, breeze, (electricity)                                                                                                        |
| /ʃ/        | sh, c, ce, ch, che, chi, chsi, ci, s, sc, sch, sci, she, shi, si, ss, ssi, ti               | shin, speciality, ocean, machine, quiche, marchioness, fuchsia, special, sugar, crescendo, schmooze, conscience, galoshe, cushion, expansion, tissue, mission, nation                                                                  |
| /ʒ/        | g, ge, j, s, si, ti, z, zh, zi                                                              | genre, beige, bijou, leisure, division, equation, seizure, zhoosh, brazier                                                                                                                                                             |
| /f/        | f, ff, fe, ffe, gh, lf, ph, phe, pph, v, ve, (u)                                            | fine, chaff, carafe, gaffe, laugh, half, physical, ouphe, sapphire, sovkhos, fivepence, (lieutenant (RP))                                                                                                                              |
| /v/        | v, vv, f, lve, ph, ve, w                                                                    | vine, savvy, of, halve, Stephen, have, weltanschauung                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| /θ/        | th, the, chth, phth, tth                                                                    | thin, absinthe, chthonic, phthisis, Matthew                                                                                                                                                                                            |

|      |                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| /ð/  | th, the, y                                                                     | <b>them</b> , breathe, <b>ye</b> (mock archaic)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| /j/  | y, i, j, ll, r                                                                 | <b>yes</b> , onion, hallelujah, tortilla, February †                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| /x/  | ch (in Scottish English), gh (in Irish English)                                | <b>loch</b> , lough                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| /h/  | h, wh, j, ch, x                                                                | <b>he</b> , <b>who</b> , fajita, <b>chutzpah</b> , Quixote                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| /ɾ/  | In some dialects (see <a href="#">flapping</a> ): tt, dd, t, d                 | <b>better</b> , daddy, united, Cody                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| /r/  | r, rr, l, re, rh, rre, rrrh, rt, wr                                            | fur, burr, colonel, forewarn, <b>rhyme</b> , murre, myrrh, mortgage, <b>wrong</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| /l/  | l, ll, le, lh, lle, ln (In some dialects)                                      | line, shall, aisle, pelham, gazelle, (kiln)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| /w/  | w, u, o, ou, we, wh (in most dialects)                                         | <b>we</b> , persuade, choir, <b>Ouija</b> board, awesome, <b>what</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| /ʍ/  | wh (in <a href="#">some</a> dialects)                                          | <b>wheel</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| /tʃ/ | ch, tch, c, cc, che, chi, cz, t, tche, te, th, ti, ts, tsch, tsh, tz, tzs      | <b>chop</b> , <b>batch</b> , cello, bocce, <b>niche</b> (GA), fal <b>chion</b> , <b>Czech</b> , nature, escut <b>cheon</b> , right <b>eous</b> , post <b>humous</b> (GA), bast <b>ion</b> (GA), brits <b>ka</b> (US), puts <b>ch</b> , <b>Wiltshire</b> , britz <b>(s)ka</b> (US) |
| /dʒ/ | g, j, ch, d, dg, dge, di, dj, ge, gg, gi, t                                    | <b>magic</b> , <b>jump</b> , sandwich (RP), graduate, jud <b>gment</b> , bridge, soldier, ad <b>just</b> , barge, vegg <b>ies</b> , Belg <b>ian</b> , congratulate (US)††                                                                                                         |
| /ks/ | x, cast, cc, chs, cks, cques, cs, cz, kes, ks, lks, ques, xc, xe, xs, xsc, xsw | sax, forecastle, <b>accent</b> , tach <b>s</b> , back <b>s</b> , sac <b>ques</b> , sac <b>s</b> , eczema, bur <b>kes</b> , yak <b>s</b> , caul <b>ks</b> , to <b>ques</b> , exc <b>el</b> , ax <b>e</b> , ex <b>sert</b> , ex <b>scind</b> , cox <b>swain</b>                     |
| /l/  | tsk, tut                                                                       | <b>tsk</b> , <b>tut</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

## Vowels

Sorted more or less from close to open sounds in the [vowel diagram](#).

### Vowels

| <a href="#">IPA</a>                          | Spelling                                                                                                                                                                                     | Examples                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">/i:/</a>                         | e, e...e, i, i...e, a, ae, ay, ea, ee, ei, eo, ey, eye, ie, ie...e, is, ix, oe, oi, ue, ui, uy, y                                                                                            | be, cede, ski, machine, bologna, algae, quay, beach, bee, deceit, people, key, volleyed, field, hygiene, debris, prix, amoeba, chamois, dengue, beguine, guyot, city                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <a href="#">/ɪ/</a>                          | i, y, a, a...e, ai, e, ea, ee, ei, i...e, ia, ie, ii, o, oe, u, u...e, ui                                                                                                                    | bit, myth, orange, chocolate, bargain, pretty, mileage, breeches, counterfeit, medicine, carriage, sieve, shiitake, women, oedema, busy, minute (RP), build                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <a href="#">/u:/</a>                         | u, u...e, oo, ew, eu, ew, ieu, ioux, o, o...e, oe, oeu, ooe, ou, ough, ougha, oup, ue, ui, uo, w, wo                                                                                         | tutu, flute, too, sleuth, leeward, yew, lieu, Sioux, to, lose, shoe, manoeuvre, cooed, soup, through, brougham, coup, true, fruit, buoy (GA), cwm, two                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <a href="#">/ʊ/</a>                          | oo, u, o, or, ou, oul                                                                                                                                                                        | look, full, wolf, worsted, courier, should                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <a href="#">/eɪ/</a>                         | a, a...e, aa, ae, ai, ai...e, aig, aigh, ais, al, alf, ao, au, ay, aye, e (é), e...e, ea, eg, ee (ée), eh, ei, ei...e, eig, eigh, eighe, er, ere, es, et, ete, ey, eye, ez, ie, oeh, ue, uet | bass, rate, quaalude, reggae, rain, cocaine, arraign, straight, palais, Ralph (Br.), halfpenny, gaol, gauge, hay, played, ukulele (café), crepe, steak, matinee (soirée), thegn, eh, veil, beige, reign, eight, weighed, dossier, espaliered, demesne, ballet, crocheted, they, obeyed, chez, lingerie (GA), boehmite (GA), merengue, bouquet                         |
| <a href="#">/ə/</a>                          | a, e, i, o, u, y, a...e, ae, ah, ai, anc, au, ea, eau, eh, ei, eig, eo, eou, eu, gh, ie, o...e, oa, oe, oh, oi, oo, op, ou, ough, u...e, ua, ue, ui, uo                                      | tuna, oven, pencil, icon, opus, beryl, gunwale, anaerobe, Messiah, mountain, blancmange, aurora, Eleanor, bureaucrat, keffiyeh, mullein, foreign, truncheon, timeous, amateur (RP), burgh, mischievous (GA), awesome, starboard, biocoenosis, matzoh, porpoise, whipoorwill, topgallant, callous, borough (RP), minute (GA), piquant, guerilla, circuit (GA), languor |
| <a href="#">/əʊ/</a><br><a href="#">/oʊ/</a> | o, o...e, aoh, au, aux, eau, eaue, eo, ew, oa, oe, oh, oo, ore, ot, ou, ough, oughe, ow, owe                                                                                                 | so, bone, pharaoh, mauve, faux, beau, plateaued, yeoman, sew, boat, foe, oh, brooch, forecastle, depot, soul, though, furloughed, know, owe                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <a href="#">/e/</a>                          | e, a, ae, ai, ay, e...e, ea, ee, eh, ei, eo, ie, ieu, oe, u, ue, ee (one pronunciation)                                                                                                      | met, many, aesthetic, said, says, there, deaf, threepence, feh, heifer, jeopardy, friend, lieutenant (RP), foetid, bury, guess                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <a href="#">/æ/</a>                          | a, aa, ag, ah, ai, al, ar, au, ea, ei, i                                                                                                                                                     | hand, Aaron, seraglio (GA), Fahrenheit, plaid, salmon, sarsaparilla (GA), laugh (GA), poleax, enceinte, meringue                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <a href="#">/ʌ/</a>                          | u, o, o...e, oe, oo, ou, uddi, wo, au (some dialects), ee (one pronunciation)                                                                                                                | sun, son, come, does, flood, touch, studdingsail, twopence, (because), (threepence)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <a href="#">/ɔ:/</a>                         | o, a, al, au, au...e, augh, aughe, aw, awe, eo, oa, oh, oo, oss, ou, ough, u, uo                                                                                                             | flora, bald, talk, author, cause, caught, overslaughed, jaw, awe, ealdorman, broad, bohrium, flooring, crossjack, pouring, bought, surest (RP), fluoridate (RP)                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

|           |                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| /ɔ:(r)/ † | or, ore, aor, ar, aur, aure, hors, oar, oare, oor, oore, our, oure, owar, ure                                                   | or, <b>fore</b> , extraordinary, <b>war</b> , dinosaur, roquelaure, <b>hors</b> d'oeuvre, <b>oar</b> , soared, bohrium, <b>door</b> , <b>floored</b> , <b>four</b> , <b>poured</b> , <b>toward</b> (GA), <b>sure</b> (RP)                                                                                                                                      |
| /ʊ/       | a, o, ach, au, eau, oh, ou, ow                                                                                                  | watch, <b>lock</b> , <b>yacht</b> , <b>sausage</b> , leprechaun (GA), <b>bureaucracy</b> , demijohn, <b>cough</b> , acknowledge                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| /ɑ:/      | a, a...e, aa, aae, aah, aahe, ag, ah, au, e, ea, i, o                                                                           | father, garage, salaam, <b>baaed</b> , <b>aah</b> , <b>aahed</b> , seraglio (RP), <b>blah</b> , <b>aunt</b> (RP), <b>sergeant</b> , <b>heart</b> , <b>lingerie</b> (GA), lot (GA)                                                                                                                                                                              |
| /ɑ:(r)/ † | ar, aar, alla, are, arr, arre, arrh, ear, er, uar, our (some dialects)                                                          | <b>car</b> , bazaar, topgallant-sail, <b>are</b> , <b>parr</b> , bizarre, catarrh, <b>heart</b> , <b>sergeant</b> , <b>guard</b> , ( <b>our</b> )                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| /aɪ/      | i...e, ae, ai, aie, aille, ais, ay, aye, ei, eigh, ey, eye, i, ia, ic, ie, ig, igh, ighe, is, oi, oy, ui, uy, uye, y, y...e, ye | <b>fine</b> , maestro, krait, shanghaied, canaille (RP), <b>aisle</b> , <b>kayak</b> , <b>aye</b> , <b>heist</b> , <b>height</b> , geyser (GA), <b>eye</b> , mic, diaper, indict, <b>tie</b> , <b>sign</b> , <b>high</b> , <b>sighed</b> , <b>isle</b> , choir, <b>coyote</b> (GA), <b>guide</b> , <b>buy</b> , <b>guyed</b> , tryst, <b>type</b> , <b>bye</b> |
| /ɔɪ/      | oi, oy, awy, eu, oll, oye, uoy, uoye                                                                                            | <b>avoid</b> , <b>toy</b> , <b>lawyer</b> , Freudian, cholla, <b>enjoyed</b> , <b>buoyant</b> , <b>buoyed</b> (RP)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| /aʊ/      | ou, ow, ao, aow, aowe, au, ough, oughe, owe, (eo)                                                                               | <b>out</b> , <b>now</b> , cacao, miaow, miaowed, <b>gauss</b> , <b>bough</b> , <b>ploughed</b> , <b>vowed</b> , (Macleod)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| /ɛə(r)/   | are, aer, air, aire, ar, ayer, ayor, ayre, e'er, eah, ear, eir, eor, er, ere, err, erre, ert, ey're, eyr                        | <b>bare</b> , <b>aerial</b> , <b>hair</b> , millionaire, scarce, <b>prayer</b> , <b>mayor</b> , <b>fayre</b> , ne'er, <b>yeah</b> , bear, <b>heir</b> , ceorl, moderne, <b>where</b> , <b>err</b> (variant), parterre, couvert, <b>they're</b> , <b>eyra</b>                                                                                                   |
| /ɪə(r)/   | ere, aer, e're, ea, ear, eare, eer, eere, eir, eor, er, ers, eyr, ier, iere, ir, oea                                            | <b>here</b> , chimaera, we're, <b>idea</b> (RP), <b>ear</b> , <b>feared</b> , <b>beer</b> , <b>peered</b> , weird, <b>theory</b> (RP), <b>series</b> , revers, <b>eyrie</b> , <b>pier</b> , premiere, souvenir, diarrhoea (RP)                                                                                                                                 |
| /ɜ:(r)/   | er, ir, ur, ear, ere, err, erre, eur, eure, irr, irre, oeu, olo, or, ore, our, ueur, urr, urre, yr, yrrh                        | defer, <b>fir</b> , <b>fur</b> , <b>earl</b> , were, <b>err</b> , interred, <b>voyeur</b> , chauffeured (GA), <b>birr</b> , stirred, hors d'oeuvre, <b>colonel</b> , worst, <b>wore</b> , adjourn, <b>liqueur</b> , <b>purr</b> , <b>murre</b> , <b>myrtle</b> , <b>myrrh</b>                                                                                  |
| /ju:/     | u, u...e, ew, eau, eo, eu, ewe, ieu, iew, ou, ue, ueue, ui, ut                                                                  | music, <b>use</b> , <b>few</b> , <b>beauty</b> , feodary, <b>feud</b> , <b>ewe</b> , adieu, <b>view</b> , ampoule, <b>cue</b> , <b>queue</b> , nuisance, <b>debut</b>                                                                                                                                                                                          |