

IPA

INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ALPHABET

WHY?!

In this class it will be very important that we learn how to sing vowels and consonants with the proper shaping. For this purpose we will use the *International Phonetic Alphabet* to help us recognize sounds in words in order to sing them uniformly. This is very important since English is not a phonetic language.

YOUR ASSIGNMENT:

You will use the notes on this page to help you to transcribe some of our English songs into phonetic spellings. Note: pay attention to the examples as some of the symbols do not resemble anything in English. If you wish to type your assignment you can do so most easily by typing your assignment at the following website and then copying and pasting it into a document. <http://ipa.typeit.org/>

IPA Vowels

[a] = father, pot
[æ] = and, fat, cat
[e] = came, plain
[ɛ] = bed, fed, met
[i] = we, heat, he
[ɪ] = with, pin, it
[o] = rose, float
[ɔ] = talk, haul,
[ʌ] = of, love, shut
(for stressed syllables)
[ə] = even, until
(for unstressed syllables)
[u] = do, tomb, zoo
[ʊ] = book, took

Weird Consonants

[dʒ] = judge
[θ] = think
[ð] = that
[ʒ] = measure
[ʃ] = she
[tʃ] = chin
[ŋ] = sing
[z] = easy
[hw] = where

Ridiculous R's

[r] = flipped r
[ə̃] = here
as we say it
[ɹ̃] = here
as we sing it

Diphthongs

[aɪ] = kite
[ɔɪ] = boy
[eɪ] = say (not [ɛi])
[aʊ] = how
[ju] = you
[o] = sew, blow

Triphthongs

[aɪɹ̃] = fire, tire
[aʊɹ̃] = hour, tower
[ɔɪə] = oil, royal
[oʊɹ̃] = ore, roar

Transcription Examples

The boy flies his kite high in the air over there.

ðʌ boɪ flaɪz hɪz kaɪt haɪ ɪn ði ɛɹ̃ oʊɹ̃ ðɛɹ̃