



PRACTICAL PHONETICS

Lesson 1

MAIN TERMS

- **Phonetics** is a branch of linguistics that studies how humans produce and perceive sounds (e.g. word and sentence stress, sounds, syllabic structure and intonation).
- A sound is a speech realization of a letter.
- A letter is a written character of the language



ALPHABET

A a	B b	C c	D d	E e	F f	G g	H h	I i
a	bee	cee	dee	e	ef	gee	(h)aitch	i
[eɪ]	[bi:]	[si:]	[di:]	[i:]	[ɛf]	[dʒi:]	[(h)eɪtʃ]	[aɪ]
J j	K k	L l	M m	N n	O o	P p	Q q	R r
jay	kay	el	em	en	o	pee	cue	ar
[dʒeɪ]	[keɪ]	[ɛl]	[ɛm]	[ɛn]	[oʊ]	[pi:]	[kju:]	[ɑ:/ɑr]
S s	T t	U u	V v	W w	X x	Y y	Z z	
ess	tee	u	vee	double-u	ex	wy(e)	zed/zee	
[ɛs]	[ti:]	[ju:]	[vi:]	[ˈdʌbəlju:]	[ɛks]	[waɪ]	[zɛd/zi:]	



CONSONANTS

- A consonant is a sound in the spoken language which is pronounced with an obstruction of the vocal tract such as lips, tongue and teeth.
- There are twenty-one consonant sounds:

B [b]

D [d]

F [f]

H [h] [-]

J [dʒ]

K [k]

L [l]

M [m]

N [n]

P [p]

Q [k]

R [r] [-]

T [t]

V [v]

W [w]

Z [z]



□ Consonants which produce two or three sounds:

C

[s]-city, face

[k]-cat, class

G

[g]-go

[dʒ]-page

[ʒ]-beige

S

[s]-sad

[z]-rose

[ʒ]-usual

X

[ks]-box

[gz]-exam



- The consonant combinations which give one sound:

ng [ŋ]-long

ch, tch [tʃ]-chair, kitchen

sh [ʃ]-shelf

th [θ]-thing

[ʒ]-this



- Consonant sounds
- [p], [b], [t], [d], [k], [g], [f], [v], [θ], [ð], [s], [z], [sh], [zh], [h], [ch], [j], [m], [n], [ŋ], [l], [r], [w], [y];
- pen, be, ten, do, Kate, go, feel, very, thin, this, so, zoo, show, beige, he, cheese, just, me, no, sing, live, red, we, yes;



The sound [p] as in PEN

peel – piece – peer – pick – pin – pen – pair – pack – palm – part – pause – pour – port – pond – pool – pure – poor – put – pull – person – public – pay – pain – pie – pound – point – pole – post;

please – plenty – plan – plural – plug – play – split – splendid – splash – splurge;

pretty – press – practice – prune – pray – price – proud – prose – spring – spread – spray – sprout;

speak – spin – spend – span – sport – spoon – space – spy – spoil – spoke;

paper – pepper – happen – happy – creepy – tipping – kept – napkin – apple – people – staple;

tap – nap – cup – lip – drop – trip – keep – help – soup – tape – ripe – rope – grasp – crisp;



The sound [b] as in BE

be – beat – beer – big – bit – best – bed – bare – bad – back – balm – bar – bore – boss –
bought – boom – beauty – book – burn – burst – bus – bun – baby – buy – bound – boy – bone;

bleed – bless – black – block – blue – blur – blood – blame – blind – blow;

breed – bring – bread – brand – broad – brother – brain – break – bright – brown – broken;

habit – rabbit – ribbon – robber – robot – absent – number – able – terrible – rouble – gamble –
tumble;

tab – lab – stub – rub – rib – rob – knob – Bob – robe – bulb;



The sound [t] as in TEN

team – tip – tell – tan – task – tar – tall – torn – taught – top – tool – tune – tour – took – turn –
ton – take – time – town – toy – toe – tone;

treat – trip – trend – track – true – trust – train – trace – try – street – strong – struck –
straight – strike – stroke;

steam – stick – step – stare – stand – star – store – stop – student – stir – stun – stable – style –
stout – stone;

city – pity – kitten – total – potato – writer – later – better – little – rattle – title – twenty –
mister – pizza;

set – meet – rate – write – part – coat – short – tact – draft – belt – point – spent – kept – last –
taste – roast;

looked – stopped – laughed – passed – released – reached – washed;



The sound [d] as in DO

deep – deal – dear – dip – den – dare – Dan – dark – door – dog – do – duty – during – dirt –
dull – day – die – down – don't;

dream – drink – drip – dress – drag – draw – drop – drew – drum – drain – dry – drown – drone;

lady – hidden – admire – edition – Edward – heading – idle – riddle – cradle – handle – bundle;

kid – did – read – ride – made – mad – add – odd – cord – heard – would – could – send – kind –
wind – round;

played – studied – called – bored – lived – turned – managed – hated – started – needed –
ended;



The sound [k] as in KATE

keen – keep – kill – kiss – Ken – chemistry – can – cap – calm – car – call – corn – cool – cute – cook – curse – come – Kate – case – kind – coast – cone;

clean – clear – click – class – clue – clerk – club – claim – climb – cloud – clown – close;

cream – critical – credit – crash – crawl – cruise – crush – crazy – cry – crowd – scream – scratch – scrape;

fact – active – action – token – lecture – awkward – Arctic – mechanics – archive – miracle;

[sk] scan – scale – scare – score – school – scope – escape – skate – ski – skin – skirt – skunk – sky;

[k] account – accommodate – according – accumulate – accuse – occur;

[ks] access – accent – accept – succeed;

[ks] fix – relax – maximum – axis – excellent – exceed – except – excess – exchange – explain – explore;

[ksk] exclaim – exclude – excuse – excursion;

[kw] question – quite – quick – queen – quality – equal – require – request;

cake – took – walk – talk – dark – oak – rack – pick – panic – magic – unique – bank – link – risk – task;



The sound [g] as in GO

give – gift – get – guess – gas – gap – guard – gorge – gone – goose – good – girl – gun – gust –
game – guy – guide – go – gold;

glimpse – glare – glance – glamor – glue – gloomy – glum – glide – global – glow;

green – grip – grab – grasp – grew – groom – great – ground – grow;

begin – again – ago – legal – eager – beggar – regular – ignore – ugly – giggle – eagle – struggle –
single – anger – hungry;

[gw] language – linguist – Guatemala – Gwen;

[gz] exist – exert – exam – exact – exhibit;

big – bag – dog – leg – egg – rug – dialogue – vague – vogue;

