

44 Phonic Sounds

The first group of 25 sounds are known as **consonants** and they are represented by these letters and combinations of letters in our alphabet:

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|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. b as in Bob | 2. p as in pip |
| 3. d as in did | 4. t as in tot |
| 5. g as in gig | 6. k as in kick and c as in cat |
| 7. v as in van | 8. f as in fluff |
| 9. z as in zebra | 10. s as in sister |
| 11. w as in wet | 12. wh as in whistle |
| 13. j as in jump | 14. ch as in chew |
| 15. s(zh) as in Asia | 16. sh as in ship |
| 17. l as in lull | 18. r as in rare |
| 19. y as in yo yo | 20. h as in hat |
| 21. m as in mum | 22. n as in nan |
| 23. th as in thistle (<i>soft</i> th) | |
| 24. th as in the (<i>hard</i> th) | |
| 25. n(ng) as the unusual sound before k in words like drink | |

Now we move on to the next group of 19 sounds called **vowels**. Firstly we have these 5 letters make the 5 **short vowel sounds**:

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| 26. a as in apple |
| 27. e as in egg |
| 28. i as in igloo |
| 29. o as in orange |
| 30. u as in umbrella |

Then, the same 5 letters, with silent 'e', make the 5 **long vowel sounds**:

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| 31. a as in bake | but also ai and ay as in mail and hay |
| 32. e as in Eve | but also ee and ea as in meet and meat |
| 33. i as in fine | but also ie, y and ye as in pie, sky and bye |
| 34. o as in hope | but also oa and oe as in boat and toe |
| 35. u as in huge | but also ue and ew as in blue and blew |

The remaining nine vowel sounds are represented by these vowel combinations:

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| 36. or as in corn | also spelt as aw as in crawl and au as in haul |
| 37. ou as in house | also spelt as ow as in cow |
| 38. oi as in noise | also spelt as oy as in boy |
| 39. oo as in book | known as short oo |
| 40. oo as in moon | known as long oo |
| 41. ar as in car | also spelt as a in pa |
| 42. air as in hair | also spelt as eir as in heir, are as in dare and ear as in swear |
| 43. er as in her | also spelt ur in fur and ir in girl |
| 44. and finally what is called the muttering vowel we do not say but we use to spell, such as the e in item (we say it'm), the i in devil (we say dev'l) and the u in circus (we say circ's). | |

Symbols that represent the 19 vowel sounds

a	e	i
o	u	a_e
e_e	i_e	o_e
u_e	or	aw
au	ou	ow
oi	oy	<small>short</small> oo
<small>long</small> oo	ar	air
eir	are	ear
er	ir	ur