The sounds of English

Listen and repeat. Pay attention to the phonetic transcription (between slashes //).

A /eɪ/	**J** /dʒeɪ/	**S** /es/
B /biː/	**K** /keɪ/	**T** /tiː/
C /siː/	**L** /el/	**U** /juː/
D /diː/	**M** /em/	**V** /viː/
E /iː/	**N** /en/	**W** /ˈdʌbəljuː/
F /ef/	**O** /əʊ/	**X** /eks/
G /dʒiː/	**P** /piː/	**Y** /waɪ/
H /eɪtʃ/	**Q** /kjuː/	**Z** /zed/
I /aɪ/	**R** /ɑː/	/ziː/

In the following section, you have the symbols used by the IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet), and some examples. Study them!

Short vowels

- e Went, intend, send letter.
- æ Cat, hand, nap, flat, have.
- ʌ Fun, love, money, London.
- ʊ Put, look, should, cook, book, look.
- ɒ Rob, top, watch, squat, sausage.
- ə Alive, again, mother.

Long vowels

- iː Need, beat, team.
- ɜː Nurse, heard, third, turn.
- ɔː Talk, law, bored, yawn.
- uː Boot, lose, gloomy, fruit, chew.
- ɑː Fast, car, hard, bath.

Diphthongs

- ɪə Near, ear, clear, tear, beer, fear
- eə Hair, there, care, pear
- eɪ Face, space, rain, case, eight
- ɔɪ Joy, employ, toy oyster.
- aɪ My, sight, pride, kind, flight
- əʊ No, don't, stones, alone, hole.
- aʊ Mouth, house, brown, cow, out.

Consonants

- p Pin, cap, purpose, pause.
- b Bag, bubble, build, robe.
- t Time, train, tree, late.
- d Door, day, drive, down, feed.
- k Cash, quick, cricket, sock.
- g Girl, green, grass, flag.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Consonants

f Full, Friday, fish, knife.

v Vest, village, view, cave.

θ Three (3), think, mouth, earth

ð There, those, brothers, others.

z Zoo, crazy, lazy, zigzag, nose

ʃ Shirt, rush, shop, cash.

ʒ Television, delusion, casual.

h High, help, hello.

m Room, mother, mad, more.

n Now, nobody, knew, turn.

ŋ King, thing, song, swimming.

r Road, roses, river, ring, ride.

j Yellow, tune, yesterday, university.

w Wall, walk, wine, world.

l Leap, long, pill, cold, chill, melt.

tʃ Choose, cheese, church, watch.

dʒ Joy, juggle, juice, stage.

Match the audio with the phonetic transcription by writing the number next to it, and then, draw a line to the corresponding image.

1 /ˈpɪləʊ/

2 /ˌjuːnəˈvɜːsəti/

3 /rəˈkuːn/

4 /aʊl/

5 /breθ/

6 /ˈdʒeli/

7 /baɪˈɒlədʒi/

LIVEWORKSHEETS