

## Examples of Phonetic Symbols Found in Standard American English

*Note:* Because English spelling does not have a one-to-one correspondence with sounds, underlining the letter in example words can be difficult. For example, we have underlined the <x> in *exceed* to indicate both [k] and [s], because the letter <x> represents a series of two sounds: [ks]. For each symbol, think carefully about how the sound occurs in the example words.

### a. Consonants

#### i. Non-Syllabic Consonants

Symbol	Sample Words
[p]	<u>p</u> it, tip, <u>s</u> pit, hiccough, appear
[b]	<u>b</u> all, globe, amble, <u>b</u> rick, <u>b</u> ubble
[t]	<u>t</u> ag, pat, <u>s</u> tick, <u>p</u> terodactyl, <u>s</u> tuffed
[d]	<u>d</u> ip, card, <u>d</u> rop, loved, <u>b</u> atted
[k]	<u>k</u> it, <u>s</u> coot, <u>ch</u> aracter, critique, <u>ex</u> ceed
[g]	guard, bag, finger, designate, Pittsburgh
[ʔ]	uh-oh, hatrack, Batman
[f]	<u>f</u> oot, laugh, <u>ph</u> ilosophy, coffee, carafe
[v]	<u>v</u> est, dove, gravel, anvil, average
[θ]	<u>th</u> rough, wrath, <u>th</u> istle, <u>eth</u> er, <u>teeth</u>
[ð]	<u>th</u> e, <u>the</u> ir, mother, either, <u>teeth</u>
[s]	<u>s</u> oap, psychology, packs, descent, peace, <u>ex</u> ceed
[z]	<u>z</u> ip, roads, kisses, Xerox, design
[ʃ]	<u>sh</u> y, mission, nation, glacial, sure
[ʒ]	measure, vision, azure, casualty, decision
[h]	<u>h</u> o, hat, rehash, hole, whole
[tʃ]	choke, match, feature, righteous, constituent
[dʒ]	judge, George, Jell-O, region, residual
[m]	<u>m</u> oose, lamb, smack, amnesty, ample
[n]	<u>n</u> ap, design, snow, know, mnemonic
[ŋ]	lung, think, finger, singer, ankle
[l]	leaf, feel, Lloyd, mild, applaud
[ɹ] = [r]	reef, fear, Harris, prune, carp
[ɹ]	writer, butter, udder, clutter, cuter
[w]	with, swim, mowing, queen, twilight
[w]	which, where, what, whale, why
[j]	you, beautiful, feud, use, yell

#### ii. Syllabic Consonants

Symbol	Sample Words
[m]	possum, chasm, Adam, bottomless
[ŋ]	button, chicken, lesson, kittenish
[l]	little, single, simple, stabilize
[ɹ]	ladder, singer, burp, percent

### b. Vowels

#### i. Monophthongs (Simple Vowels)

Symbol	Examples
[i]	beat, we, believe, people, money, dean
[ɪ]	bit, consist, injury, malignant, gym, business
[ɛ]	bet, reception, says, guest, bend
[æ]	bat, laugh, anger, bang, comrade, rally, hand
[u]	boot, who, sewer, duty, through, dune
[ʊ]	put, foot, butcher, boogie-woogie, could
[ɔ]	bought, caught, wrong, stalk, core
[ɑ]	pot, father, sergeant, honor, hospital, bomb
[ʌ]	but, tough, another, oven, fungus
[ə]	among, Asia, enough, famous, harmony

#### ii. Diphthongs (Complex Vowels)

Symbol	Examples
[aɪ]	I, bite, Stein, aisle, choir, island, fine
[aʊ]	bout, brown, doubt, flower, loud
[ɔɪ]	boy, doily, rejoice, perestroika, annoy
[oʊ]	oh, boat, beau, grow, though, over
[eɪ]	bait, reign, great, they, gauge, age

# Consonants of Standard American English

The consonants of Standard American English, written with IPA symbols, classified by voicing, place of articulation, and manner of articulation:

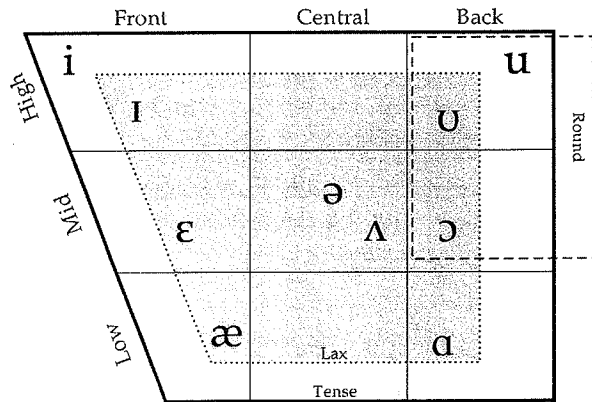
		Place of Articulation													
		Bilabial		Labio-dental		Inter-dental		Alveolar		Post-Alveolar		Palatal	Velar		Glottal
Manner of Articulation	Stop	p	b					t	d				k	g	ʔ
	Fricative			f	v	θ	ð	s	z	ʃ	ʒ				h
	Affricate									tʃ	dʒ				
	Nasal		m						n					ŋ	
	Lateral Liquid								l						
	Retroflex Liquid								ɻ						
	Liquid														
	Glide	w	w										j		

State of the Glottis: Voiceless Voiced

# Vowels of Standard American English

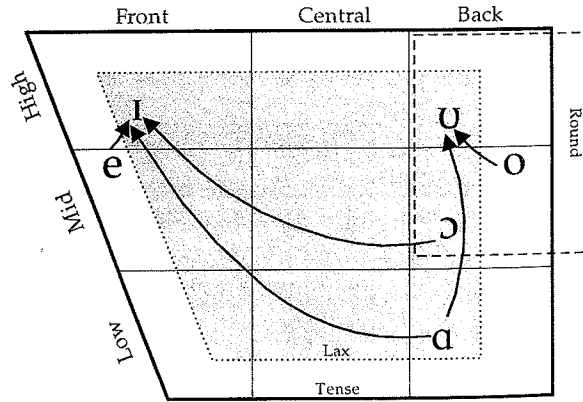
The vowels of Standard American English, written with IPA symbols, presented using the traditional American classification system:

## Monophthongs:



Tense Vowels  
Lax Vowels

## Diphthongs:



Tense Vowels  
Lax Vowels

CONSON

Plosive

Nasal

Trill

Tap or Fl

Fricative

Lateral

fricative

Approxir

Lateral

approxir

Wher

CONSON

C

Bi

De

(P)

Pa

Al

OTHER S

Vo

Voi

Voi

Voi

Vo

Epi

DIACRITI

Voice

Voice

Aspir

More

Less r

Advar

Retrar

Centr

Mid-c

Syllat

Non-s

Rhotic

The IPA chart of English, Ar