

IPA Braille for Lyric Diction

A Mutually Accessible Phonetic System

by Cheri Montgomery

*IPA	Keystroke	Braille
FRONT VOWELS		
Closed [i]	i	⠠⠠⠠
Open [ɪ]	I	⠠⠠⠠⠠
Closed [e]	e	⠠⠠⠠
Open [ɛ]	E	⠠⠠⠠⠠
BACK VOWELS		
Closed [u]	u	⠠⠠⠠
Open [ʊ]	U	⠠⠠⠠⠠
Closed [o]	o	⠠⠠⠠
Open [ɔ]	O	⠠⠠⠠⠠
CENTRAL VOWELS		
Dark [ɑ]	A	⠠⠠⠠⠠
Bright [a]	a	⠠⠠⠠
Central [ʌ]	V	⠠⠠⠠⠠
Central [æ]	ae	⠠⠠⠠⠠
English [ɜ]	R	⠠⠠⠠⠠
German [ɝ]	R	⠠⠠⠠⠠
MIXED VOWELS		
Closed [ɹ]	y	⠠⠠⠠
Open [ɻ]	Y	⠠⠠⠠⠠
Closed [ø]	oe	⠠⠠⠠⠠
Open [œ]	OE	⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠
FRENCH NASAL VOWELS		
Central dark [ɑ̃]	-A	⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠
Open front [ɛ̃]	-E	⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠
Closed back [ɔ̃]	-o	⠠⠠⠠⠠
Open mixed [œ̃]	-OE	⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

IPA	Keystroke	Braille
STRESS MARK, LONG MARK, SCHWA		
Stress mark [ˈ]	'	⠠⠠
Long mark [ː]	;	⠠⠠
Schwa [ə]	.	⠠⠠⠠
Brackets []	[]	⠠⠠⠠⠠
BILABIAL CONSONANT		
Voiceless glide [ɱ]	W	⠠⠠⠠
DENTAL CONSONANTS		
Voiceless fricative [θ]	th	⠠⠠⠠
Voiced fricative [ð]	Th	⠠⠠⠠⠠
Voiced flipped [ɾ]	r	⠠⠠⠠
Voiced rolled [r]	rr	⠠⠠⠠⠠
Voiced retroflex [ɻ]	R	⠠⠠⠠⠠
PREPALATAL CONSONANTS		
Voiceless fricative [ç]	S	⠠⠠⠠⠠
Voiced fricative [ʒ]	Z	⠠⠠⠠⠠
Voiceless affricate [tʃ]	tS	⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠
Voiced affricate [dʒ]	dZ	⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠
Voiced nasal [ɲ]	-j	⠠⠠⠠⠠
Voiced lateral [ɭ]	L	⠠⠠⠠⠠
Voiceless fricative [ç]	x	⠠⠠⠠
Voiced glide [ɥ]	y	⠠⠠⠠
VELAR CONSONANTS		
Voiced nasal [ŋ]	N	⠠⠠⠠⠠
Voiceless fricative [χ]	X	⠠⠠⠠⠠
GLOTTAL CONSONANTS		
Voiceless stop [ʔ]	?	⠠⠠

*The articulatory formation needed for singing results in a reclassification of certain vowels for lyric diction.