

Perfect Pronunciation

Phonology & Listening Exercises

48 Lessons

Michael Dyer

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Content

About the Course	vi
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Course Aim	
Unit Components	

Phonetics Guide	vii
-----------------	-----

Lesson	Focus	Examples	
Level 1			
Lesson 1	Short Vowels	bat (bæt), bet (bet), bit (bit)	1
Lesson 2	Long Vowels	bead (bi:d), bade (beɪd), bode (boʊd)	3
Lesson 3	Simple Consonant Changes	load (louɪd), toad (toʊd), loaf (louf)	5
Lesson 4	Voiced vs. Voiceless Consonants	zip (zɪp), sip (sɪp), ship (ʃɪp)	7
Lesson 5	Nasal Sounds	moss (mɒs), mane (meɪn), mink (mɪŋk)	9
Lesson 6	Lateral Consonants	late (leɪt), let (let), lit (lit)	11
Lesson 7	Sibilants and Fricatives	surf (sɜ:f), serve (sɜ:v), swerve (swɜ:v)	13
Lesson 8	Plosives and Stops	clap (klæp), slap (slæp), trap (træp)	15
Lesson 9	Simple Vowel Shifts	hop (hɒp), hoop (hu:p), heap (hi:p)	17
Lesson 10	Final Consonant Changes	bland (blænd), blank (blæŋk), blast (blæst)	19
Lesson 11	Beginning Blends	clap (klæp), slap (slæp), trap (træp)	21
Lesson 12	Ending Blends	husk (hʌsk), hilt (hɪlt), halt (hɔ:lt)	23
Level 2			
Lesson 1	Diphthongs	bait (beɪt), boat (boʊt), bite (baɪt)	27
Lesson 2	R-Controlled Vowels	car (kɑ:r), care (keər), core (kɔ:r)	29
Lesson 3	Vowel-Consonant Combinations	grasp (græsp), clasp (klæsp), rasp (rɑ:sp)	31
Lesson 4	Near Homophones	bare (beər), beer (biər), bore (bo:r)	33
Lesson 5	Stress Patterns on Syllables	récord (n. 'rɛkɔ:rd), recórd (v. rɪ'kɔ:rd)	35
Lesson 6	Double Consonants	batter ('bætər), better ('betər), butter ('bʌtər)	37
Lesson 7	Phonetic Variations in Homographs	live (lɪv), leave (li:v), life (laɪf)	39
Lesson 8	Voiced Fricatives	verge (vɜ:rdʒ), surge (sɜ:rdʒ), urge (ɜ:rdʒ)	41
Lesson 9	Consonant /l/ and /r/ Differences	light (laɪt), right (raɪt), flight (flaɪt)	43
Lesson 10	Short and Long Vowel Contrasts	bit (bit), beat (bi:t), bet (bet)	45
Lesson 11	Word-Final /s/ vs. /z/	rice (raɪs), rise (raɪz), race (reɪs)	47
Lesson 12	Consonant Clusters and Digraphs	sphere (sfɪər), spare (spɛər), spire (spaɪər)	49

Lesson	Focus	Examples	
Level 3			
Lesson 1	Words with Similar Vowel Shifts	plight (plaɪt), plot (plɒt), plate (pleɪt)	53
Lesson 2	Complex Consonant Clusters	glimpse (glɪmps), clench (klɛntʃ), blitz (blɪts)	55
Lesson 3	Palatal Sounds	pitch (pɪtʃ), patch (pætʃ), peach (pi:tʃ)	57
Lesson 4	Words with Schwa Sound	banana (bə'nænə), agenda (ə'dʒɛndə)	59
Lesson 5	Allophonic Variations	butter ('bʌtər), button ('bʌʔŋ), baton (bə'tɒn)	61
Lesson 6	Vowel Length and Tension	scope (skəʊp), scamp (skæmp), skip (skɪp)	63
Lesson 7	Homophones with Complex Spellings	medieval knight (naɪt), starry night (naɪt)	65
Lesson 8	Linking Sounds Between Words	pick it (pɪk ɪt), kick it (kɪk ɪt), click it (klɪk ɪt)	67
Lesson 9	Word-Initial Voicing Contrasts	fettle ('fɛtəl), vessel ('vesəl), nettle ('netəl)	69
Lesson 10	Tricky Consonant-Vowel Combinations	reflect (rɪ'fɛkt), deflect (dɪ'fɛkt), reject (rɪ'dʒɛkt)	71
Lesson 11	Word-Final Devoicing	resolve (rɪ'zɒlv), result (rɪ'zʌlt), resist (rɪ'zɪst)	73
Lesson 12	Aspiration Differences	deplete (dɪ'pli:t), deflate (dɪ'fleɪt), delete (dɪ'li:t)	75
Level 4			
Lesson 1	Compound Word Stress Differences	makeup ('meɪk.ʌp), make up (meɪk 'ʌp)	79
Lesson 2	Contractions and Reductions	wanna ('wʌnə), gonna ('gənə)	81
Lesson 3	Phonotactic Constraints	blotch (blɒtʃ), clutch (klʌtʃ), slouch (slaʊtʃ)	83
Lesson 4	Vowel Shifts in Derivational Morphology	divine (dɪ'vaɪn), divinity (dɪ'vɪnɪti)	85
Lesson 5	Nasalized Vowels	extend (ɪk'stɛnd), extension (ɪk'stɛnʃən)	87
Lesson 6	Words with Glottal Stops	flatten ('flætŋ), brighten ('braɪtŋ)	89
Lesson 7	Assimilation in Fast Speech	mindset ('maɪnd.sɛt), upset (,ʌp'sɛt)	91
Lesson 8	Reduced Vowels in Fast Speech	federal ('fɛdərəl), mineral ('mɪnərəl)	93
Lesson 9	Complex Consonant-Vowel Shifts	permit (pər'mɪt), submit (səb'mɪt)	95
Lesson 10	Silent Letter Consonant Clusters	gnaw (nɔ:), gnome (nəʊm), gnat (næt)	97
Lesson 11	Stress Patterns in Polysyllabic Words	technical ('tɛknɪkəl), critical ('krɪtɪkəl)	99
Lesson 12	Lexical Stress in Loanwords	résumé ('rezju:meɪ), cliché (kli:'ʃeɪ)	101
Appendix			
	Definitions		103

Phonetics Guide

Phonetics is the study of the sounds of human speech. Understanding phonetics helps learners improve their pronunciation by recognizing and producing the correct sounds in English. Below is a guide to the phonetic symbols used in this book, along with examples to illustrate each sound.

Consonants

Symbol	Sound	Example Words
b	voiced bilabial stop	bat, bed, big
d	voiced alveolar stop	dog, did, dot
f	voiceless labiodental fricative	fan, fit, fun
g	voiced velar stop	go, get, gun
h	voiceless glottal fricative	hat, hit, hut
k	voiceless velar stop	kit, cut, cap
l	voiced alveolar lateral approximant	lap, lot, lip
m	voiced bilabial nasal	man, met, map
n	voiced alveolar nasal	not, net, nap
p	voiceless bilabial stop	pat, pen, pot
r	voiced alveolar approximant	rat, run, rip
s	voiceless alveolar fricative	sit, sip, sun
ʃ	voiceless postalveolar fricative	ship, she, fish
t	voiceless alveolar stop	tap, tip, top
v	voiced labiodental fricative	van, vet, vat
w	voiced labio-velar approximant	wet, win, wood
z	voiced alveolar fricative	zip, zap, zoo
ʒ	voiced postalveolar fricative	measure, vision
ŋ	voiced velar nasal	sing, song, ring

Vowels

Symbol	Sound	Example Words
æ	near-open front unrounded vowel	cat, bat, pan
e	close-mid front unrounded vowel	bet, set, pen
ɪ	near-close near-front unrounded vowel	bit, sit, pin
i:	close front unrounded vowel	bead, seed, feel
ɒ	open back rounded vowel	cot, pot, lot
ʌ	open-mid back unrounded vowel	cup, but, sun
ʊ	near-close near-back rounded vowel	put, foot, book
u:	close back rounded vowel	boot, too, loop
ɔ:	open-mid back rounded vowel	law, saw, talk
ɑ:	open back unrounded vowel	car, father, bar
ɛ	open-mid front unrounded vowel	bet, set, get
ə	mid-central vowel (schwa)	about, sofa, ago

Pronunciation Guide

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. bat (bæt), bet (bɛt), bit (bɪt) | 9. tan (tæn), ten (tɛn), tin (tɪn) |
| 2. pat (pæt), pet (pɛt), pit (pɪt) | 10. lap (læp), lop (lɒp), lip (lɪp) |
| 3. bad (bæd), bed (bɛd), bid (bɪd) | 11. ram (ræm), rim (rɪm), rum (rʌm) |
| 4. cat (kæt), cot (kɒt), cut (kʌt) | 12. tap (tæp), top (tɒp), tip (tɪp) |
| 5. pan (pæn), pen (pɛn), pin (pɪn) | 13. hat (hæt), hot (hɒt), hut (hʌt) |
| 6. cap (kæp), cop (kɒp), cup (kʌp) | 14. sat (sæt), set (sɛt), sit (sɪt) |
| 7. back (bæk), beck (bɛk), buck (bʌk) | 15. rat (ræt), rot (rɒt), rut (rʌt) |
| 8. sack (sæk), sock (sɒk), suck (sʌk) | 16. rub (rʌb), rib (rɪb), rob (rɒb) |

A. Pronounce

- | | | | |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. bet, bit, bat | 3. bad, bed, bid | 5. pen, pin, pan | 7. beck, buck, back |
| 2. pet, pit, pat | 4. cot, cut, cat | 6. cop, cap, cup | 8. sock, suck, sack |

B. Read

- I bet the bat will fly to the bit of cheese.
- The pet ran to the pit where his owner would pat him.
- The bad man placed a bid and his bed was made.

C. Listen and Number

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. tan (), tin (), ten () | 5. hut (), hot (), hat () |
| 2. lip (), lop (), lap () | 6. sit (), set (), sat () |
| 3. ram (), rum (), rim () | 7. rut (), rot (), rat () |
| 4. tip (), top (), tap () | 8. rob (), rib (), rub () |

D. Listen and Write

- _____
- _____
- _____

Student B Answers

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. bet (1), bit (2), bat (3) | 5. pin (2), pan (3), pen (1) |
| 2. pit (2), pat (3), pet (1) | 6. cup (3), cap (2), cop (1) |
| 3. bid (3), bad (1), bed (2) | 7. buck (2), back (3), beck (1) |
| 4. cut (2), cat (3), cot (1) | 8. sock (1), sack (3), suck (2) |

Pronunciation Guide

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. bat (bæt), bet (bɛt), bit (bɪt) | 9. tan (tæn), ten (tɛn), tin (tɪn) |
| 2. pat (pæt), pet (pɛt), pit (pɪt) | 10. lap (læp), lop (lɒp), lip (lɪp) |
| 3. bad (bæd), bed (bɛd), bid (bɪd) | 11. ram (ræm), rim (rɪm), rum (rʌm) |
| 4. cat (kæt), cot (kɒt), cut (kʌt) | 12. tap (tæp), top (tɒp), tip (tɪp) |
| 5. pan (pæn), pen (pɛn), pin (pɪn) | 13. hat (hæt), hot (hɒt), hut (hʌt) |
| 6. cap (kæp), cop (kɒp), cup (kʌp) | 14. sat (sæt), set (sɛt), sit (sɪt) |
| 7. back (bæk), beck (bɛk), buck (bʌk) | 15. rat (ræt), rot (rɒt), rut (rʌt) |
| 8. sack (sæk), sock (sɒk), suck (sʌk) | 16. rub (rʌb), rib (rɪb), rob (rɒb) |

A. Pronounce

- | | | | |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. tin, tan, ten | 3. rum, rim, ram | 5. hot, hat, hut | 7. rat, rut, rot |
| 2. lip, lop, lap | 4. tip, tap, top | 6. sit, set, sat | 8. rub, rob, rib |

B. Read

- The boy with a tan has only ten cents to buy a tin of food.
- He gave the tip of the tap a twist to fill the can to the top.
- The rat found food in the rot and ran into a rut.

C. Listen and Number

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. bet (), bit (), bat () | 5. pin (), pan (), pen () |
| 2. pit (), pat (), pet () | 6. cup (), cap (), cop () |
| 3. bid (), bad (), bed () | 7. buck (), back (), beck () |
| 4. cut (), cat (), cot () | 8. sock (), sack (), suck () |

D. Listen and Write

- _____
- _____
- _____

Student A Answers

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. tan (2), tin (1), ten (3) | 5. hut (3), hot (1), hat (2) |
| 2. lip (1), lop (2), lap (3) | 6. sit (1), set (2), sat (3) |
| 3. ram (3), rum (1), rim (2) | 7. rut (2), rot (3), rat (1) |
| 4. tip (1), top (3), tap (2) | 8. rob (2), rib (3), rub (1) |



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