Articulatory Phonetics: Manual Alphabet

LEVEL 2: Vocabulary-Building

A pronunciation guide and simplified phonetic system designed for special education professionals who work with learners who are Deaf or hard-of-hearing

Cheri Montgomery

S.T.M. Publishers
Nashville, TN

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PREFACE

Articulatory Phonetics: Manual Alphabet is the fingerspelling and lipreading version of a university-level phonetics program. It features a simplified phonetic system designed for special education professionals who work with learners who are deaf or hard-of-hearing. Instruction in the phonetic transcription of single syllable words and the signed phonetic symbol associated with each spelling is provided.

The *Articulatory Phonetics* series is the teacher-focused companion to *Reading and Phonetics*, a corresponding series designed for students ages 10 and up. The preface to Level 2 of *Reading and Phonetics: Manual Alphabet* is provided below.

Reading, and Phonetics: Manual Alphabet is the fingerspelling and lipreading version of a reading and spelling program. Level 1 introduces the spellings and sounds of single-syllable words. Level 2 expands the vocabulary of single-syllable words, includes words with diphthongs, and provides additional opportunities for transcription. Level 3 extends the instruction to include words with multiple syllables. Together, these workbooks provide the activities and homework assignments needed to help the beginning reader.

Individual learning needs are supported through four parallel workbooks designed for students, parents, and teachers who are new to:

- braille
- manual signing and lipreading
- English language learning
- articulatory phonetics

Units in the level 2 versions contain rules for converting spellings into phonetic symbols, teacher-led group exercises, and 12 word lists for individual assignment. Supplemental materials are accessible via QR codes that link to spoken examples of the word lists. In place of audio, the manual signing and lipreading version contains images of vowel and consonant formations. In place of lengthy descriptions, the ELL version contains rules written in formulas with concepts communicated using images. Images are also used to define words from the group and homework assignments.

The resources needed to establish rules and create exercises originated from research developed for the publication of the *Lyric Diction Workbook Series* and the *IPA Scramble* game app by Cheri Montgomery. Computer search functions and her database of more than 87,000 English words were used to organize the spellings of the English language. Words from the database were arranged in order of frequency of occurrence. The words were placed in a graded order and categorized according to the sounds of the English language as defined by the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA). A simplified version of the IPA was created for this series. A conversion chart is located on the following page.

This text follows the Moore teaching model. The Moore Method is an interactive approach to instruction designed by Robert Lee Moore, a famous topologist who first used the method at the University of Pennsylvania in 1911. His methodology engages students in the learning process by giving each class member the opportunity to present homework assignments.

Class meetings follow a daily routine. Class begins with each student presenting homework that corresponds with their assigned number(s). Students' written work can be shared using a document camera. The teacher introduces new material in a brief lecture and leads the class in a written and spoken (or sung) group exercise.

Flip this process to double the activities: pass out dry erase boards with markers numbered 1-12. Have each student complete the word list associated with their marker number. Ask students to read and spell the transcriptions. This converts the phonetic exercise into an English reading and spelling exercise.

Grading is simple. Each student begins with a 100 average. Five points would be deducted each time a student fails to present their homework. One or two extra credit opportunities could be offered throughout the grading period so that students could redeem points.

Reading and Phonetics was created to simplify English language learning and make it accessible to students with diverse learning needs. Grading is simplified as well. The recognition of English spellings with accurate pronunciation is assessed during in-class presentations. No outside grading is needed.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Cheri Montgomery is an author and lecturer on the topics of voice and diction. She teaches voice and English, Italian, German, French, Latin, Spanish, and Russian lyric diction at the Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University. Her series of workbooks with book reviews and published articles is available at *www.stmpublishers.com*.

Phonetic Conversion Chart

IPA	Simplified	Example	IPA	Simplified	Example	IPA	Simplified	Example
[æ]	[a]	h<u>a</u>t	[k^h]	[k]	<u>c</u>a<u>k</u>e	[θ]	[th]	<u>th</u>ing
[ɑ]	[A]	f<u>a</u>ther	[ɬ]	[l]	<u>l</u>ittle	[ð]	[Th]	<u>th</u>is
[b^h]	[b]	<u>b</u>a<u>b</u>y	[m]	[m]	<u>m</u>e<u>m</u>e	[u]	[u]	m<u>oo</u>n
[ʧ]	[tS]	<u>ch</u>air	[n]	[n]	<u>n</u>ote	[ʊ]	[U]	b<u>oo</u>k
[d^h]	[d]	<u>d</u>ance	[ŋ]	[N]	sin<u>g</u>	[ʌ]	[x]	<u>u</u>p
[ɛ]	[E]	b<u>e</u>d	[ɔ]	[O]	<u>ough</u>t	[v]	[v]	<u>v</u>ase
[f]	[f]	<u>f</u>ig	[p^h]	[p]	<u>p</u>in	[w]	[w]	<u>w</u>in
[g^h]	[g]	<u>g</u>ood	[ɹ]	[r]	<u>r</u>ing	[j]	[j]	<u>y</u>es
[h]	[h]	<u>h</u>eart	[ɜ]	[R]	<u>ea</u>rth	[z]	[z]	<u>z</u>oo
[i]	[i]	s<u>ea</u>t	[s]	[s]	<u>c</u>ea<u>s</u>e	[ʒ]	[Z]	beig<u>e</u>
[ɪ]	[I]	f<u>i</u>t	[ʃ]	[S]	<u>sh</u>irt	stress: [']	[']	be'lieve
[ʤ]	[dZ]	<u>j</u>u<u>dg</u>e	[t^h]	[t]	<u>t</u>ime	glottal: [ʔ]	[?]	I, ever

The Signed Phonetic Alphabet

An underlined sign indicates capitalization

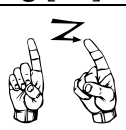
a [a]	a [A]	b [b]	c	ch [tS]	d [d]	e [E]	f [f]	g [g]	g [dZ]	h [h]	i [i]	i [I]
												
j [j]	k [k]	l [l]	m [m]	n [n]	n [N]	o [o]	o [O]	p [p]	q	q/c [k]	r [r]	r [R]
												
s [s]	s [S]	t [t]	u [u]	u [U]	v [v]	w [w]	x [x]	y	z [z]	z [Z]	[']	[?]
												

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Introduction

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INSTRUCTIONAL TOOLS

The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) was created by phoneticians for language study. Each symbol stands for one unit of sound. Brackets enclose the symbols and distinguish phonetic content from the spellings of words. This series uses a simplified phonetic system that is accessible to those who sign or read braille. It is also beneficial for those new to English as it uses only uppercase and lowercase letters. A conversion chart is located on page vi.

Studying phonetic transcription is an efficient way to learn a language. Students discover proper pronunciation while learning the spellings of English. Numerous sight words are not necessary.

The following introduction provides an index to all speech sounds of the English language. Phonetic terms are located on pages 7 and 8.

Guide students through the introduction by pronouncing the words. Ensure that students who communicate using the manual alphabet can view your mouth formation. Have students repeat each word after your example. The sounds, accompanying English spellings, and phonetic symbols will be introduced incrementally throughout the text – the introduction simply exposes students to the sounds of the language. They may refer back to this section for a review of the phonetic symbols and sounds. A QR code link on the title page of each unit provides audio examples of each word.

The format of the exercises within allows all students to be engaged in the learning process. Encourage them (by example) to enjoy the language by singing the words. Singing is an excellent way to explore the sounds of a language. Singing slows down the articulatory process and gives the voice time to clarify the sounds. Model singing by intoning the words. There are always students who would love to join in and share their beautiful voices with the class.

The first class meeting is unique in that it is teacher-led. Students lead class for all units that follow. A daily routine is recommended:

1. Have students present a uniquely assigned word list in front of the class (word lists are numbered 1-12). They may speak or sing their word list. Use a document camera to share the students' phonetic transcriptions. The class should observe the presentations and use the workbook to transcribe their classmates' word lists.
2. Introduce new rules in a brief lecture.
3. Lead the class in a group transcription exercise.

This workbook was designed for those learning the manual alphabet. The signed phonetic spellings of words from the group and individual assignments are depicted. Students are encouraged to sign the spellings and phonetic symbols of each word.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

Phonetic exercises facilitate multiple group-engaging activities. Word lists can be distributed as board work. The students can then read the board work (phonetic symbols) and provide English spellings. This flips the activity into a spelling challenge. Do not correct the board work. Encourage students to read the words as they are transcribed and allow them point out errors as they are identified.

This series was designed to help students enjoy the sounds of the English language. They will quickly discover that homework assignments are reminiscent of word games. Once they learn the sounds and associated symbols, they will be ready to play word games such as IPA Scramble. Large playing cards are available on the S.T.M. Publishers website at *www.teamphontics.com*.

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

FRONT VOWELS

[i]	tree [tri]	leaf [lif]	sleep [slip]
[I]	hill [hIl]	mitt [mIt]	wind [wInd]
[E]	thread [thrEd]	nest [nEst]	bread [brEd]

BACK VOWELS

[u]	moon [mun]	fruit [frut]	school [skul]
[U]	wood [wUd]	foot [fUt]	book [bUk]
[O]	walk [wOk]	thought [thOt]	corn [kOrn]

CENTRAL VOWELS

[a]	hand [hand]	lamb [lam]	cat [kat]
[A]	heart [hArt]	rock [rAk]	stop [stAp]
[x]	sun [sxn]	dove [dxv]	won [wxn]
[R]	nurse [nRs]	bird [bRd]	world [wRld]

BILABIAL CONSONANTS

[p]	pin [pIn]	palm [pAm]
[b]	bed [bEd]	bag [bag]

LABIODENTAL CONSONANTS

[f]	fan [fan]	flag [flag]
[v]	vest [vEst]	glove [glxv]

DENTAL CONSONANTS

[th]	tooth [tuth]	wealth [wElth]
[Ƭh]	this [ƬhIs]	breathe [briƬh]

*ALVEOLAR CONSONANTS

[t]	tea [ti]	tent [tEnt]
[d]	dart [dArt]	drink [drINk]
[l]	lamp [lamp]	wheel [wil]

*Consonants *d, t, l,* and *r* are classified as dental in the Romance languages – the tongue tip touches the upper front teeth. The tongue tip touches the alveolar ridge for *d, t, l, r* in English.

ALVEOLAR CONSONANTS

[r]	ring [rIN]	roof [ruf]
[n]	noon [nun]	knee [ni]
[s]	street [strit]	swan [swAn]
[z]	zoo [zu]	news [njuz]

PREPALATAL CONSONANTS

[S]	sheep [Sip]	fish [fIS]
[Z]	rouge [ruZ]	liege [liZ]
[tS]	chart [tSArt]	church [tSRtS]
[dZ]	judge [dZxdZ]	jar [dZAr]

VELAR CONSONANTS

[k]	cup [kxp]	key [ki]
[g]	gum [gxm]	dog [dAg]
[N]	swing [swIN]	wink [wINk]

GLOTTAL CONSONANTS

[h]	hat [hat]	harp [hArp]
[?]	arm [?Arm]	eggs [?Egz]

Consonant and vowel terms are defined throughout this text. All terms are defined on pages 7-8.

Group Exercise: (the following instructions are found in the *Reading and Phonetics* series)

Every word contains a vowel. Vowels are long. Consonants are short. Consonants introduce the vowel or end a word or syllable. Circle the five vowels in the following list of English letters:

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn

Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

Back vowels. Circle the two vowels that are formed by rounding the lips:



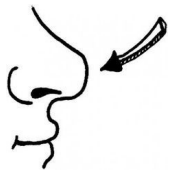
Aa Ee Ii Oo Uu

Front vowels. Circle the two vowels that are formed by spreading the lips:



Aa Ee Ii Oo Uu

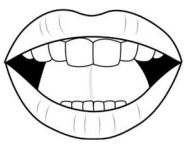
Nasal consonants. Circle the two consonant sounds that have a nasal quality:



Bb Cc Dd Ff Gg Hh Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn

Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

Tongue tip consonants. Circle eight consonants that are formed by lifting the tongue tip:



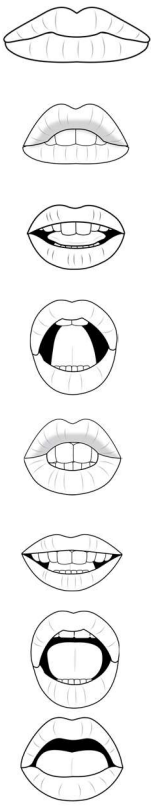
Bb Cc Dd Ff Gg Hh Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn

Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

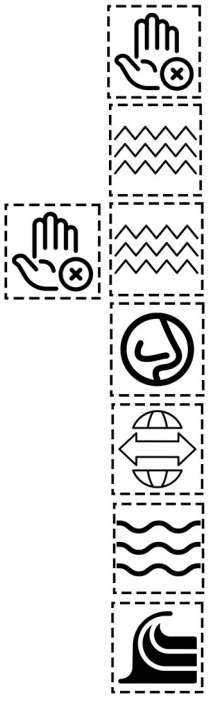
Classification of Symbols: Consonants



Voicing
Voiced. A voiced consonant engages the voice and can be sung. They are in bold below.
Voiceless. A voiceless consonant does not engage the voice and can only be whispered.



Points of Articulation	Phonetics
Bilabial [bAIˈlEIbIUl] Refers to the lips	**[b]** [p] **[m]** **[w]**
Labiodental [lEIbIoˈdEntUl] Involves the lower lip and the upper front teeth	**[v]** [f]
Dental [ˈdEntUl] Involves the tip of the tongue and the back of the front teeth	**[Th]** [th]
Alveolar [?alˈviolR] Involves the tip of the tongue and the ridge behind the upper teeth	**[d]** [t] **[z]** [s] **[l]** **[n]** **[r]**
Prepalatal [prIˈpalItUl] Involves the tip of tongue and the front of the hard palate	**[Z]** [S] **[dZ]** [tS]
Palatal [ˈpalItUl] Involves a front arch of the tongue and the hard palate	**[j]**
Velar [ˈvilR] Involves the back of the tongue and the soft palate	**[g]** [k] **[N]**
Glottal [ˈglAtUl] Involves the air flow and the opening between the vocal cords	[?] [h]



Manner of Articulation	Phonetics
Plosive [ˈploUsIv] **Stop** [stAp] A momentary closure of the air flow passage	**[b]** [p] **[d]** [t] **[g]** [k] [?]
Fricative [ˈfrIkxtIv] Produced by directing the air flow past a set of articulators	**[v]** [f] **[z]** [s] **[Z]** [S] [h] **[Th]** [th]
Affricate [ˈ?afrIkIt] A stop that is followed by a fricative	**[dZ]** [tS]
Nasal [ˈnEIzUl] Produced by directing vocalized tone through the nasal passages	**[m]** **[n]** **[N]**
Lateral [ˈlatRUl] Produced by directing vocalized tone over the sides of the tongue	**[l]**
Glide [glAId] Produced by directing the tone past a set of articulators without friction	**[w]** **[j]**
Retroflex [ˈrEtroflEks] Produced with tongue tip curled up	**[r]**

Classification of Symbols: Vowels





Quality	Phonetics
Closed Formed with less space between the tongue arch and the roof of mouth	[i] [u] [o]
Open Formed with more space between the tongue arch and the roof of mouth	[I] [E] [U] [O] [a] [A] [x]







Peak of Tongue Arch	Phonetics
Front The front of the tongue arches with tongue tip touching lower front teeth	[i] [I] [E]
Back The back of the tongue arches with tongue tip touching lower front teeth	[u] [U] [o] [O]
Central The tongue arch maintains a low position, the tip touches lower front teeth	[a] [A] [x]

The Signed Phonetic Alphabet

An underlined sign indicates capitalization

a [a]	a [A]	b [b]	c	ch [tS]	d [d]	e [E]	f [f]	g [g]	g [dZ]	h [h]	i [i]	i [I]
												

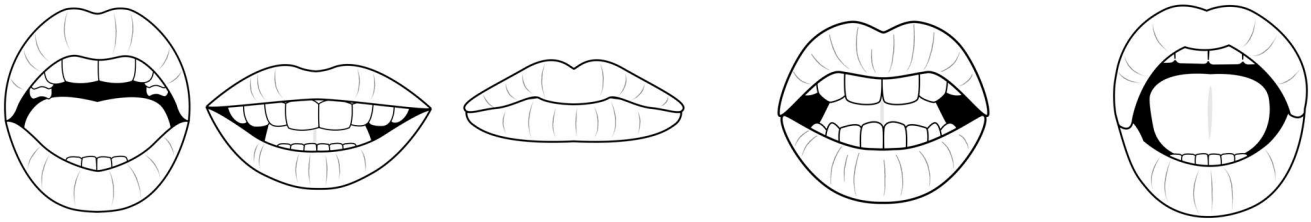
j [j]	k [k]	l [l]	m [m]	n [n]	n [N]	o [o]	o [O]	p [p]	q	q/c [k]	r [r]	r [R]
												

s [s]	s [S]	t [t]	u [u]	u [U]	v [v]	w [w]	x [x]	y	z [z]	z [Z]	[']	[?]
												

UNIT 1:

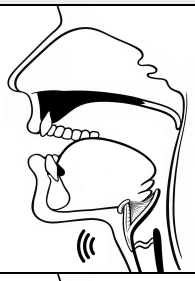
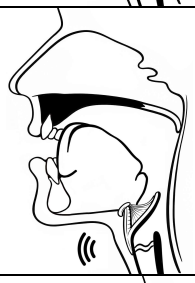
English Spellings:

a [ ] *i* [ ] *b* [ ] *p* [ ] *d* [ ] *t* [ ] *g* [ ] *k/c* [ ]



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UNIT 1: Transcription rules for *a, i, p, b, t, d, k, g, c*

SOUNDS	SPELLINGS & SYMBOLS		
	[a]	a = [a]	man [man] cat [kat]
	[I]	i, y, ui = [I]	win [wIn] hymn [hIm] build [bIld]
	[p]	p, pp = [p]	pin [pIn]
	[b]	b, bb = [b] (mb = [m])	bib [bIb]
	[t]	t, tt = [t]	tan [tan]
	[d]	d, dd = [d]	dad [dad]
	[k]	c, k, ck = [k] (kn = [n])	kick [kIk]
	[g]	g, gg = [g] (gn = [n])	give [gIv]

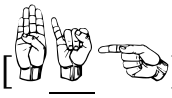
Note. The consonants above are classified as aspirate. A puff of air is released with the consonant articulation.

Group Exercise: Write the corresponding phonetic symbol above each fingerspelled form.

can []

pan []

back []

big []

did []

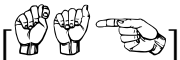
tap []

WORKSHEET #1: *a, i, p, b, t, d, k, g, c*

#1

dip []

nap []

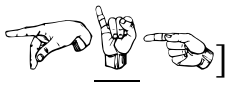
tag []

mitt []

cat []

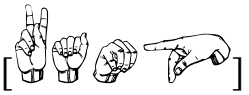
bad []

#**2**

pig []

band []

mid []

camp []

Tim []

knack []

#**3**

ban []

tick []

Pam []

kit []

cad []

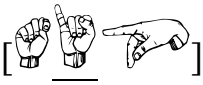
mig []

#**4**

Dan []

mint []

pact []

tip []

nab []

gap []

#**5**

map []

Gib []

bat []

tack []

dim []

pant []

#**6**

mat []

Nick []

gag []

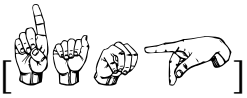
nip []

tad []

bin []

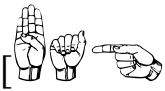
WORKSHEET #1: *a, i, p, b, t, d, k, g, c*

#7

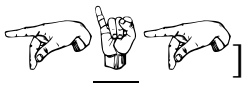
damp []

pick []

tan []

bag []

cab []

Pip []

#**8**

nag []

tint []

dam []

bid []

Mack []

pit []

#**9**

Matt []

tact []

kid []

gab []

pack []

bit []

#**10**

knit []

Mac []

dig []

mad []

pin []

tab []

#**11**

pad []

Kip []

dab []

tin []

cap []

gig []

#**12**

gnat []

mag []

kick []

dad []

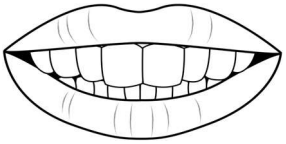
bib []

Pat []

UNIT 2

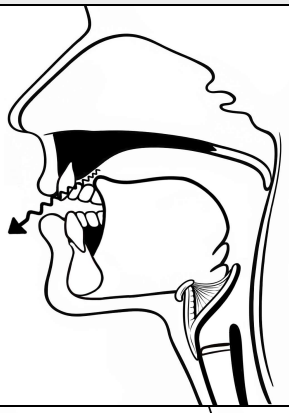
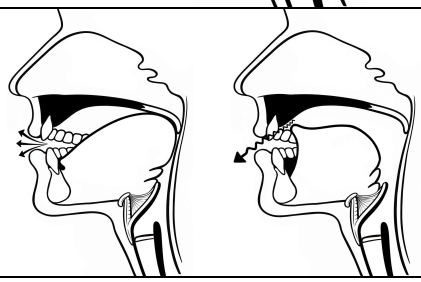
English Spellings:

s [] and *x* []



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UNIT 2: Transcription rules for *s* and *x*

SOUNDS	SPELLINGS & SYMBOLS		
	[s]	s, ss = [s]	sat [sat] bliss [blIs]
		c + e = [s] c + i = [s]	peace [pis] cinch [sIntS]
	[ks]	x = [ks]	next [nEkst] box [bAks]

Group Exercise: Place the correct phonetic symbol in front of each formation.

stand []

mists []

tips []

past []

sacks []

six []

WORKSHEET #2: *s* and *x*

#1

masks []

stamps []

gas []

skim []

tax []

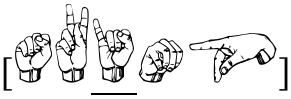
sits []

#**2**

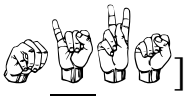
cats []

snacks []

bass []

skimp []

pats []

mix []

#**3**

spits []

packs []

sad []

tints []

Max []

smack []

#**4**

picks []

snap []

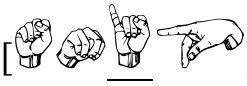
mix []

sand []

gnats []

skips []

#**5**

snip []

masts []

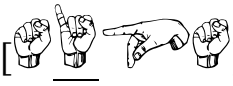
gasp []

spats []

nix []

sticks []

#**6**

sips []

casts []

spam []

knits []

sax []

disk []

WORKSHEET #2: *s* and *x*

#7

mints []

scab []

tasks []

six []

pants []

sack []

#**8**

tax []

skits []

mats []

spin []

naps []

skid []

#**9**

cysts []

maps []

snag []

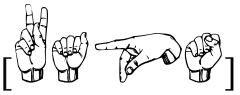
nix []

sat []

kits []

#**10**

sick []

caps []

disc []

sax []

stints []

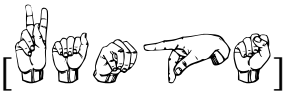
tacks []

#**11**

stacks []

pits []

stab []

camps []

skin []

Max []

#**12**

sap []

dints []

stats []

kicks []

taps []

six []

Bibliography

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