



**M. A. (ENGLISH) PART-I  
SEMESTER-I**

**COURSE-IV (OPTION I)  
ENGLISH PHONETICS  
AND PHONOLOGY**

**UNIT NO. II**

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Punjabi University, Patiala**  
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***ENGLISH PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY***

**Lesson Nos. :**

- 2.1 : (i) The Syllable  
(ii) Strong and Weak Syllables
- 2.2 : (i) Stress in Simple Words  
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- 2.3 : Aspects of Connected Speech
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**Note :-** The students can download syllabus from departmental website **[www.dccpbi.com](http://www.dccpbi.com)**

**ENGLISH PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY**

**(i) THE SYLLABLE (CH. 8)**

**The Nature of the Syllable :**

You must have been wondering what does the word 'syllable' mean. It is time now for us to study syllable, its structure and certain other issues related to **syllable division**.

Syllable is an important sound unit and words may be made up of one syllable or more. Many words consist of only one syllable, for example :

*make/***meik***/,*  
*learn/***3%:n***/,*  
*hut/***hʌt***/,*  
*red/***red***/, and*  
*point/***p]int***/, etc.*

Try tapping your fingers when you speak these words and you will end up counting one only after each of these words. This **tentatively** could be taken to mean that the number of syllables in each of these words is one. Words may consist of two syllables also, for example,

*teacher/***ti:t***/,*  
*actor/***ækt***/,*  
*supper/***sʒp***/and*  
*author/***] :θ***/.*

Similarly, words can consist of three syllables, for example

*phonetics/***ɒ'netiks***/,*  
*consonant/***'kɒns>n>nt***/,*  
*syllable/***sil>b>l***/,*  
*appointment/***>p]intm>nt***/, and*  
*paradise/***'pær>dais***/, etc.*

So if we were to attempt a definition of syllable, we could say that it can be understood as a unit which is at a higher level than that of the sound segment (i.e. the phoneme) and yet it is different from that of the word or morpheme. Syllable is very useful for analyzing speech.

Syllable can be defined both phonetically (i.e. to what extent is the airflow obstructed, how do we produce them and how they sound and how they are arranged phonologically (i.e. studying the different distributions of vowels and consonants).

Phonetically, syllables usually consist of a centre which exhibits little or no obstruction to the flow of the airstream. This central part sounds relatively loud.

Before and after this centre (i.e. at the beginning and end of the syllable), there is greater obstruction to the airflow and there is less loud sound.

Thus, the vowel sounds are considered as nuclear to the syllable and render the chest pulse audible whereas the consonantal sounds act typically as the onset (releasing factor) and closure (arresting factor or coda) of the syllable. (Briefly about the chest pulse. **Chest pulse** is concerned with muscular activity which controls the lung movement taking place during speech. In any utterance, there are a number of chest pulses accompanied by increases in air-pressure which determine the number of syllables uttered.)

There is another way of comprehending a syllable. In any utterance, some sounds are more prominent than others. In other words, listeners feel that some sounds stand out from their neighbours. For example, in the word *similarity* /sɪmɪ'lær/tɪ/, the vowels /ɪ, ɪ, æ, /ɪ/ carry these crests/peaks of prominence. Therefore this word **similarity** consists of 5 syllables, where the number of syllables is being determined roughly by the number of peaks or crests of prominence.

Let us now understand a few terms connected with a syllable.

#### **Minimum Syllable :**

When a syllable consists of a single vowel in isolation, without being preceded or followed by any other sound, it is called the minimum syllable, e.g. are /a:/, or /ɔ:/ and err /ɜ:/.

#### **Onset :**

A syllable whose centre (which is generally the vowel sound) is preceded by a consonant sound is said to have an onset. Onset is an optional element of a syllable, i.e. a syllable may have it or may not have it.

Examples of syllables with onsets :

*car* /kɑ:/, *sea* /si:/, *key* /ki:/, *more* /mɔ:/, *law* /lɔ:/.

#### **Coda :**

A syllable whose centre is followed by a consonant sound is said to have a coda. Coda too may be there in a syllable or may not be there.

e.g. *up* /ʌp/, *ate* /et/, *earth* /ɜ:θ/, *ease* /i:z/, *ought* /ɔ:t/.

Some syllables have both onset and coda. For example,

*bed* /bed/, *pen* /pen/, *bill* /bɪl/, *dog* /dɒg/, *pup* /pʌp/.

Now, we will study syllables from the phonological point of view. As already stated above, the phonological aspect involves looking at the various possible combinations of English phonemes in certain positions and contexts. This means that we will look at the possible combinations which can occur in the initial position as well as in the final position.

By undertaking this kind of study, we find that a word can begin with a vowel, or with one, two or three consonants. No word in English language begins with more than three consonants. On the other hand, a word can end with a vowel, or with

one, two, three or four consonants. Words ending with four consonants are a small in number. No English word ends with more than four consonants. This kind of a study of the possible phoneme combinations of a language is called **Phonotactics**.

### The Structure of the English Syllable :

Let us first take up the syllable onsets.

When a syllable begins with a vowel, it is said to have a zero onset. Also, a syllable may begin with any vowel but *ʊ* is rare.

When a syllable begins with a consonant, it is called the Initial Consonant. The Initial Consonant may be any except  $\text{ʃ}$ . Even  $\text{ʒ}$  as an initial consonant is rather rare except in a word such as *genre* / $\text{ʒa:n}$ / which is a word of French origin.

A syllable may begin with two or more consonants. When two or more consonants occur together in a syllable, it is called a **Consonant Cluster**.

Let us first study the initial two-consonant clusters. Of these, there are two types :

- (i) The first type consists of *s* followed by a small group of consonants such as *p*, *t*, *k*, *f*, *m*, *n* etc. In these clusters, *s* is called the **Pre-Initial** consonant and the other consonant (from among the group mentioned above) is called the **Initial Consonant**. For example, *spin*, *stik*, *skin*, *sfi*, *smel*, *snæk*, etc.
- (ii) The second type begins with one of a set of about fifteen consonants (except *t*, *dʒ*, *ð*, *z*, *ʒ*, *l*, *r*, *w*, *j*). This first consonant of the initial two-consonant cluster is referred to as the Initial Consonant. It is followed by one of the set **-l, r, w, j-** which is referred to as the **Post-Initial Consonant**.

Examples of this type are :

**prei**, **plei**, **krɔi**, **blæk**, **bjɔ:ɾi**, **drɪp**, **dwel**, **dju:k**, **glu:m**, **grɪn**, **θr>ʊ**, **θw]:t**, **flaɪ**, **fraɪ**, **hju:dʒ**, **nju:z**, **vju: etc.**

Now we move on to have a look at the syllable—Initial Three-Consonant Cluster. Some examples of such clusters are *strip*, *skwe*, *splæ*/ etc. In such three-consonant clusters, *s* is always the Pre-Initial consonant followed by either *p*, *t* or *k* which is referred to as the **Initial Consonant** which in turn is followed by one of the set **-l, r, w, j-** which is called the **Post-Initial Consonant**.

The following table will further make this point clear :

Pre Initial	Initial	Post Initial			
		I	r	w	j
s +	p	splɪt	spreɪ	-	spju :
	t +	-	stres	-	stju :
	k	<b>skl&gt;'r&gt;ʊsɪs</b>	<b>skri:n</b>	<b>skwi:k</b>	<b>skju :</b>

Surely, you can by now notice the similarity between types (i) and (ii) of two-

consonant cluster and the three-consonant cluster.

We stop our study of syllable-initial clusters now because, as already stated above, no word in English language begins with more than three-consonants.

We will now move on to a study of syllable Final **Consonants** or **Codas**.

When the vowel of a syllable is not followed by any consonant, it is called the *zero coda*, e.g. see /si:/, war /wɔ:/, my /mai/ etc.

When a syllable ends in one consonant only, it is called the final consonant e.g., book /bʊk/, fill /fil/, seat /si:t/ etc.

A syllable may also end with two three or four consonants. The maximum number of consonants occurring in the syllable—final position, at the end of the words in English language is four only. Thus, no English word can end in more than four consonants.

Among the syllable-final two-consonant cluster, there are again two types :

- (i) Type one consists of a final consonant preceded by a pre-final consonant.

The pre-final consonants comprise a small set, namely **m, n, ŋ, l, s**. Examples of this type are *bump* /bʌmp/, *bent* /bent/, *bank* /bæŋk/, *brink* /brɪŋk/, *belt* /bɛlt/, *belch* /bɛltʃ/, *ask* /a:sk/, *rest* /rest/.

Type two comprises a final consonant followed by a post-final consonant. The post-final consonants also form a small set, that is, **s, z, t, d, θ**. Examples of this type are *books* /bʊks/, *beds* /bedz/, *picked* /pɪkt/, *gagged* /gægd/, *eighth* /eɪtθ/.

You can easily add more examples to this type provided the syllable-final two-consonant cluster ends in s, z, t, d, θ only. Coming to final three-consonant cluster, once again we find two categories :

The first category consists of a pre-final –final +post –final consonantal combination. The following table shows this very clearly :

		Pre-Final	Final	Post-Final
helped	he	l	p	t
banks	bæ	ŋ	k	s
bonds	bɒ	n	d	z
prompt	prɒ	m	p	t
twelfth	twe	l	f	θ

You might wonder how did we decide which is pre-final and which is post-final. Remember the pre-final set consists of **m, n, ŋ, l, s** and the post-final set consists of **s, z, t, d, θ**. Do keep these sets in mind and this will stand in good stead.

- (ii) The second category consists of a final consonant + post-final 1 + post-final 2.

Like the post-final 1 set, the post-final 2 set also consists of s, z, t, d, θ.

The following table exemplifies this second category where there is no pre-

final consonant :

		Pre-Final	Final	Post-Final 1	Post-Final 2
fifths	fi	-	f	θ	s
next	ne	-	k	s	t
lapsed	læ	-	p	s	t

The above examples clearly exhibit the fact that a final three-consonant cluster can consist of more than one post-final consonant. Last of all, we come to the final four-consonant cluster. They too can be studied in two ways :

Firstly, a large number of four-consonant clusters consist of a pre-final + final + post-final 1 + post-final 2 consonants as shown in the table below :

		Pre-Final	Final	Post-Final 1	Post-Final 2
twelfths	twe	l	f	θ	s
tempts	te	m	p	t	s
prompts	prɒ	m	p	t	s

Secondly, a small number of final four consonant clusters can also be understood slightly differently. They have no pre-final consonant and comprise a final consonant + post-final 1 + post-final 2 + post-final 3. The following examples show this sort of consonantal distribution :

		Pre-Final	Final	Post-Final 1	Post-Final 2	Post-Final 3
sixths	SI	-	k	s	θ	s
texts	te	-	k	s	t	s

To conclude, we can say that the English syllable has the following maximal phonological structure :

Pre-Initial	Initial	Post-Initial	VOWEL	Pre-Final	Final	Post-Final 1	Post-Final 2	Post-Final 3

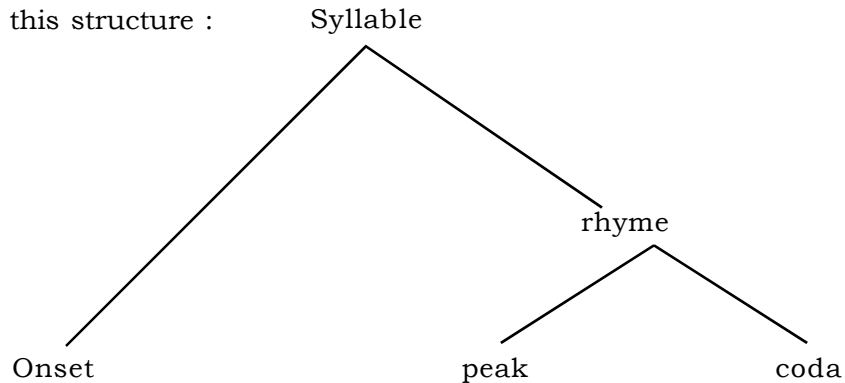
ONSET

CODA

Before we sum up the structure of the syllable the following points are worth remembering :

1. Syllable can be understood in a different way as suggested by the recent studies in phonology. As per their viewpoint, the central part of the syllable is called rhyme which consists of the vowel and the coda (if there is one since

coda is not the essential component of a syllable). The rhyme further comprises the peak (which is generally the vowel) and the coda (which is optional). The syllable may or may not have an onset. The following diagram shows this structure :



2. So far we have said that the vowel makes the centre of the syllable and that this vowel-centre is imperative for a syllable to be called syllable. In other words, we cannot envisage a syllable without the vowel-centre. But there is a special category of syllables in which there are no vowels. In such syllables, a consonant begins to behave like a vowel and comes to acquire certain vowel-like qualities. Such syllables have what is called the **syllabic consonants**. Clearly the consonant which is responsible for imparting such a syllable to the word is called the syllabic consonant.

To understand this phenomenon better, let us look at the following examples : *little* /**lɪt̩**l/, *cattle* /**kæt̩**l/ and *kettle* /**ket̩**l/. In these examples, the first syllable consists of /lɪt/, /kæt/ and /ket/ respectively. But as you can well make out, these three words consist of not one but two syllables each. Thus, these three words are bi-syllabic words. The second syllable in all the three words consists of /l/ which becomes a syllabic consonant in **little**, **cattle** and **kettle**. The symbol for indicating a syllabic consonant is a little vertical bar under the consonant that behaves like a syllabic consonant.

There are other examples of syllabic consonants also, but at this juncture it is enough for you to remember that only a small set of consonants such as **l n** and **m** etc. behave as syllabic consonants in certain phonetic environments.

We shall take up syllabic consonants in greater detail in the next lesson.

### Syllable Division

The last issue that we take up in this lesson is syllable division, i.e. how do we divide syllables and where do we put the dividing line between syllables of a word. To understand it better, let us look at few words with two syllables, for

example, **extra, better, mother.**

(Remember, the syllable boundary is signified by putting a dot like  $\cdot$ ). To continue the syllable division of the above-mentioned words, we will first have to transcribe them.

*extra* /**ekstr**➤/.

We can have the following five possibilities of dividing the two syllables of the word/**ekstr**➤/ :

- (i) e.kstr➤
- (ii) ek.str➤
- (iii) eks.tr➤
- (iv) ekst.r➤
- (v) ekstr.➤

This obviously becomes a problematic issue. Where do we put the dividing dot between the syllables ? Which is the most acceptable possibility among the five options mentioned above ? Similarly, in words such as *better*/bet➤/ and *mother* /mʌð➤/, where do we divide the syllables ?

- /bet➤/ (i) /**bet**➤/
- (ii) /**be.t**➤/
- /mʌð➤/ (i) /**mʌð**➤/
- (ii) /**mʌ.ð**➤/

Thus, it poses a slight problem to decide whether the first options, i.e. (i) are more acceptable or the second options (ii) are better options.

For resolving some of these issues, let us keep in mind the following rules which will stand us in good stead. But it will be worth remembering that these are not hard-and-fast rules, there will be exceptions to these rules.

- (i) Maximum Onsets Principle :** This is one of the most widely accepted principles. According to this principle, wherever two syllables are to be divided, any consonants between them should be assigned to the right-hand syllable, as far as possible.
- (ii)** While applying the maximal onsets principle, one should keep in mind the various combinations and restrictions governing the syllable onsets and codas. (You have studied these onsets and codas already in the earlier part of this lesson in the section entitled structure of the syllable.)
- (iii)** When syllables contain one of the short vowels such as **i, e, æ, ɪ, x** or **ɜ** (except ➤) they must have a coda as well. In other words, in English language, there are no syllables with short vowels which do not have a coda also.

Keeping these constraints in mind, the issue of syllable division of words such as *better* and *mother* can be solved. /bet.➤/ and /mʌð.➤/ will be the most acceptable syllabic division of these words since the first syllables in these words



contain short vowels /e/ and /ʌ/ respectively and hence must contain a coda as well. Consequently, the second syllable in these words consists of /ɹ/ alone.

Coming back finally to the word *extra* and its syllabic division, we find that (the first option) i.e. /e.kstrɹ/ is ruled out because of an impossible onset of the second syllable. Similarly (the second option), i.e. /ekstr.ɹ/ is ruled out because of an impossible coda of the first syllable. Going by the Maximal Onset Principle (the third option) i.e. /ek.strɹ/ is the most acceptable syllabic division of this word.

In spite of the three rules and constraints bearing upon syllable division of words, certain problems still persist. For example, let us look at a word such as *carry* /kæri/. Here we divide the syllables after /r/ as shown in /kæ.rɪ/. The consonant /r/ goes to the left-hand syllable since a syllable with a short vowel must have a coda as well. But this syllable-division throws up another problem, i.e. it puts /r/ in the syllable-final position which does not happen in standard British Pronunciation. If we put /r/ on the right-hand syllable, it leads us to another impossibility, i.e. the syllable on the left with a short vowel will have no coda. Thus, we can say that the consonant /r/ in *carry* belongs to both the left and the right syllables and can be referred to as *ambisyllabic*. Obviously, *ambi-syllabic* consonants are those which can belong to two syllables.

Therefore, out of the two divisions given above (i) /kæ.rɪ/ and (ii) /kæ.rɪ/ (i) /kæ.rɪ/ is more acceptable because certain rhotic accents of English do have syllable final /r/ also.

Therefore, the rules of syllable division can be helpful only to a certain extent; certain words with problematic syllabic division would still come up here and there. In such cases final, conclusive answers to syllabic division may not easily come by.

### (ii) STRONG AND WEAK SYLLABLES

#### **Strong and Weak Syllables :**

One of the most characteristic features of English is that all the syllables of a word are not spoken with equal force and energy. Some are spoken with greater breath-force and stress, then it obviously follows that strong and weak syllables are linked to the phenomenon of stress. It logically follows that stressed syllables are strong, whereas the unstressed syllables are weak. We will take up the issue of stress in the following lesson.

Apart from stress, strong and weak syllables are also closely linked to the vowels which are the central, integral part of syllables (except in the small category of syllabic consonants).

On making a comparison between strong and weak syllables, we find that the vowel in a weak syllable tends (i) to be shorter, (ii) of lower intensity and (iii) different in quality. For example, in a word such as *father* /fa:ðɹ/, the syllabic division is like this /fa:ðɹ/. Here, as the stress mark shows, the first syllable is strong and the second syllable is weak. The weak second syllable is shorter than

the first as (i) it is less loud than the first and (ii) consists of a vowel /ɻ/ which can not occur in strong syllables.

In a word such as *bottle* /bɪtəl/ the second syllable is once again weak. As you can easily make out, this weak syllable contains no vowel at all; it only contains the syllabic consonant /əl/. Similarly, in words like *about* /ə'baʊt/ and *city* /'sɪt.i/, the first and second syllables are weak and strong respectively.

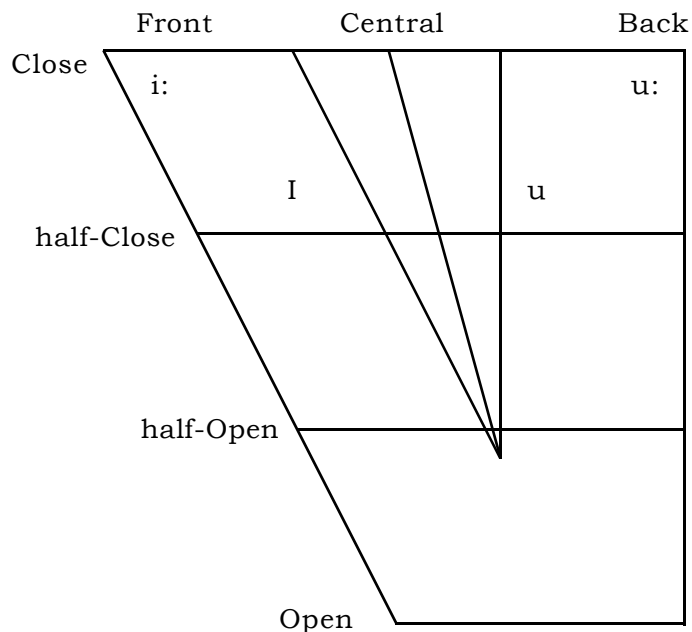
The most important thing to remember is that a strong syllable will have as its peak, any one of the vowel phonemes except ɻ, i and u. In other words, we can say that a strong syllable may consist of a long vowel, diphthong, triphthong or a short vowel except ɻ, i and u. If it consists of a short vowel, then the strong syllable must have a coda as well. The weak syllable, on the other hand, consists of a very small number of peaks, that is, ɻ, i and u. A weak syllable with one of these peaks may occur at the end of a word, without any coda.

In this lesson, we will study **Weak syllables** and their occurrence.

As already mentioned above, weak syllables consist of the following small set of possibilities :

- (i) The vowel ɻ (called schwa).
- (ii) i—a front close unrounded vowel in the general area of i : and I. Its symbol is /i/.
- (iii) u—a back close rounded vowel in the general area of u; and u. Its symbol is /u/.

Look at the position of these vowel phonemes as shown in the quadrilateral



Following are some examples of words containing weak syllables which

consist of ə, i and u.

*better* /'bet.ə/, *happy* /'hæp.i/, *thank you* /θæŋk.ju/.

In the following two words, the weak syllables consisting of ə occur in the word-final positions and contain a coda as well.

*open* /'u.pən/ *sharpen* /'ʃa:pən/

In the following three words, the weak syllables containing ə, i and u occur as second syllables in the middle of the words :

*photograph* /'fɒtə.grɑ:f/, *radio* /'rei.di.ə/, *influence* /'in.flu.ənts/.

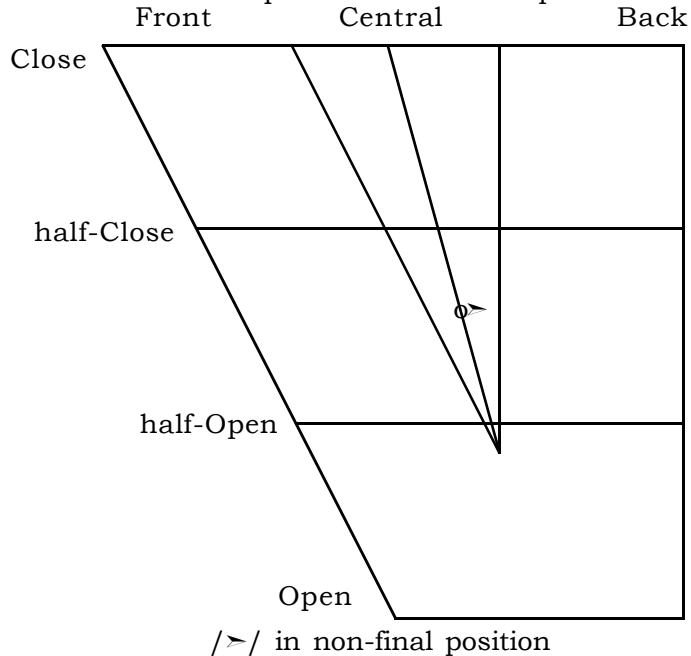
In a word such as *architect* /'ɑ:ki.tekt/, the second syllable containing the vowel /ɪ/ is the weak syllable. As you can make out, it consists of no coda as the syllable next to it begins with a consonant.

Let us now study these vowels ə, i and u which occur in weak syllables in greater detail.

### The Vowel ə (called schwa)

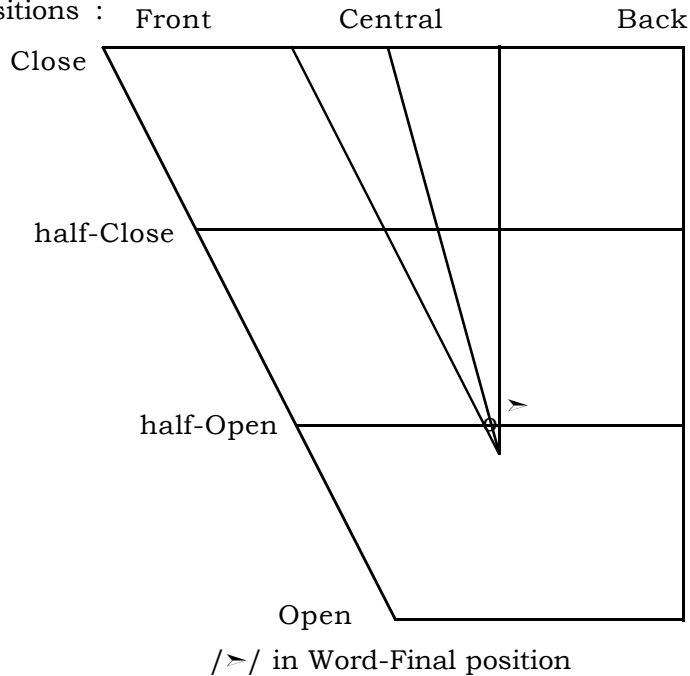
The vowel ə is the most frequently occurring vowel in English language. It is invariably related to weak syllables. ə never takes stress and wherever it occurs, it makes the syllable weak. It is a very soft sound and is not produced with much energy. Thus it is generally described as a lax vowel. Since this vowel occurs in the word-initial, medial and final positions, its quality does not remain the same.

Look at the following diagram which shows us the tongue-position in the articulation of /ə/ in the non-final position as in *ago* /'gə/, *above* /ə'bv/, *callous* /'kæl.əs/. It is clear from the diagram that in the non-final position /ə/ is a central unrounded vowel between half-open and half-close positions.



If, on the other hand, /ɜ/ occurs in the word-final positions such as *father* /fɑ:ð/, *mother* /mʌð/, *murder* /mɜ:də/ and *paper* /peɪpə/ etc., then the centre of the tongue is raised to the half-open position. The lips remain neutral. In that case final /ɜ/ has a central mid-open unrounded position.

The following diagram shows the tongue-position when /ɜ/ occurs in the word-final positions :



Two points need to be kept in mind, i.e. first, in RP or BBC English /ɜ/ is a very frequently occurring vowel, but it occurs only in unstressed syllables. Second, a large number of weak syllables contain /ɜ/.

Let us now look at the following words and their spellings. This activity will give us a fair idea regarding the correct pronunciation of weak syllables.

**(i) Spelt with 'a' :**

*attend* /tend/, *character* /kærkt/, *barracks* /bærks/.

**(ii) Spelt with 'ar' :**

*particular* /pɜtkjɜl/, *molar* /mɜl/, *monarchy* /mɜnɜki/

**(iii) Spelt with 'ate' in adjectives.**

*intimate* /ɪntɪmɪt/ *accurate* /ækjɜrɪt/ *desolate* /desɪlət/.

However, student should note that *private* is /praɪvɪt/

**(iv) Spelt with 'o'**

*carrot* /kærɪt/, *tomorrow* /tɜmɜrɔ/, *potato* /pɜtɪtɔ/.

**(v) Spelt with 'or'**

*forget* /f>get/, *opportunity* /xp>tju:n>ti/ *ambassador* /æmbæs>d>/.  
 (vi) Spelt with 'e'

*settlement* /set!m>nt/, *violet* /vai>ɫ>t/, *postmen* /p>ustm>n/.

(vii) Spelt with 'er'.

*perhaps* /p>hæps/, *stronger* /str>ŋg>/, *superman* /su:p>mæn/.

(viii) Spelt with 'u'

*autumn* />t>m/, *support* /s>p>t/.

(ix) Spelt with 'ough'

*thorough* /θ r>/, *borough* /b r>/.

(x) Spelt with 'ou'.

*gracious* /grei>s/, *callous* /kæl>s/.

### Close Front and Close Back Vowels

As you already know by now, the weak syllables also consist of two other vowels, apart from >. One is **i** which is a front close unrounded vowel in the general region of **i:** and **ɪ** and the other is **u** which is a back close rounded vowel in the general region of **u:** and **ʊ**.

You might wonder at this point : why do we need two new vowels **i** and **u**. The reason for this is—in strong syllables, it is comparatively easier to distinguish **i:** from **ɪ** and **u:** from **ʊ**, but in weak syllables, this difference is not so clear. For example it is quite easy to figure out which vowel one hears in *beat* and in *bit*. But it is not so easy to decide which vowel one hears in a weak, second syllables of words such as *easy* and *busy*.

easy	–(i)	/i:zɪ/
	(ii)	/i:zi:/
busy	–(i)	/bɪzɪ/
	(ii)	/bɪzi:/

The above two examples show us the two options for each word. Clearly we begin to wonder whether in the above examples, options (i) are better for the weak second syllables or options (ii) correctly signify them.

A similar blurring between, **u:** and **ʊ** occurs in words such as *you* and *to*. In connected speech, generally speaking both '*you*' and '*to*' remain unstressed and hence comprise weak syllables.

you	–(i)	ju :
	(ii)	jʊ
to	–(i)	tu :
	(ii)	tʊ

As the above examples show us clearly, the clear distinction between **u:** and **ʊ** in words *food* and *good* gets diluted in words such as '**you**' and '**to**'.

Two things are clear from the above discussion. One, the clear distinction between **i:** and **ɪ** and **u:** and **ʊ** which comes forth quite easily in strong syllables

gets neutralised in weak syllables. Two, we need to account for this loss of /i:/ – /ɪ/ and /u:/ and /ʊ/ contrast by having two new symbols **i** and **u**, without the accompanying length marks.

Therefore, the above-mentioned weak syllables can now be transcribed justifiably in the following manner, using the new symbols **i** and **u**.

*easy* /**i:zi**/, *busy* /**bizi**/, *to* /**tʊ**/, *you* /**jʊ**/.

A few points have to be kept in mind regarding the vowels **i** and **u**. When **i** and **u** precede another vowel, they sound more like **i:** and **u:**. When **i** and **u** precede another consonant or pause they sound less like **i:** and **u:**.

Qualitatively, the vowel **i** is neither like the /i:/ of *beat* nor like the /ɪ/ of *bit*. It also can not be contrasted from these two vowels. Similarly, the vowel **u** is neither like the /u:/ of *shoe* nor the /ʊ/ of *book*. It shares the characteristics of *u:* and *ʊ* just as **i** shares the qualities of *i:* and *ɪ*.

Lastly, the new vowels **i** and **u** do not conform to the rules of the traditional phonemic theory. In other words, we can not regard them as distinctive, contrastive phonemes giving rise to a change of meaning. Thus, whether we transcribe **easy** and **busy** as /**i:zi**/ and /**bizi**/ respectively we transcribe them according to the traditional phoneme theory, as /**i:zi**/ and /**bizi**/, it does not lead to any change in meaning. Thus, even though the new vowels **i** and **u** serve a useful purpose, they can not be regarded as separate distinctive phonemes.

We will now look at certain contexts where **i** – the front close unrounded vowel occurs.

- (i) Spelt with **y** or **ey** in word—final positions for example *happy* /**hæpi**/, *valley* /**væli**/.
- (ii) Spelt with **-ier**, **-iest** and **-ing** in words which have these suffixes, for example, *happier* /**hæpi**➤/, *easiest* /**i:zi**➤**st**/, *hurrying* /**hʌrɪ**➤**ɪŋ**/.
- (iii) In words with prefixes such as **re-** **pre-** and **de-** when these prefixes are unstressed and precede vowels, they are made up of vowels **i** and **u**, for example, *react* /**riækt**/, *preoccupied* /**pri**➤**kj**➤**paɪd**/, *deactivate* /**diækt**➤**veɪt**/.
- (iv) In words which contain endings such as **-iate** and **-ious** pronounced as two syllables, for example :  
*appreciate* /➤**pri:fi**➤**et**/, *hilarious* /**hɪl**➤**ri**➤**s**/.
- (v) In words such as **he**, **she**, **we**, **me**, **be** etc. when they are unstressed :  
/hi/, /ʃi/, /wi/, /mi/, /bi/.
- (vi) The vowel **i** also occurs in the word **the** when it precedes a vowel, e.g.  
*the end*  
/ði end/.

Thus it can be seen that the vowel **i** is most often represented in spelling by the letters '**i**' and '**e**'.

The back close rounded vowel represented by the symbol **u** is not commonly

found.

- (i) **u** occurs in words such as **you, into, to, do** when they are unstressed and do not immediately precede a consonant.
- (ii) **u** occurs in words such as **through, who** in all the positions when they are unstressed.
- (iii) **u** occurs before another vowel in words like *evacuation* /ɪvækju'eɪʃən/, *influenza* /ɪnflu'enzə/ etc.

### Syllabic Consonants :

Let us take up a study of syllabic consonants in this section. Syllables which have syllabic consonants do not contain any vowels. In such a syllable, the consonant begins to behave a bit like vowels. As a result, the obstruction to airflow gets reduced and the consonant acquires certain vowel-like qualities. Such a consonant is responsible for giving rise to a separate syllable in a word. Examples are : **muddle, bottle, cattle, threaten** etc.

Like the three vowels **ɜ, i** and **u** mentioned above, syllabic consonants also account for weak syllables. Generally, the syllabic consonants consist of **l, r** or one of the nasals—**m, n, ŋ**. The symbol for a syllabic consonant is a small vertical bar on the bottom of the said consonant, for example /kæt̩l/, /mʌd̩l/, /bɒt̩l/ etc.

We will now take up these syllabic consonants one by one.

### Syllabic l

The syllabic /l/ is easily the commonest example of the English syllabic consonants. It always follows another consonant. Its articulation depends, to a certain extent, on the nature of the preceding consonant.

If the consonant preceding syllabic /l/ is an alveolar, as in *bottle* /bɒt̩l/, *muddle* /mʌd̩l/ and *tunnel* /tʌn̩l/, then the articulatory movement from the alveolar to the syllabic /l/ is quite simple. The sides of the tongue, which are raised for the preceding consonant, i.e. the alveolar, are lowered to allow the air to escape over them. This, as you know by now, is referred to as the lateral release. The tip and blade of the tongue do not move until the articulatory contact for the /l/ is released. The syllabic /l/ in these and other similar cases is the dark /l/. (Dark l is an allophone of the consonant /l/.)

The most noticeable occurrence of syllabic /l/ in standard British pronunciation is in those words which end in one or more consonant letters followed by 'le'. (The noun plurals and the third person singular verb forms end in 'les'.) Examples are :

- (i) With alveolar consonant preceding syllabic /l/.
 

<i>cattle</i> /kæt̩l/	<i>bottle</i> /bɒt̩l/
<i>wrestle</i> /resl/	<i>muddle</i> /mʌd̩l/
<i>little</i> /lɪt̩l/	<i>puddle</i> /pʌd̩l/
- (ii) With non-alveolar consonant preceding syllabic /l/

*struggle* /**strʒgl**/

*juggle* /**dʒʒgl**/

*couple* /**kʒpl**/

*trouble* /**trʒbl**/

*knuckle* /**nʒkl**/

Usually, the above-mentioned words lose their final letter 'e' when a suffix starting with a vowel is added to them. But in spite of the -ing ending, /l/ generally remains syllabic. Examples are :

*Struggle-struggling* /**strʒgl**/-/**strʒgli**/

*muddle-muddling* /**mʒdl**/-/**mʒdli**/

*bottle-bottling* /**bntl**/-/**bntli**/

It may be noted here that words which are not derived by adding such suffixes do not contain the syllabic /l/, for example, the two words '*coddling*' (derived from the verb *coddle*) and '*codling*' (which means a small cod) show the contrast between syllabic and non-syllabic /l/.

*coddling* /**kzdl**/, *codling* /**kzdl**/

Syllabic /l/ also occurs in words which end in one or more consonant letters followed by 'al' or 'el', for example,

*pedal* /**pedl**/

*panel* /**pænl**/

*kernel* /**kf:nl**/

*petal* /**petl**/

*papal* /**pepl**/

*parcel* /**pa:sl**/

*babel* /**bebl**/

*ducal* /**dju:kl**/

A few technical words such as **missal** and **acquittal** may be pronounced with a syllabic ! or even with the sequence />l/.

*missal* - /mɪsl/ or /mɪs>l/

*acquittal* />kwɪtl/ or />kwɪt>l/

But the pronunciation with syllabic /l/ is definitely more prevalent.

### Syllabic /n/

The syllabic /n/ is the most frequently occurring and the most important one among the syllabic nasals.

Most usually, the syllabic /n/ occurs after plosives and fricatives, especially in the final and medial positions, for example,

*threaten* /**θretn**/, *threatening* /**θretni**/.

But this does not happen when a plosive or fricative is followed by /n/ in the initial position, for example,

*tonight* /**t>nat**/, *tenant* /**ten>nt**/, *canary* /**k>ne>ri**/ etc.

Most commonly, syllabic /n/ occurs after alveolar plosives and fricatives, for example,

*eaten* /**i:tn**/, *button* /**bʒtn**/, *rotten* /**rɒtn**/, *widen* /**wardn**/

Syllabic /n/ does not occur after /l/, /tj/, and /dʒ/ for example

*sullen* /**sʒl>n**/, *pigeon* /**pɪʒd>n**/, *Christian* /**krist>n**/ etc.

After non-alveolar consonants, the /;n/ does not occur very frequently, for



example, *toboggan* /tɒbɒɡn̩/, *wagon* /wæɡn̩/.

In words such as *happen*, *happening* and *ribbon*, that is, after bilabial consonants, the /n̩/ is as common as /->n̩/.

*happen* /hæp̩n̩/ or /hæp>n̩/

*happening* /hæp̩n̩ɪŋ/ or /hæp>n̩ɪŋ/

*ribbon* /rɪb̩n̩/ or /rɪb>n̩/

Similarly, after velar consonants, both /n̩/ and />n̩/ are equally acceptable, for example,

*thicken* – /θɪk̩n̩/ or /θɪk>n̩/

*waken* – /weɪk̩n̩/ or /weɪk>n̩/

After labio-dental fricatives, /f/ and /v/, the /n̩/ is common as compared to />n̩/ (in the final syllables), for example, *seven* /sev̩n̩/, *heaven* /hev̩n̩/, *often* /of̩n̩/.

It is worth remembering here that in all the examples mentioned above, the syllabic /n̩/ has been preceded by another consonant.

When /n̩/ is preceded by two consonants, the syllabic /n̩/ is decidedly less frequent than the sequence /->n̩/, for example,

*Boston* /bɒst>n̩/, *Minton* /mɪnt>n̩/,

*lantern* /lænt>n̩/, *London* /lɒnd>n̩/, *abandon* />bænd>n̩/, *Camden* /kæmd>n̩/

etc.

### Syllabic /m/ and /ŋ/

The two remaining nasals, /m/ and /ŋ/ can also occur as syllabic /m̩/, and /ŋ̩/. But this happens only as a result of the processes of assimilation and elision which will be taken up in a later lesson.

At this juncture, a few examples of syllabic /m̩/ and /ŋ̩/ should suffice which are as follows :

*happen* /hæp̩n̩/ but /hæp̩n̩/ and /hæp>n̩/ are equally acceptable.

*uppermost* /ʌp̩pm̩>ʊst/ but /ʌp>m̩>ʊst/ would be more usual.

The syllabic /ŋ̩/ can be exemplified in words such as *thicken* /θɪk̩ŋ̩/ and *broken key* /br>ʊkn̩ ki:/.

But in both these examples, the following possibilities are also there :

*thicken* – /θɪk̩n̩/ or /θɪk>n̩/.

*broken key* /br>ʊkn̩ ki:/ or /br>ʊk>n̩ ki:/.

**Note :** The usual convention for the symbol for syllabic consonants is to place it below symbols which do not come below the line, for example, m, n, but to place it above symbols which come below the line, for example ɱ. But in these lessons, as in your text-book also, the syllabic mark has been put underneath all the symbols for all the syllabic consonants.

### Syllabic /r/

In standard British pronunciation, syllabic /r/ is not very common. It is more common in rhotic accents such as the American accent. The word '*particular*'

would be pronounced as /p<sup>3</sup>atik<sup>1</sup>l<sup>3</sup>/ in careful speech by most Americans while the RP speakers would pronounce this word as /p<sup>1</sup>tikj<sup>1</sup>l<sup>1</sup>/.

In most of the cases, wherever syllabic /r/ occurs, the alternative pronunciations without the syllabic consonant are also perfectly acceptable.

In words such as

*Hungary* /h<sup>1</sup>ŋg<sup>3</sup>i/ *hungry* /h<sup>1</sup>ŋgri/, the change of meaning depends on the presence and absence of syllabic /<sup>3</sup>/.

### Combinations of Syllabic Consonants

The occurrence of two syllabic consonants together in a word is not entirely unusual. Words such as *national* /næ<sup>1</sup>n<sup>3</sup>l/ , *literal* /lɪ<sup>1</sup>t<sup>3</sup>l/ , *visionary* /vi<sup>1</sup>ʒ<sup>3</sup>ə<sup>1</sup>/ and *veteran* /vet<sup>3</sup>ə<sup>1</sup>/ are examples of two syllabic consonants occurring together.

Here, it is important to remember that it is not always easy to distinguish, with certainty, whether a speaker has pronounced a syllabic consonant, a non-syllabic consonant or a non-syllabic consonant plus <sup>3</sup>, for example, the word *veteran* may be pronounced by the RP speaker as /v<sup>1</sup>tr<sup>3</sup>n/ , /vet<sup>3</sup>rn/ or /vet<sup>3</sup>r<sup>3</sup>n/. The difference among all these pronunciations can not always be made out clearly even though the transcription makes it all very clear.

**(i) STRESS IN SIMPLE WORDS**

**(ii) COMPLEX WORD STRESS**

**(i) STRESS IN SIMPLE WORDS**

**The Nature of the Stress :**

You must have already come across the **word stress** a few times in the previous lessons. Before I take up a detailed study of stress, you may look at the following examples :

<b>I</b>	<b>II</b>	<b>III</b>
/ˈfɑːðə/	/pəˈteɪtə/	/əˈbaʊt/
(father)	(potato)	(about)
/ˈɔːpən/	/əˈpɑːtmənt/	/rɪˈsiːv/
(open)	(apartment)	(receive)
/ˈkæmərə/	rɪˈleɪʃən/	/pəˈhæps/
(camera)	(relation)	(perhaps)

As you can probably make out by now, the words in column I are stressed on the first syllable, words in column II are stressed on the middle syllable whereas it is the final syllable that is stressed in the words in column III. As the above words show you, the symbol for stress is a small vertical line (ˈ) high up just before the syllable which carries the stress.

Let us now come back to the topic at hand, i.e. (word stress) which is a very important feature of spoken English. Let us now understand what we mean by word-stress. Words are made up of syllables. When a word contains more than one syllable, all the syllables are not spoken with equal muscular energy. In other words, all the syllables of a word are not equally prominent. Infact, one of the syllables stands out among the others. For example, the word *receive* in column III given above consists of two syllables.

**receive** /rɪˈsiːv/

Here, the second syllable of the word is stressed, i.e. it is more prominent than the first.

In words such as '**apartment**' and '**potato**', there are three syllables each.

**apartment** /əˈpɑːtmənt/

**potato** /pəˈteɪtə/

In both these words, the second syllable is stressed, i.e. the second syllable stands out more prominently than the preceding and succeeding ones. In words like *mountaineer* and *pronunciation*, there are three and five syllables respectively.

mountaineer /maʊn.ti.'ni/

pronunciation /prɔː.nʌn.si.'ei.n/

In *mountaineer*, the final syllable (which is the third syllable in the word) is the stressed one, i.e. it is more prominent than the other two. In *pronunciation*, as the syllabic division given above shows, the penultimate syllable (which is the fourth syllable in the word) carries the stress, i.e. it stands out more prominently than all the others.

All the above examples show us two important facts. First, *stress in English words is fixed*, i.e. the stress always falls on a particular syllable in a given word and nowhere else. For example, in the word *pronunciation* /prɔː.nʌn.si.'ei.n/, the stress always falls on the fourth syllable represented by the letter 'a' whether the word is said in isolation or in connected speech. Second, stress in English words is free, i.e. it is not permanently tied to any particular syllable in the chain of syllables constituting words. As the above mentioned examples show us amply, stress can fall on the first syllable as in /'fa:ð/, on the second syllable as in /p'tet/, on the third syllable as in /maʊnt'i/ and on the fourth syllable as in /prɔːnʌnsi'eɪn/.

In some other languages, stress is tied to a particular syllable. For example, in French, the last syllable is usually stressed. In Polish, the penultimate syllable (i.e. the syllable before the last) is stressed and in Czech, the first syllable is generally stressed. But this is not the case in English.

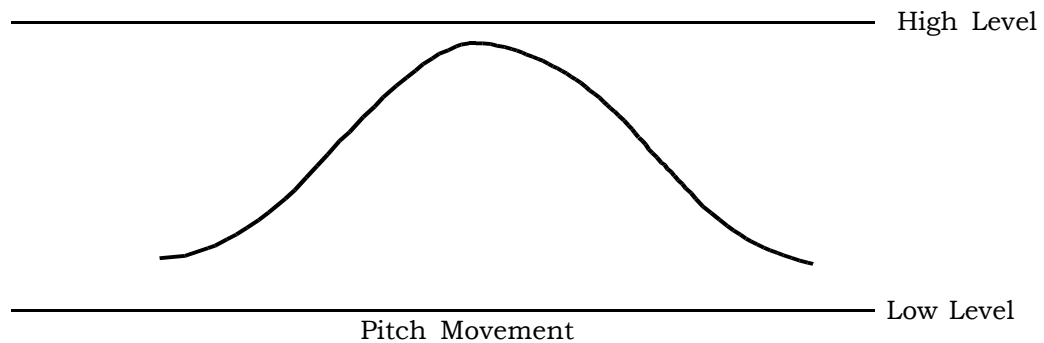
Let us now understand word—stress from the twin aspects of *production* and *perception*. *Production* means how the speaker produces stressed syllables. *Perception* stands for the characteristics of the sound which make a listener receive that sound as stressed. The two aspects of production and perception are closely related but are not identical. It is commonly believed and scientifically proved that in the production of stressed syllables, the speaker uses more muscular energy than is used for unstressed syllables. Thus, during the production of stressed syllables, the respiratory muscles which are used to expel air from the lungs are more active producing greater subglottal pressure. Similarly, muscles in other parts of speech apparatus are also more active while articulating stressed syllables.

So far as the perception of stressed syllables is concerned, it is beyond doubt that a number of important sound characteristics are responsible for making syllable recognisably stressed. From the point of view of perception, all stressed syllables share one common characteristic—that is, prominence. Thus, stressed syllables are recognised as stressed because they are more prominent than unstressed syllables. The following four factors are responsible for making a

syllable prominent :

- (i) **Loudness** : Stressed syllables are generally believed to be *louder* than unstressed ones, thus making loudness a component of prominence. This means that in a sequence of syllables, the stressed syllable is heard louder than the others. At the same time, it must be kept in mind that loudness is closely linked to the three remaining factors such as *length*, *pitch* and *quality* which are also responsible for making a syllable prominent. This is to say that a change in loudness brings about corresponding changes in length, pitch and quality also. This means that the factor of loudness does not function in isolation; rather it works in conjunction with other factors. Besides, mere loudness or a change in loudness does not make a syllable prominent.
- (ii) **Length** : The length of a syllable plays a very important role in making it prominent. This obviously means that when one of the syllables is made longer than the others, there is a strong tendency for that syllable to be heard as stressed.
- (iii) **Pitch** : The element of pitch plays a very significant role in imparting prominence to a syllable. In speech, pitch is closely related to the frequency of vibration of the vocal folds. It is also related, in the field of music, to low-pitched and high-pitched notes. Essentially speaking, it is a perceptual characteristic of speech. This means that the syllable, which is uttered with a pitch that is distinctly different from that of the others, will surely be heard as a more prominent one than the neighbouring syllables in that word. For example, if all the syllables are spoken at a low pitch except one that is said, with a high pitch, then the high-pitched syllable will be heard as stressed and the low-pitched ones will be heard as the unstressed syllables. If, on the other hand, some pitch-movement occurs on a certain syllable (e.g. the rising or the falling tone), it makes the syllable even more prominent than it would have been otherwise.

An example at this stage would further clarify matters about pitch and pitch movement. Let us take up a word such as *ago* />'g>u/ where the stress always falls on the last syllable and the first syllable is a weak one. From the point of view of stress, the most important fact about the way this word is pronounced is that the pitch of the voice does not remain constant on the syllable of this word. Rather, on the second stressed syllable, the pitch falls from a higher to a lower level.



This pitch-movement is being shown by the following diagram where the two parallel lines represent the speaker's high and low pitch level :

- (iv) **Quality** : The factor of quality refers to the quality of the vowel sound. If a syllable contains a vowel which is different in quality from the neighbouring vowels, it will tend to be more prominent than the others. This effect, pertaining to the quality of the vowel is neither very powerful nor very important. Nevertheless, one thing has to be kept in mind here. In the previous lesson it was pointed out that in weak syllables, the most frequently occurring vowels are  $\text{ə}$ ,  $i$ ,  $u$ ,  $ɪ$  and the syllabic consonants. It is clear then that the stressed syllables occur against a background of weak syllables containing the above-mentioned vowels. It is because of this that the stressed syllables gain prominence in contrast to the quality of vowel sounds in weak syllables.

*Prominence* thus is a result of these four main factors i.e. (i) **loudness**, (ii) **length**, (iii) **pitch** and (iv) **quality**. These four factors usually work in combination although syllables may sometimes be made prominent by means of only one or two of these factors. However, these four factors are not equally important. The strongest effect of prominence is produced by pitch. Length too is an important factor. Loudness and quality, on the other hand, have much less effect.

### Levels of Stress

So far we have talked of 'stress' by keeping a simple distinction between stressed and unstressed syllables with non intermediate levels between them. Obviously, this amounts to having a two-level analysis of stress—that is, one level comprising stressed syllables and the other consisting of unstressed syllables. But surely, there are other intermediate levels too. It is worth remembering here that words are not normally spoken in isolation. Speech is connected and continuous. There are just a few words that we speak in isolation such as **yes**, **no**, **possibly**, **please**, **what**, **who**, **when** etc. Nevertheless, we take up stress on words in isolation because it helps us to see stress placement and stress levels more clearly than in the context of continuous speech.

As already stated above, the syllable on which the pitch-movement or tone takes place comes out to be the strongest syllable of all. That is to say, it carries the strongest type of stress which is referred to as the **Primary Stress**. Let us illustrate this with the help of an example. Let us take up a word like **alone** />l>ʊn/. Here, the second syllable or rather the last syllable carries the stress and comes out to be the strong syllable. The first syllable, on the other hand, is unstressed and weak. The most important thing to remember here is that on the second syllable, the pitch of the voice does not remain level but generally falls from a higher to a lower pitch. This pitch-movement on the second syllable gives it the maximum prominence. It is this prominence, resulting from pitch-movement or tone, that makes the second syllable in *alone* carry the strongest type of stress. Such a stress is called the *Primary Stress*.

Let us now look at another kind of stress. This stress is weaker than primary stress but stronger than that of the first syllables of the words like **alone**, **ago** and **above**. Let us look at the first syllables of words like **photographic** and **anthropology**.

photographic /f>ʊt>'græfik/

anthropology /ænθr>'pɒl>dʒi/

In these examples, the third syllable carries the primary stress. The first syllables in these words are weaker than the third syllables but stronger than the second syllables. Consequently, the first syllable is said to carry the secondary stress. **The Secondary Stress** is marked by a small vertical bar in front of the lower end of the syllable which carries it. Thus, the secondary stress can be shown in the two words mentioned above in the following way :

/f>|t>'græfik/, /ænθr>'p|l>dʒi/

Thus, we have now identified two levels of stress—Primary and Secondary. This also implies a third level which can be called the **Unstressed level**. **Unstressed Level** is characterised by the absence of any recognisable amount of prominence. These are the three levels which are generally used in describing English stress.

At this point, however, one more fact is to be taken into consideration. The unstressed syllables containing >, i, u, ɪ or a syllabic consonant will sound less prominent than an unstressed syllable containing some other vowel. For example, in words *poetic* and *pathetic*, let us compare their first syllable **poetic** /p>ʊ'ti>k/, **pathetic** /p>'θeti>k/. On making a comparison, we find that the first syllable of '*poetic*' is more prominent than the first syllable of '*pathetic*'. This distinction can be used as the basis for a further division of stress levels, giving rise to a third Tertiary level and the *fourth level*.

The *Tertiary level* of stress can also be found in some poly-syllabic words. For example, the word *indivisibility* contains seven syllables in all.

indivisibility /indi>vizi>'bɪl>tɪ/

In this word, the fifth syllable /bɪl/ is the strongest, carrying the primary stress and the first syllable /ɪn/ has the secondary stress. The third syllable, /vɪz/ carries a level of stress which is weaker than /bɪl/ and /ɪn/ but stronger than the second, fourth, sixth and seventh syllable, all of which are the unstressed syllables. Thus, the third syllable /vɪz/ carries the tertiary stress which is marked as /<sub>0</sub>vɪzɪ/.

To sum up, we have identified four levels of stress. They are :

First level of stress	— Primary Stress
Second level of stress	— Secondary Stress
Third level of stress	— Tertiary Stress
Fourth level of stress	— Unstressed Syllables

A note of caution ought to be sounded here. Tertiary stress does give a phonetically correct account of pronunciations, but it does introduce an unnecessary degree of complexity.

#### **The Placement of Stress within the word :**

The question of which syllable in a word carries the primary stress and which does not, is the most problematic issue. Especially the foreign learners face a lot of problems with this issue. Another important and engaging issue relates to the criteria which needs to be adopted while selecting the correct syllable for marking stress in English words. The greatest difficulty comes from the fact that English is not one of those languages in which word-stress can be decided simply in relation to the syllables of the word. This is unlike certain other languages such as French, Polish and Czech. Many people find English word-stress a very difficult area because of its unpredictable quality. Consequently, they are of the view that stress-placement should be regarded as a property of the individual word and it should be learnt when the word itself is learnt. Indeed, it can not be denied that English stress placement is a complex matter. And yet the reverse is also true—that is, it should be possible, in principle, to find a few rules, in the simplest possible form, for placement of stress in **nouns**, **verbs** and **adjectives**. Having said this, it should also be kept in mind that practically all the rules of word-stress have exceptions. At times, the learners may find these rules so complex that they might feel that it is far easier to go back to the idea of learning the stress for each word individually.

In order to learn stress placement, it is necessary to keep in mind the following facts :

- (i) Whether the word is morphologically simple or complex (as a result of containing one or more affixes—that is, prefixes or suffixes) or else it is a compound word.
- (ii) The grammatical category of the word (i.e. whether the word is a noun, verb or an adjective).
- (iii) The number of syllables that the word has.



(iv) The phonological structure of the syllables in the said word.

The rules for word-stress in compound words will be taken up a little later. Also, monosyllabic words (i.e. words which contain only one syllable) do not pose any difficulty since they are pronounced with the primary stress.

In the above mentioned facts, the point (iv) is important. Let us quickly revise a few facts about the structure of syllables. Syllables are divided into two basic categories—strong and weak. In the previous lesson, you had learnt that the integral part of a syllable is the rhyme which contains the syllable peak and the coda. Coda may in turn consist of one or more consonants. Weak syllables, on the other hand, consist of a peak which has a short vowel and no coda. Or they have a peak which consists of a schwa /ə/ or /ɪ/ with coda.

Examples of strong syllables are :

**die** /daɪ/, **heart** /hɑ:t/, **bat** /bæt/.

Examples of weak syllables, with syllabic divisions, are given below :

**reduce** /rɪ.'dju:s/, **herbicide** /'hɜ:.bɪ.səɪd/ **open** /'əʊ.pən/

The syllables /rɪ/, /bɪ/ and /pən/ in the above three words are the weak syllables which remain unstressed.

The most important point to remember here is that only strong syllables can be stressed. Weak syllables never get stressed. They always remain unstressed.

Here, it should be kept in mind that every strong syllable does not get stressed simply by virtue of being a strong syllable. Some strong syllable may also remain unstressed, for example, in a word like **dialect** /'dɪə.ˌlekt/, the syllabic division is as follows :

/'dɪə.ˌlekt/

Here, even though the last syllable is a strong one, it remains unstressed. This means that all strong syllables are not the stressed ones. But the syllable that is stressed will always be the strong one and not the weak one. This basic fact about English word-stress is of great help.

### Two-Syllabic Words :

In disyllabic words (i.e. words which contain two syllables), both the syllables can not be stressed. Either the first or the second syllable will be stressed. Let us first take up verbs. Here, the basic rule is that if the second syllable of the verb is a strong one, then the second syllable is stressed, e.g.,

**apply** /ə'plai/

**attract** /ə'trækt/

**arrive** /ə'raɪv/

**assist** /ə'sɪst/

If the last syllable is weak, then the first syllable is stressed, e.g.,

**enter** /'entə/

**open** /'əʊpən/

**envy** /'envi/

**equal** /'i:kwəl/

In words such as **follow** /'fɒləʊ/, **borrow** /'bɒrəʊ/, the final syllable remains

unstressed even though it contains the diphthong />U/.

The two-syllable adjectives are stressed according to the same rule, e.g.,

**lovely** /'lʌvli/

**divine** /dɪ'vaɪn/

**even** /'i:vən/

**correct** /k>'rekt/

**hollow** /'hɒl>ʊ/

**alive** />'laɪv/

As is the case with most of the stress-rules, there are exceptions to this rule, for example, in words like **honest** and **perfect**.

**honest** /'hɒnɪst/

**perfect** /'p>:fɪkt/

the last syllables are strong ones but both the words are stressed on the first syllable.

In the case of nouns, if the second syllable contains a short vowel, then the stress usually comes on the first syllable. Otherwise, the stress will be on the second syllable, for example,

**money** /'mʌni/

**estate** /'estet/

**product** /'prɒdʒkt/

**balloon** /b>'lu:n/

**larynx** /'lærɪŋks/

**design** /dɪ'zain/

Other disyllabic words such as adverbs and propositions behave like verbs and adjectives.

### Three-Syllable Words :

Among tri-syllabic words, the stress-patterns are more complicated than among disyllabic ones. In the case of tri-syllabic verbs, if the final syllable is strong, it will be stressed, for example,

**entertain** /ent>'teɪn/

**resurrect** /rez>'rekt/

If the last syllable is weak, it remains unstressed. If in such cases the penultimate syllable (i.e. one before the last) is strong then it gets stressed, for example,

**encounter** /ɪŋ'kaʊnt>/

**determine** /dɪ'tɜ:mɪn/

If in both these words second and third syllable is weak, then the stress falls on the first syllable, e.g.

**parody** /'pæri>dɪ/

In case of tri-syllabic nouns, the rules are slightly different. Here, if the final syllable ends with >U or is *weak*, it remains unstressed. In such cases, if the penultimate syllable is strong, it carries the stress, for example,

**potato** /p>'teɪt>ʊ/

**disaster** /dɪ'zɑ:st>/

**mimosa** /mɪ'm>ʊz>/

**synopsis** /sɪ'n>psɪs/

If second and third syllables are weak, then the first syllable is stressed, e.g.,

**emperor** /'emp>r>/

**custody** /kʌst>dɪ/

**cinema** /'sɪn>m>/

**quantity** /'kwɒnt>tɪ/

Even if the last syllable is strong, the stress will usually fall on the first syllable. In such cases, the last syllable being quite prominent carries the

secondary stress, e.g.,

**intellect** /'ɪnt>lekt/

**alkali** /'ælk>laɪ/

**marigold** /'mæɪrɪg>ʊld/

**stalactite** /'stæl>ktat/

Adjectives also follow the same rule, Examples are :

**derelict** /'der>likt/

**insolent** /'ɪns>l>nt/

**opportune** /'ɒp>tju:n/

**anthropoid** /'ænθr>p]id/.

The above rules do not possibly apply to all English words. They apply only to major categories of lexical words such as nouns, verbs and adjectives. They do not cover function words such as Articles and Prepositions. Besides, these rules do not cover words which change their stress pattern according to the context in which they occur. Hence, there are many exceptions to the above-mentioned rules. Moreover, they are not exact and cannot be applied uniformly. Despite this, rules mentioned above for stress-placement prove useful.

## (ii) COMPLEX WORD STRESS

### Complex Words :

Before I discuss these stress-rules for complex and compound words, let us first be clear about the distinction between simple and complex words. Here, the word 'simple' stands for one grammatical unit only. That means simple word carries no affixes. For example, words like **care, play, sweet, possible** etc. are simple. Complex words are those words which consist of two, three or more grammatical units. Complex words thus carry affixes, i.e., either prefix or suffixes. For example, words **careful** and **careless** are complex since each consists of two grammatical units. Words like **playfully** and **playfulness** are also complex words since they consist of three grammatical units each.

Here, it ought to be kept in mind that a majority of polysyllabic words (i.e., words containing more than one syllable) in English have come from other languages such as Latin, French and Greek. But we will consider all these words from the point of view of morphological rules of English language.

Complex words are of two major types :

- (i) Words which are made of a basic word form called the stem, with the addition of an affix.
- (ii) Words which are made of two or more independent English words are referred to as compound words, e.g., **ice-cream, ball pen, armchair** etc.

Let us first take up category (i)—that is, words which are made of stem + affixes. Affixes are of two types in English :

- (i) Prefixes which are placed before the stem, e.g., the word **unpleasant** consists of a prefix and a stem.  
unpleasant — un + pleasant

- (ii) Suffixes which are placed after the stem, e.g., the word **goodness** consists of a stem and a suffix
- |          |   |        |   |          |
|----------|---|--------|---|----------|
| goodness | — | good   | + | ness     |
|          |   | (stem) |   | (suffix) |

Affixes have one of the following three possible effects on word stress :

- (i) The affix itself receives the primary stress, for example :
- |                   |   |          |   |        |
|-------------------|---|----------|---|--------|
| <b>semicircle</b> | — | semi     | + | circle |
|                   |   | (prefix) |   | (stem) |
- /ˈsemɪsɜ:kəl/*—here, the prefix gets stressed.
- |             |   |        |   |          |
|-------------|---|--------|---|----------|
| personality | — | person | + | -ality   |
|             |   | (stem) |   | (suffix) |
- /pɜ:snˈælɪti/*—here the suffix gets the stress.
- (ii) The affix has no effect on word-stress, i.e., the complex word gets stressed as if the affix were not there, for example,
- pleasant** */ˈpleznt/*, **unpleasant** */ʌnˈpleznt/*, **market** */ˈmɑ:kɪt/*, **marketing** */ˈmɑ:kɪtɪŋ/*.
- (iii) The stress remains on the stem, not the affix, but is shifted to a different syllable, e.g.,
- magnet** */ˈmæɡnət/*, **magnetic** */mæɡˈnetɪk/*

### Suffixes :

From among a large number of suffixes available in English language, we will take up only those which are common and productive (i.e., which are applied to a larger number of stems and can be applied to more so as to make new English words.)

In the context of suffixes, two difficulties need to be mentioned. Firstly, there are a few words which are obviously complex but on being divided into stem + affix, they come to have a stem that can not be easily thought of as an English word. For example, '**audacity**' can be easily regarded as a complex word, but finding its stem becomes a problem. Secondly, it becomes problematic in some cases to figure out whether a word has one or more than one suffix. For example, the word **personality** can be analysed as :

personality—pɜ:sn + ælɪti (according to word-stress)

or

personality—pɜ:sn + æl + ɪti

How do we decide which option is better and more acceptable ?

Keeping in mind these difficulties, we need to distinguish between a stem and a root. A stem may be understood as something which remains when affixes are removed. A root may be defined as the smallest piece of lexical material that a stem can be reduced to.

Thus, in the word **personality**, we can say that the suffix—**ity** is attached to the stem **personal** which contains the root **person**. So, **person** is the root, **personal**

is the stem and **ity** is the suffix.

However, for our purpose here in this lesson, we will use only the term stem. We will now look at some generalisations about suffixes and their word-stress. The suffixes have been used in their spelling form.

#### **Suffixes carrying Primary Stress :**

In the examples given below which happen to be the most common, the primary stress is on the first syllable of the suffix. In the transcriptions given below, both primary and secondary stress are being shown. (Remember, if the stem consists of more than one syllable, there will be a secondary stress on one of the syllables of the stem.)

- ee :       refugee /ˌrefʊˈdʒiː/  
              evacuee /ɪˈvækjuːiː/
- eer :       mountaineer /ˌmaʊntiˈniːə/  
              volunteer /ˌvɒlɪˈnɪːə/
- ese :       Portuguese /ˌpɔːtʃəˈgiːz/  
              journalese /ˌdʒɜːnəlˈiːz/
- ette :      cigarette /ˌsɪɡrɪˈet/  
              laundrette /ˌləʊndrɪˈet/
- esque :   picturesque /ˌpɪktʃəˈesk/

#### **Suffixes that do not affect stress placement :**

- able :      comfort /ˈkʌmfɪt/, comfortable /ˈkʌmfɪtəbəl/
- age :      anchor /ˈæŋkə/, anchorage /ˈæŋkərɪdʒ/
- al :       refuse (verb) /rɪˈfjuːz/, refusal /rɪˈfjuːzəl/
- en :       wide /waɪd/, widen /waɪdn/
- ful :      wonder /ˈwʌndə/, wonderful /ˈwʌndəfʊl/
- ing :      amaze /ˈmeɪz/, amazing /ˈmeɪzɪŋ/
- ish :      devil /ˈdevl/, devilish /ˈdevlɪʃ/
- like :     bird /bɜːd/, birdlike /ˈbɜːdlaɪk/
- less :     power /ˈpaʊə/, powerless /ˈpaʊələs/
- ly :       hurried /ˈhʌrɪd/, hurriedly /ˈhʌrɪdli/
- ment (noun) : punish /ˈpʌnɪʃ/,  
  punishment /ˈpʌnɪʃmənt/
- ness :     yellow /ˈjeləʊ/, yellowness /ˈjeləʊnəs/
- ous :      poison /ˈpɔɪzn/, poisonous /ˈpɔɪznəs/
- fy :       glory /ˈɡlɔːri/, glorify /ˈɡlɔːrɪfaɪ/
- wise :     other /ˈʌðə/, otherwise /ˈʌðəwaɪz/
- y :       (adjunctive or noun) : fun /fʌn/, funny /ˈfʌni/

#### **Suffixes that influence stress in the stem :**

In these examples, primary stress is on the last syllable of the stem.

- eous :     advantage /ˈdʌvɑːntɪdʒ/  
              advantageous /ˌædvɑːntɪdʒəs/
- graphy : photo /ˈfəʊtəʊ/

- photography /f>'tɒgr>fi/
- ial : proverb /'prɔ:vɜ:b/, proverbial /pr>'vɜ:bi>l/
  - ic : climate /'klaɪmɪt/, climatic /klaɪ'mætɪk/
  - ion : perfect /'pɜ:fɪkt/, perfection /p>'fekʃn/
  - ious : injure /'ɪndʒ>/, injurious /ɪn'dʒɔ:ri>s/
  - ty : tranquil /'træŋ'kwɪl/, tranquillity /træŋ'kwɪl>ti/
  - ive : reflex /'ri:flɛks/, reflexive /rɪ'flɛksɪv/

**Prefixes :**

With regard to prefixes, the effect on stress does not have the comparative regularity, independence and predictability as was the case in suffixes. There is no prefix of one or two syllables that always carries the primary stress. Therefore, stress in words with prefixes follows the same rules as that for words without prefixes.

**Compound Words :**

Compound words are made up of two or more than two words. The chief characteristic of compound words is that they can be analysed into two words, both of which can exist independently as English words. For our present purpose here in this lesson, we will consider only those compound words which are made of two words, for example, **dining-room, afternoon, old-fashioned, tea-party** and **ice-cream** etc. Compound words are written in different ways. Some are written as one word, e.g. armchair, sunflower, afternoon etc. Some are written with a hyphen between the two words, e.g., **fruit-cake, old-fashioned** and **gear-change** etc. Some other compound words have a space between the two words, e.g., **desk lamp, battery charger, pineapple juice** etc.

Among compound words also, there are areas of uncertainty, for example, a word like **photograph** can be divided into two independent words, **photo** and **graph**. And yet we do not regard this word as a compound word. A question is—should **photograph** be regarded as a compound word or not ?

So far as stress-placement in compound words is concerned, a few rules can be given although there are many exceptions to these rules. In some compounds, the primary stress is placed on the first constituent word while in others it is placed on the second constituent word. The most common type of compound is the one which combines two nouns and the stress falls on the first element, e.g.,

**typewriter** /'taɪpraɪt>/, **tea-cup** /'ti:kʌp/, **suitcase** /'su:tkeɪs/,  
**sunrise** /'sʌnrɑɪz/, **car-ferry** /'kɑ:fəri/.

Some other compounds receive stress on the second element also. For example, in the following compounds, the first element is an adjective and the second ends in an -ed morpheme. The stress is carried by the second element.

bad - 'tempered

old – 'fashioned  
 half – 'hearted  
 heavy – 'handed  
 well – 'manicured

Compounds in which the first element is a number also carry the stress on the second element, for example,

two – 'wheeler  
 second – 'class  
 three – 'tier

Compounds functioning as adverbs are generally stressed on the second element.

South – 'east  
 up – 'stream  
 head – 'first

Compounds which function as verbs and whose first element consists of an adverbial are also stressed on the second element, e.g.,

down – 'grade  
 back – 'pedal  
 ill – 'treat

### Variable Stress :

It should be remembered that the stress-pattern does not always remain fixed and unchanging in English words. Word-stress does vary because of two reasons; firstly, as a result of stress on other words occurring next to the word in question. This is exemplified in the following compounds :

bad-'tempered but a 'bad-tempered 'teacher  
 old-'fashioned but an 'old-fashioned 'house  
 half-'hearted but a 'half-hearted attempt

Word-stress may also vary because of the fact that all the speakers do not place the stress on the same syllable in certain words. For example, the word controversy shows variable stress patterns because some speakers place the stress on the first syllable while others do it on the second syllable.

Controversy – /'kɒntrɔːvɜːsi/ or  
 /kɒ'ntrɔːvɜːsi/

Here as well as in the following examples, both the versions are acceptable.

ice-cream – /aɪs'kriːm/ or /'aɪskriːm/  
 kilometre – /'kɪlɪ'miːtə/ or /kɪ'lɪxmiːtə/  
 formidable – /'fɔːmɪdə'bəl/ or /fɔː'mɪdə'bəl/

### Word-Class Pairs :

There are several dozen pairs of two-syllable words with identical spellings which differ from each other in stress-placement in accordance with their grammatical category, i.e. whether they function as verbs, nouns or adjectives.

In fact, these words undergo a functional shift of stress. When such disyllabic words function as nouns or adjectives, the stress is on the first syllable. When these words are used as verbs, the stress is on the second syllable. Some common examples of such pairs are given below :

(Here V stands for verb, A for adjective and N for noun)

abstract /'æbstrækt/ (A)	/æbs'trækt/ (V)
conduct /'kɒndʌkt/ (N)	/kɒ'n'dʒkt/ (V)
contrast /'kɒntrɑ:st/ (N)	/kɒ'n'trɑ:st/ (V)
contract /'kɒntrækt/ (N)	/kɒ'n'trækt/ (V)
desert /'dezɔ:t/ (N)	/dɪ'zɜ:t/ (V)
escort /'eskɔ:t/ (N)	/ɪs'kɔ:t/ (V)
export /'ekspɔ:t/ (N)	/ɪk'spɔ:t/ (V)
import /'impɔ:t/ (N)	/ɪm'pɔ:t/ (V)
insult /'ɪnsʌlt/ (N)	/ɪn'sʌlt/ (V)
object /'nɒbdʒɪkt/ (N)	/ɔb'dʒekt/ (V)
perfect /'pɜ:fɪkt/ (A)	/pɜ'fekt/ (V)
permit /'pɜ:mɪt/ (N)	/pɜ'mɪt/ (V)
present /'preznt/ (N,A)	/prɪ'zent/ (V)
produce /'prɒdʒu:s/ (N)	/prɒ'dʒu:s/ (V)
protest /'prɒtɛst/ (N)	/prɒ'test/ (V)
rebel /'rebəl/ (N)	/rɪ'bel/ (V)
record /'rekɔ:d/ (N)	/rɪ'kɔ:d/ (V)
subject /'sʌbdʒɪkt/ (N)	/sɒb'dʒekt/ (V)



### **ASPECTS OF CONNECTED SPEECH**

In this lesson, we will be studying four different aspects of connected speech. They are : (i) **rhythm**, (ii) **assimilation**, (iii) **elision** and (iv) **linking**. Infact, they are characteristic features of speech in any language. We shall take them up one by one.

#### **Rhythm**

The notion of rhythm involves some noticeable event happening at regular intervals of time. All of us know and feel the rhythm of a heart-beat, of a flashing light or the rhythm of a piece of music. It is often said that every language has its own characteristic rhythm which adds to its musical quality. Thus, every language in the world is spoken with either one kind of rhythm or the other. Rhythm is found not only in poetry but in prose also. Children's nursery rhymes and songs are excellent materials for practising rhythm.

English speech too is rhythmical. Its rhythm is detectable in the regular occurrence of stressed syllables. This is not to say that the timing is as regular as a clock. This regularity of occurrence of the stressed syllables is relative. It is often said that English speech has a stress-timed rhythm. Let us try and understand this term a little better. You know by now that any utterance in English consists of both stressed and unstressed syllables. When we speak, the stressed syllables should be pronounced carefully and the unstressed ones should be crowded together and said quickly. It is this regular occurrence of stressed syllables that gives English its characteristic rhythm known as the stress-timed rhythm. In other words, the stress-timed rhythm implies that the stressed syllables will tend to occur at relatively regular intervals whether they are separated by unstressed syllables or not.

In order to understand this rhythm better, let us take up the following sentence as an example :

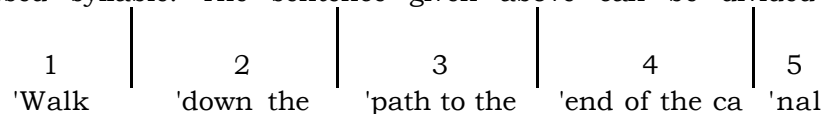
1                      2                      3                      4                      5  
'Walk              'down the              'path to the              'end of the              ca'nal

As you can make out, the stressed syllables in the above sentence are numbered. Syllables 1 and 2 are not separated by any unstressed syllables, 2 and 3 are separated by one unstressed syllable, 3 and 4 by 2 unstressed syllables and 4 and 5 are separated by 3 unstressed syllables. Here, the stress-timed rhythm implies that the time between two stressed syllables will tend to be the same,

irrespective of the number of intervening unstressed syllables. This means that, in the above sentence, time taken in going from 2 to 3, from 3 to 4 and 4 to 5 is nearly the same even though the number of unstressed syllables falling between them varies.

Languages like Russian and Arabic also have a stress-timed rhythm similar to that of English. Certain other languages such as French, Telugu and Yoruba have a different rhythmical structure which is referred to as the syllable-timed rhythm. In these languages, all syllables, whether they are stressed or unstressed, tend to occur at regular time-intervals and the time between stressed syllables will be shorter or longer in proportion to the number of intervening unstressed syllables. Infact, most Indian languages have the syllable-timed rhythm.

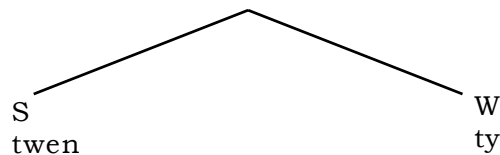
Some linguists have developed a different theory regarding the English speech-rhythm. They regard 'foot' as the unit of rhythm. Clearly, foot has a parallel in the metrical analysis of verse. The foot begins with a stressed syllable and includes all the succeeding unstressed syllables up to (but not including) the next stressed syllable. The sentence given above can be divided into feet as follows :



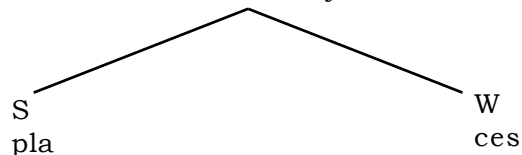
Some other theories of rhythm are also prevalent which go beyond the analysis given above. They point to the fact that some feet are stronger than others, giving rise to strong-weak patterns in larger pieces of speech above the level of the foot. In order to understand this, let us take up a word like twenty.

twenty - /'twenti/

This word has one strong and one weak syllable, comprising one foot. The rhythmical structure of this word is given below, where 's' stands for strong and 'w' stands for weak.

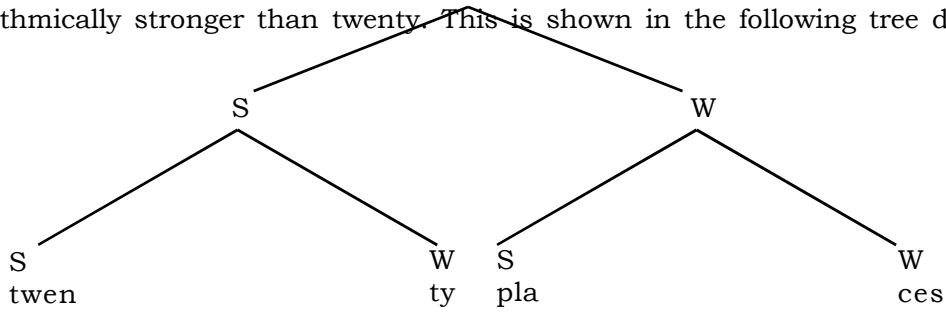


The word *places* also has a similar rhythmical structure, shown below :

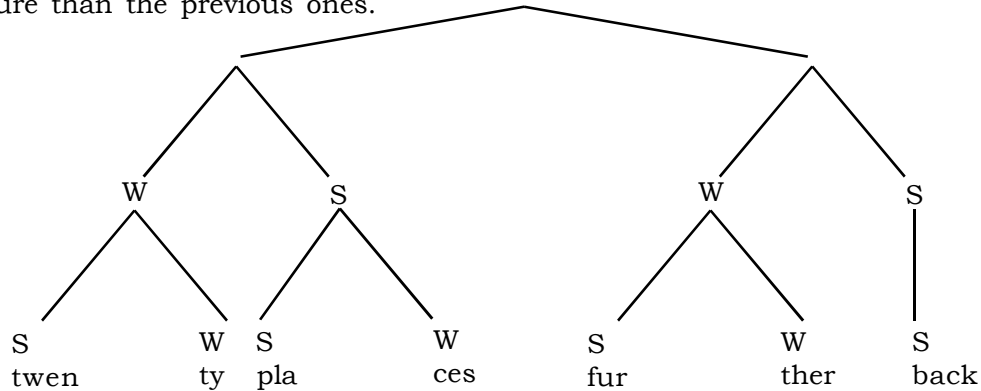


Let us now take up a phrase like '*twenty places*' in which '*places*' generally carries stronger stress than *twenty*. This means that in this phrase, places in

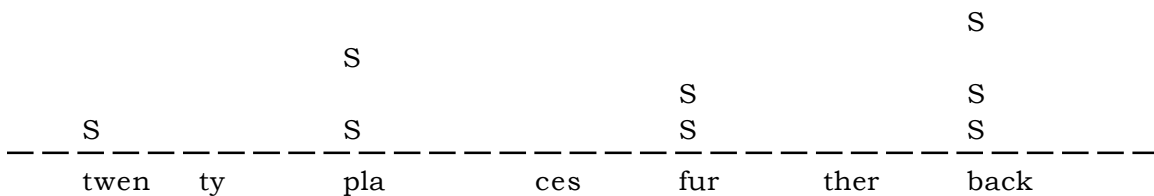
rhythmically stronger than twenty. This is shown in the following tree diagram :



Let us now extend this phrase by adding two more words to it—'further back'. Thus, the phrase we now take into consideration is 'twenty places further back'. This phrase is now shown in the following tree diagram which has a more elaborate structure than the previous ones.



By analysing speech in this way, the relationships between strong and weak elements can be shown and the different levels of stress too can be understood. As per this method, exemplified in the diagram given above, the strength of any particular syllable can be measured by counting up the number of times the 's' symbol occurs above it. The levels in the sentence shown through the tree diagram given above can be put simply as shown below :



The metrical grid given above clearly shows that in the expression 'twenty places further back', the right-hand foot is stronger than the left one.

To sum up, we can say that English speech-rhythm tends towards a regular alternation between strong and weak syllables. For example, **twen** (strong) **ty**

(weak), **pla** (strong), **ces** (weak), **fur** (strong), **ther** (weak), **back** (strong). Infact, the shifting of stress is quite evident in the following cases which show the effect of what is called the **stress-shift**. Examples are :

**compact** (adjective) /kem'pækt/ but **compact disc** /'kxmpækt 'disk/  
**thirteen** /θɜ:'ti:n/ but **thirteenth place** /θɜ:ti:nθ 'pleis/  
**Westminster** /west'minstə/ but **Westminster Abbey**  
 /'westmɪnstə'æbi/

Thus, word-stress does get altered in accordance with certain contexts. Moreover, it is worth keeping in mind that while speaking English, we do vary the rhythmicity—that is, there are times when we speak very rhythmically (during some instances of public speaking) while at other times we may speak a trifle arrhythmically if we are hesitant or nervous. In this way, the stress-timed rhythm could be thought of as the characteristic feature of one style of speaking with the degree of rhythmicity varying between a minimum level (a rythmical) and the maximum value (completely stress-timed rhythm).

### Assimilation

Assimilation is a very significant feature of connected speech. It refers to the way sounds belonging to one word can cause changes in sounds belonging to neighbouring words. For example, in rapid connected speech, an expression **good girl** /gʊd gɜ:l/ becomes /gʊg gɜ:l/. Here the terminal /d/ sound of good changes into /g/ sound under the influence of the initial /g/ of the following word **girl**—this change of /d/ into /g/ is an example of assimilation. Similarly, in rapid speech, the expression **good night** /gʊd naɪt/ tends to be articulated as /gʊn naɪt/. This change of /d/ into /n/ under the influence of the neighbouring /n/ of **naɪt** can be referred to as assimilative change.

Let us, for a moment, think as to why do assimilative changes occur in rapid speech. In order to understand this, we must keep in mind the following few facts.

The sounds in a word do not simply follow one another like printed letters, clearly demarcated from each other. Unlike letters, sounds tend to overlap and modify each other. This characteristic of speech is called co-articulation. As the articulators are in the process of forming one sound, their pattern of adjustment prepares them for the sound which is to follow. Co-articulation is a feature unique to the blending of sounds in contextual speech.

For example, let us consider the word two /tu:/. In saying this word, there is a noticeable movement of the lips towards a lip-rounded vowel /u:/. You will notice that this movement of the lips begins at or before the consonant /t/ is released. This is a case of co-articulation, which leads to the process of assimilation. Contrastively speaking, consider the word **tea** /ti:/. In saying this word, there is no movement towards lip-rounding.

Assimilation thus occurs due to the influence a sound may have on another when the two are contiguous in time, as a result of co-articulation. Assimilative

changes are those which alter the phonetic characteristics of sounds while co-articulation is the physiological basis for these changes. These adaptive changes are almost exclusively the result of neuro-motor adjustments to enhance the facility of movement and economy of effort. Therefore, when a phoneme is realised differently as a result of being near some other phoneme belonging to a neighbouring word, it is an example of assimilation.

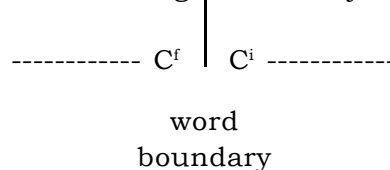
Assimilation varies in extent according to the speaking rate and style. Obviously, there are more instances of assimilation in rapid, casual speech and fewer in slow, careful, speech. In some cases the assimilative changes are quite noticeable whereas in others they are slight. In other words, these changes can be of a higher or a lesser degree. (They can also be thought of as complete or partial). Assimilation occurs in both consonants and vowels but in this lesson we will consider only those assimilative changes which affect consonants.

There are three major types of assimilations :

- (i) Regressive
- (ii) Progressive
- (iii) Reciprocal

**(i) Regressive Assimilation :**

Let us consider a case where two words are combined. The first word ends with a single final consonant which will be referred to as C<sup>f</sup>. The second word across the word boundary ends with a single initial consonant which will be referred to as C<sup>i</sup>. This can be shown diagrammatically as follows :



When C<sup>f</sup> changes to become like C<sup>i</sup> either completely or partially—i.e. the phoneme that comes first is affected by one that comes after it—it is a case of regressive assimilation. Thus, regressive assimilation takes place when a particular sound influences and modifies the one immediately preceding it.

a b → b b

e.g. **income** /ɪnkəʊm/

Here, in this word the alveolar /n/ becomes velar /ŋ/ under the influence of velar /k/ which comes right after it.

Generally speaking, the regressive assimilation is the commonest type of assimilation. A few more examples of regressive assimilation are :

**good boy**

/gʊd bɔɪ/ → /gʊb bɔɪ/

**good night**

/gʊd naɪt/ → /gʊn naɪt/

**light colour**

/laɪt kɔ:lə/ → /laɪk kɔ:lə/

**(ii) Progressive Assimilation :**

When C<sup>i</sup> changes to become like C<sup>f</sup> in some way, it is a case of progressive assimilation. In other words, progressive assimilation takes place when a phoneme markedly influences the following phoneme in a given phonetic context.

a b → a a

e.g. **Miss Doan**

/mɪs dɔ:ən/ → /mɪs tɔ:ən/

In this example, /d/ (voiced) becomes /t/ (voiceless) under the influence of the preceding voiceless /s/.

**(iii) Reciprocal Assimilation :**

Reciprocal assimilation takes place when two sounds influence each other to change the nature of the sound produced. For example,

**picked your**

/pɪkt jɜ:/ → /pɪktʃɜ:/

alveolar + palatal → palato - alveolar

/t/ + /j/ → /tʃ/

Similarly

got you

/gɒt ju/ → /gɒtʃu/

As already stated above, we will consider here only those assimilations which are consonant dominated. You will remember from your earlier lessons that three aspects are very important in the case of consonants. They are :

- (i) Place of articulation
- (ii) Manner of articulation
- (iii) Voicing

In consonance with these three indicators, we will study assimilations of place, of manner and of voicing among consonants. (i) Assimilation of place is most clearly noticeable in some cases where the final consonant (C<sup>f</sup>) happens to be an alveolar and it is followed by an initial consonant (C<sup>i</sup>) whose place of articulation is not alveolar.

For example, in a word like **that** /ðæt/, the C<sup>f</sup> is the alveolar /t/. In rapid, casual speech, /t/ becomes /p/ before a bilabial consonant, as in :

**that person**

/ðæt pɜ:sn/ → /ðæp pɜ:sn/

**light blue**

/laɪt blu:/ → /laɪp blu:/

**meat pie**

**/mi:t paɪ/ → /mi:p paɪ/**

The alveolar /t/ becomes a dental plosive (symbolised by /ç/ before a dental consonant as in :

**that thing**

**/ðæt θiŋ/ → /ðæç θiŋ/**

**get those**

**/get ðʊz/ → /geç ðʊz/**

**cut through**

**/kʌt θru:/ → /kʌç θru:/**

Also /t/ becomes /k/ before a velar consonant as in

**that case**

**/ðæt keɪs/ → /ðæk keɪs/**

**bright colour**

**/braɪt kɔːlɜː/ → /braɪk kɔːlɜː/**

**quite good**

**/kwaɪt gʊd/ → /kwaɪk gʊd/**

In similar contexts, /d/ can become /b/, /ɪ/ and /g/ respectively as in :

**good boy**

**/gʊd bɔɪ/ → /gʊb bɔɪ/**

**shed these**

**/ʃed ðiːz/ → /ʃeɪ ðiːz/**

**good gun**

**/gʊd gʌn/ → /gʊg gʌn/**

/n/ also, in similar phonetic contexts, becomes /m/, /ʌ/ and /ŋ/ as in :

**turn page**

**/tɜːn peɪdʒ/ → /tɜːm peɪdʒ/**

**turn this**

**/tɜːn ðɪs/ → /tɜːʌ ðɪs/**

**broken kit**

**/brʊkən kɪt/ → /brʊkŋ kɪt/**

It is worth keeping in mind that in all the examples given above, the C<sup>f</sup> comes to acquire the same place of articulation as C<sup>i</sup>. Besides, all these are examples of regressive assimilation.

However, alveolars such as /s/ and /z/ undergo a slightly different change. /s/ becomes /ʃ/ and /z/ becomes /ʒ/ when followed by /j/ as in

**this shoe**

**/ðɪs ʃuː/ → /ðɪʃ ʃuː/**

**those years**

**/ðəʊz jɪəz/ → /ðəʊʒ jɪəz/**

Most usually, assimilation of place is observable in the above mentioned regressive assimilation of alveolar consonants.

(ii) Assimilation of manner is to be found in the most rapid and casual speech. It

is much less noticeable than assimilation of place. The general trend here is once again for regressive assimilation. Besides, the change in manner is most commonly towards an easier consonant, i.e. a consonant which makes less obstruction to the airflow. For example, in the following two phrases, the final alveolar plosives /t/ and /d/ i.e. C<sup>f</sup> becomes a fricative and a nasal i.e. C<sup>i</sup> respectively :

**that side**

/ðæt saɪd/ → /ðæs saɪd/

**good night**

/gʊd naɪt/ → /gʊn naɪt/

On the other hand, it is highly unlikely to come across a case where a final fricative or nasal, C<sup>f</sup> would become a plosive. The following three examples show progressive assimilation of manner where the word-initial /ð/ i.e. C<sup>i</sup> follows the C<sup>f</sup> which is a plosive or nasal at the end of a preceding word. In all the three cases C<sup>i</sup> becomes identical in manner to the C<sup>f</sup> but with place of articulation being dental :

**in the**

/ɪn ð/ → /ɪn ð̪/

**get them**

/get ð̪m/ → /geç̪ ð̪m/

**read these**

/ri:d ði:z/ → /ri:ɪ̪ ði:z/

(iii) Assimilation of voice occurs in a limited way. It is found much less than assimilations of place and manner. Also, there is only one type of assimilative change that occurs in voicing and that is, the change of voiced consonant into a voiceless one. The reverse of this never takes place in English language. Thus, in a given context, if C<sup>f</sup> is voiceless (fortis) and C<sup>i</sup> is voiced (lenis) then C<sup>f</sup> can never become voiced and only C<sup>i</sup> can become voiceless under the influence of preceding fortis C<sup>f</sup>. For example,

**Miss Doan**

/mɪs dʊn/ → /mɪs tʊn/

Here, the voicing assimilation takes place when C<sup>i</sup> which is a voiced alveolar becomes a voiceless alveolar under the influence of C<sup>f</sup> which is a voiceless alveolar fricative. The opposite of this is not permitted in English language, i.e. under the influence of voiced C<sup>i</sup>, the voiceless C<sup>f</sup> does not become voiced.

Lastly, it should be kept in mind that assimilation takes place not only across word boundaries but also across morpheme boundaries within a word. Infact, assimilation also takes place within a morpheme. For example, in words such as **bump** /bʌmp/, **tenth** /teŋθ/, **hunt** /hʌnt/ and **bank** /bæŋk/, the place of articulation of the nasal is influenced and determined by the place of articulation of the following consonant. Such an assimilation has however become fixed as part



of the phonological structure of English syllables. The progressive assimilation of voice in the case of suffixes /s/ and /z/ is another example of a type of assimilation that has become fixed in English language. Thus, when a verb carries a third person singular 's' suffix or a noun carries an '-s' plural suffix or a or an '-s' possessive suffix, the suffix is pronounced as /s/ if the preceding consonant is voiceless and is pronounced as /z/ if the preceding consonant is voiced. This is evident in the following examples :

<b>cats</b> /kæts/	<b>dogs</b> /d]gz/
<b>jumps</b> /dʒʌmps/	<b>runs</b> /rʌnz/
<b>pat's</b> /pæts/	<b>Pam's</b> /pæmz/

To conclude, assimilation is essentially a natural phenomenon that can be seen in any sort of complex physical activity. The essential nature of spoken language can be understood only in terms of the dynamics of articulatory movement of speech sounds in the context of which assimilations are an important facet.

### **Elision**

Like assimilation, elision too is a feature of rapid, casual and continuous speech. When native speakers of English talk to each other, quite a few sounds that one might expect to hear are not actually pronounced. Elision may thus be understood as phenomenon which involves the disappearance of sounds under certain circumstances. This means that under certain circumstances, a phoneme may be realised as zero or have a zero realisation—i.e. a phoneme may be deleted.

Let us now consider briefly why does elision take place.

In connected speech, rhythm is the all-pervasive and determining element. In order to keep the flow of rhythm, elements are omitted in informal conversational speech. These elements are present in a full, formal style of utterance. When obliged to choose between rapid speech and phonetic detail, the speaker chooses the former. Only when he consciously or unconsciously senses a need, will he choose the phonetic detail which is typical of a slow formal style of speaking.

Besides conversational speed and rhythm, other factors responsible for elision are :

- (i) use of informal, grammatical constructions such as contractions
- (ii) assimilation
- (iii) occurrence of consonant clusters which are difficult to pronounce.

Elisions like assimilations are due to economy of effort. If a word remains perfectly intelligible without a certain sound, the tendency is to elide it e.g. loss of /r/ before consonants.

<b>arm</b> /a:m/
<b>church</b> /tʃ:tʃ/

A few examples of elisions are :

- (i) Loss of weak vowel after /p/, /t/ and /k/. In words such as **potato**, **tomato**, **correct**, **perhaps**, **today**, the vowel in the first syllable may disappear. The aspiration of the initial plosives extends to the middle portion of the syllable as shown in the following pronunciations :

/p<sup>h</sup>teɪt>ʊ/, /t<sup>h</sup>ma:t>ʊ/, /k<sup>h</sup>rekt/, /p<sup>h</sup>hæps/, /t<sup>h</sup>dei/.

- (ii) In words where weak vowels are followed by /n/ /l/ or /r/, the weak vowels get elided and the following consonants become syllabic consonants, for example,

**tonight** /t<sup>h</sup>naɪt/, **police** /p<sup>h</sup>li:s/, **corrode** /k<sup>h</sup>ɔ:d>ʊd/

- (iii) Avoidance of complex consonant clusters. Let us consider the following two examples :

**George the Sixth's throne**

/dʒ]:dʒ ə> sɪksθs θr>ʊn/

**pages of texts torn**

/peɪdʒɪz >v teksts t]:n/

It is generally felt that no normal English speaker would ever pronounce all the consonants between the last two words of the phrases given above. /sɪksθs θr>ʊn/ is more likely to be heard as /sɪksθr>ʊn/ in which /θ/ and /s/ have been elided. Similarly, in the second phrase /teksts t]:n/, /t/ and /s/ are elided and the expression is more likely to be heard as /tekst]:n/.

In consonant clusters of three plosives or two plosives plus a fricative, the middle plosive may get deleted as in :

acts /æks/, looked back /lʊk bæk/, scripts /skrɪps/.

- (iv) Loss of final /v/ in 'of' and before consonants, for example :

**lots of them** /lɒts > ə> m/

**waste of money** /weɪst > mʒni/

In this context, it should be mentioned that contractions of grammatical words are generally regarded as instances of elision. But there is a minor difference between contractions and elisions which should be kept in mind. The contractions are regularly represented with special spelling forms which make them seem a little different from the above-mentioned examples of elision.

Before giving examples of contractions or the contracted forms, let us briefly see what a contraction is. A contraction may be defined as a shortened form used either in speech or writing. These shortened (contracted) forms are represented in writing that reproduces spoken language, e.g. drama, personal letters, direct speech in novels and short stories, by omitting one or two letters and replacing the letters that are omitted by an apostrophe (').

The examples of some of the contracted forms are given below :

Uncontracted form	Written	Contracted form Spoken
I am	i'm	/aɪm/
He is	He's	/hi:z/
He had, would	He'd	/hi:d/ (after vowels)
Ram had, would		/ra:m >d/ (after consonants)
He will	He'll	/hi:l/ (after vowels)
Ram will	Ram'll	/ra:məl/ (after consonants)
I have	I've	/aɪv/ (after vowels)
The boys have	The boys've	/ðe bɔɪz >v/ (after consonants)
I can not	I can't	/aɪ kɑ:nt/
I do not	I don't	/aɪ d>ʌnt/
I shall not	I shan't	/aɪ ʃɑ:nt/
Ram is	Ram's	/ra:mz/ (after voiced phonemes)
Rick is	Rick's	/rɪks/ (after voiceless phonemes)
Harsh is	Harsh's	/hɜ:ʃɪz/ (after s, z, ʃ, ʒ, tʃ, dʒ)
We are	We're	/wɪr/
You are	You're	/jʊ> or /jɔ:/
They are	They're	/ðe>/

### Linking

In connected speech, words and sounds are linked together in special ways. The most familiar case of linkage is the use of linking /r/.

In BBC accent, the phoneme /r/ does not occur in syllable-final position. The phoneme /r/ at the end of a word is pronounced only when the next word begins with a vowel sound within the same meaning or tone-group. In other words, when a word's spelling suggests a final r and the word that follows it begins with a vowel, then the final /r/ of the preceding word is pronounced. This is a case of linking /r/. For example,

'here' /hɪr/ but 'here are' /hɪr̩r̩ >/  
 four /fɔ:/ but 'four eggs' /fɔ:r̩ ɛgz/.  
 car /kɑ:(r)/ or /kɑ:r̩/  
 car park /kɑ: pɑ:k/  
 car engine /kɑ:rendʒɪn/  
 doctor /dɒkt̩r̩/  
 doctor is in /dɒkt̩r̩ ɪz ɪn/

A considerable number of BBC speakers often use /r/ to link words in which the preceding word ends with a vowel and the following word begins with a vowel. For example :

'Formula A' /fɔ:mj>ɪ>r̩ ɛr/  
 Australia all out /xstreɪlɪ>r̩ ɔ:l aʊt/  
 media event /mi:di>r̩ ɪvent/

This use of /r/ to link words ending with a vowel even when there is no

justification for the use of /r/ from the spelling is referred to as **intrusive /r/**. Some English speakers and teachers continue to regard the use of intrusive /r/ as incorrect or sub-standard pronunciation but the intrusive /r/ is indeed widely used.

### **Juncture :**

Last of all, we need to consider the concept of juncture which literally means a particular, especially important stage in a series of events. Linking /r/ and intrusive /r/ are special cases of juncture. In this phonetic context, juncture refers to the relationship between one sound and the sounds that immediately precede and follow it. Juncture carries some importance in phonological theory.

Let us take up two words '**my turn**' /maɪ tɜ:n/. The relationship between /m/ and /aɪ/ between /t/ and /ɜ:/ and between /ɜ:/ and /n/ is said to be one of close juncture. The sound /m/ is preceded by silence and /n/ is followed by silence. Thus /m/ and /n/ are said to be in a position of external open juncture. The relationship between /aɪ/ between /t/ in the phrase '**my turn**' /maɪ tɜ:n/ is the one that is slightly problematic. It may be called as the relationship of internal open juncture which is usually referred to as juncture for short. It must be kept in mind that there is no pause or silence between /aɪ/ and /t/ to indicate word division and to justify the space left in the transcription. And yet the fact remains that English speakers, on hearing /maɪ tɜ:n/, usually recognise this as '**my turn**' and not as '**might earn**'. How does an English speaker do that? The answer lies in the fact that in the case of my turn /maɪ tɜ:n/, /t/ is aspirated since it lies in the initial position of a stressed syllable whereas in the case of '**might earn**' /maɪ tɜ:n/, /t/ is unaspirated since it is the final sound in the word '**might**'. Thus, we can conclude from here that the position of a word boundary has some effect on the realisation of the /t/ phoneme.

The importance of juncture can be understood by looking at the following minimal pairs :

- (i) 'might rain' /maɪ reɪn/ (/r/ being in the initial position in **rain** is voiced) vs. my train /maɪ treɪn/ (/r/ following /t/ in **train** is voiceless).
- (ii) 'all that I'm after today' /ɔ:l ðə taim a:ftə tɜ:deɪ/ (/t/ being final in '**that**' is aspirated).  
'all the time after today' /ɔ:l ðə taɪm a:ftə tɜ:deɪ/ (/t / being initial in '**time**' is aspirated).
- (iii) he lies /hi: laɪz/ (/l/ being initial in '**lies**' is clear (/l/).  
'**heal eyes**' /hi:l aɪz/ (/l/ being final in heal is dark /l/).
- (iv) 'keep sticking' /ki:p stɪkɪŋ/ (/t/ is unaspirated)  
'**keeps ticking**' /ki:ps tɪkɪŋ/ (/t/ is aspirated)

More than the information about juncture, it is the context in which the words occur that almost always makes it clear where the word boundary comes.

**ENGLISH PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY**  
**SYMBOLS USED FOR TRANSCRIPTION**

<p><b>Vowel Phonemes</b></p> <p>ɪ ..... as in ..... pit  e ..... as in ..... pet  æ ..... as in ..... pat  ʌ ..... as in ..... cut  ʊ ..... as in ..... pot  ʊ ..... as in ..... put  ɔ ..... as in ..... potato, upper  i: ..... as in ..... key  a: ..... as in ..... car  ɔ: ..... as in ..... core  u: ..... as in ..... coo  ɜ: ..... as in ..... cur  eɪ ..... as in ..... bay  aɪ ..... as in ..... buy  ɔɪ ..... as in ..... boy  ɔʊ ..... as in ..... low  aʊ ..... as in ..... how  ɪ ..... as in ..... here  e ..... as in ..... there  ɔ ..... as in ..... moor</p>	<p><b>Consonant Phonemes</b></p> <p>p b ..... as in ..... 'pea', 'bee'  t d ..... as in ..... 'tea', 'do'  k g ..... as in ..... 'key', 'go'  f v ..... as in ..... 'fat', 'vat'  θ ð ..... as in ..... 'thin', 'that'  s z ..... as in ..... 'sip', 'zip'  ʃ ʒ ..... as in ..... 'ship', 'measure'  h ..... as in ..... 'hat'  m l ..... as in ..... 'map', 'lad'  n r ..... as in ..... 'nap', 'red'  j ..... as in ..... 'yet'  ŋ ..... as in ..... 'hang'  w ..... as in ..... 'wet'  tʃ ..... as in ..... 'chin'  dʒ ..... as in ..... 'gin'</p>
	<p><b>Prosodic Marks</b></p> <p>' (primary stress)  as in better  'bet.ɔ   , (secondary stress)  as in retell  ,ri:'tel   . (syllable division)  as in differ  'dif.ɔ </p>

Given below is a list of words phonetically transcribed.

## A

<i>Word</i>	<i>Transcription</i>
Aaron .....	'e>.r>n
Abacus .....	'æb.>k>s
Abandon .....	>'bæ.n.d>n
Abbreviate .....	>'bri:vi.eit
Abbreviation .....	> bri:vi'ei.ʃ~n
Abdomen .....	'æb.d>m>n
Abduct .....	>'b'dʌkt
Aberration .....	æb.>'reiʃ~n
Abhor .....	>'b'hɔ:'
Ability .....	>'bɪl.>.ti
(words containing 'ability' as a suffix always exhibit the primary stress as for 'ability' i.e. capability  ,kei.p>'bil.>.ti )	
Ablative .....	'æb.l>.tɪv
Abnormal .....	æb'nɔ:m~l
Aboard .....	a'bo:d
Abode .....	>'bɔ:d
Aboriginal (A) .....	æb.>'rɪdʒ.~n.~l
Aborigines (A) .....	æb.>'rɪdʒ.~ni:~3
Abrasion .....	>'breɪ.~3~n
Abcess .....	'æb.ses
Absent (adj.) .....	'æb.s~nt
Absent (v.) .....	'æb 'sent
Absentee .....	æb.s~n'ti:
Absolute .....	æb.s>'lu:t
Absolve .....	>'bɔ:l.v
Absorb .....	>'bɔ:b
Abstemious .....	æb'sti:m>s
Abstinence .....	'æb.st>n>n ts
Abstract (adj.) .....	'æb.strækt
Abstract (v.) .....	æb'stækt
Absurd .....	>'bɜ:d
Abuse (n.) .....	>'bju:s
Abuse (v.) .....	>'bju:z

Abusive .....	>'bju:s2v
Academic .....	æk. >'dem.2k
Academy .....	>'kæd. >.m 2
Accelerate .....	>'k'sel. > .re2t
Acceleration .....	>'k,sel. >re2 'n
Accent (n.) .....	'æk.s`nt
Accent (v.) .....	>'k 'sent
Access .....	'æk.ses
Accessory .....	>'k'ses. `r .2
Accident .....	'æk.s2.d`nt
Acclimatize .....	>'kla2.m>.ta2z
Accommodate .....	>'kəm. > .de2t
Accomplice .....	>'kəm.pl2s
Accord .....	>'kɔ:d
Accrue .....	>'kru:
Accumulate .....	>'kju:mje le2t
Accuracy .....	'æk.j>.r>.s2
Accusative .....	>'kju:z>'t2v
Acetic .....	>'si:t2k
Achilles .....	>'kil.i:z
Acid .....	'æs.2d
Acme .....	'æk.m2
Acorn .....	'e2.kɔ:n
Acoustic .....	>'ku:st2k
Acquaint .....	> 'k.we2nt
Acquiesce .....	æk.w2'es
Acquisition .....	æk.w2'z2.  >n
Acquisitive .....	>'kw2z.2t2v
Acrimomious .....	æk.r2m>v.n2.>s
Acrobat .....	'æk.r>.bæt
Across .....	>'krɒs
Active .....	'æk.t2v
Actress .....	'æk.tr>s
Actually .....	'æk.tfu.>l2
Acumen .....	'æk.jv.m>n
Adage .....	'æd.2d3
Adamant .....	'æd. >.m>nt
Adapt .....	>'dæpt

Addict (n.) .....	'æd.2kt
Addicted .....	>'d2kt2d
Addle .....	'æd.l
Address (n.) .....	>'dres
Addressee .....	æd.res'i:
Adept (n.) .....	'æd.ept
Adequate .....	'æd.2.kw>t
Adhere .....	>'dh2>f
Adhesion .....	>'d'hi:.3en
Adhesive .....	>'d'hi:s2ve
Adhoc .....	æd'høk
Adieu .....	>'dju:
Adjacent .....	>'d3e2.s`nt
Adjectival .....	æd3.2k'ta2.v`l
Adjective .....	'æd3.2k.tiv
Adjoin .....	>'d3>2n
Adjunct .....	'æd3.ʌkt
Adjust .....	>'d3ʌst
Administer .....	>'d'm2n.2.st>f
Admirable .....	'æd.m`r.>.bl'
Admiration .....	æd.m>'re2.ʃ`n
Ado .....	>'du:
Adolescence .....	æd.`l'es.`nts
Adonais .....	æd.>'vne2.2s
Adonis .....	>'d>v.n2s
Adulterate .....	>'dʌl.t`r .e2t
Advantage .....	>'d'va:n.t2d3
Advantageous .....	æd.v>'n'te2.d3>s
Advent (A.) .....	'æd.vent
Adventure .....	>'d'ven.t3>f
Adverb .....	'æd.v3:b
Adversary .....	'æd.v>.s`r2
Advert (n) .....	'æd.v3:t
Advert (v) .....	>'d'v3:t
Advertise .....	'æd.v>.ta2z
Advertisement .....	>'d'v3:t2s.m>nt
Advisability .....	>'d'va2z>'b2. >'t2
Advisable .....	>'d'va2.z>.bl



Advocacy .....	'æd.v>k>.s2
Advocate (n) .....	'æd.v>k>t
Advocate (v) .....	'æd.v>ke2t
Aeon .....	'i:.>n
Aerial .....	'e>r2.>l
Aeroplane .....	'e>r>.ple2n
Aeschylus .....	'i:sk2.l>s
Aesthete .....	'i:s.ri:t
Aesthetic .....	i:s'ri:t.2k
Affable .....	'æf.>.bl
Affiliate .....	>'fɪl.2.e2t
Affix (n.) .....	'æf.2ks
Affix (v.) .....	>'fɪks
Affluence .....	'æf.lu.>nts
Aftermath .....	'a:f,t>.ma:ri
Again .....	>'gen
Against .....	>'gentst
Agape .....	>'ge2p
Agate .....	>æg>t
Agatha .....	>æg.>ri>
Aged 'a man aged 40' .....	'eid3d
Aged 'old' .....	e2d32d
Agency .....	'e2.d3`nt.s2
Aggravate .....	'æg.r> .ve2t
Aggregate (v.) .....	'æg.r2.ge2t
Aghast .....	>'g:st
Agnes .....	'æg.n>s
Agnostic .....	æg'nɒs.t2k
Ago .....	>'geʊ
Agony .....	'æg.>.n2
Agrarian .....	>'gre>r2.>n
Agree .....	>'gr2;
Ague .....	'e2g.ju:
Ah .....	ɑ
Albatross .....	'æl.b>.trɒs
Albeit .....	ɔ:l'bi:..2t
Alchemist .....	'æl.k>.m2st
Aldous .....	'ɔ:l.d>s.

Algebraic .....	ˈæl.dʒɪˈbreɪ.2k
Alias .....	ˈeɪ.lɪ.əs
Alibi .....	ˈæl.ɪ.baɪ
Alien .....	ˈeɪ.lɪ.ən
Alive .....	ˈaɪv
All .....	ɔ:l
Allegiance .....	ˈli:dʒɪnts
Allegory .....	ˈæl.ɪ.gərɪ
Allergy .....	ˈæl.ɪ.dʒɪ
Alleviate .....	ˈɪl.vɪ.eɪt
Alley .....	ˈæl.ɪ
Alliteration .....	ˈɪl.tɪˈreɪ.ʃən
Allude .....	ˈlu:d
Allusion .....	ˈlu:ʒən
Ally (n.) .....	ˈæl.ə
Ally (v.) .....	ˈaɪ
Almond .....	ˈɑ:mənd
Alms .....	ɑ:mz
Alone .....	ˈɒn
Alphabet .....	ˈæɪ.fə.bet
Already .....	ɔ:lɪredɪ
Alsatian (A) .....	æɪˈseɪ.ʃən
Alternate (adj.) .....	ɔ:lˈtɜ:nət
Alternate (v.) .....	ˈɔ:l.tən.eɪt
Altitude .....	ˈæl.tɪ.tju:d
Altruism .....	ˈæl.tru.ɪ.zəm
Amalgamation .....	ˈmæɪ.gəˈmeɪ.ʃən
Amanda .....	ˈmæ.n.də
Amateur .....	ˈæm.ətɪr
Ambiguous .....	æmˈbɪg.ju.əs
Ambivalent .....	æmˈbɪv.lənt
Ameliorate .....	ˈmi:l.ɪ.r.eɪt
Amenity .....	ˈmi.nɪ.tɪ
Amiable .....	ˈeɪ.mɪ.ə.bəl
Amicable .....	ˈæm.ɪ.kə.bəl
Amok .....	ˈmɒk
Amorous .....	ˈæm.ər.əs
Amplitude .....	ˈæm.plɪ.tju:d

Amuck .....	>'mʌk
Anachronism .....	>'næk.r>.n2.z`m
Anaesthesia .....	æ.n.>s`ti:.z2.>
Anagram .....	'æ.n.>.græm
Analogous .....	>'næl.>.g>s
Analogy .....	>'næl.>.d32
Anarchy .....	'æ.n.>.k2
Anathema .....	>'næʹ.>.m>
Anatomical .....	æ.n.>'tʊm.2k`l
Ancient .....	'e2n.tj`nt
Anecdote .....	'æ.n.2k.d>ʊt
Angel (A.) .....	'e2n.d3`l
Annex (n.) .....	'æ.n.eks
Annex (v.) .....	>'neks
Annihilate .....	>'nɑ2.le2t
Another .....	>'nʌð>ʹ
Antagonism .....	æ.n'tæg.>`n.2.z`m
Antecedent .....	æ.n.t2's2:d`nt
Antenna .....	æ.n'ten>
Anthony .....	'æ.n.t>.n2
Anthropological .....	æ.n.t.ʹr>.p>'lʊd3.2.k`l
Antibiotic .....	æ.n.t2.baɪ'ʊt.2k
Anticipate .....	æ.n't2s.2.pe2t
Antimony .....	'æ.n.t2.m>.n2
Antipathy .....	æ.n't2p.>.ʹi
Antithesis .....	æ.n'tiʹ.>.s2s
Anxious .....	'æ.tʃk.ʃ>s
Apartheid .....	>'pɑ.te2t
Apathetic .....	æ.p.>'ʹet.2k
Apathy .....	'æ.p.>.ʹ2
Apostrophe .....	>'pʊs.tr>.f2
Appal .....	>'pɑ:l
Apparatus .....	æ.p.'r'e2.t's
Apparent .....	>'pæ.r.`nt
Applicable .....	>'pl2k.>.bl
April .....	'e2.pr`l
Apron .....	'e2.pr>.n
Archaic .....	ɑ:'ke2.2k

Archangel .....	'ɑːkeɪn.dʒəl
Arduous .....	'ɑː.dju.əs
Area .....	'eɪrɪə
Arena .....	'eɪrɪ.nə
Aristocrat .....	'æ.rɪ.stə.'kræt
Aristophanes .....	'æ.rɪ.stə.'fæ.nɪz
Armada (A) .....	'ɑː.mə.də
Aroma .....	'ɑː.rə.mə
Arrears .....	'æ.rɪ.əz
Arrogance .....	'æ.rə.'gɛnts
Arterial .....	'ɑː.tɪ.rɪ.əl
Arthritis .....	'ɑː.'θrɪ.tɪs
Articulate (v.) .....	'ɑː.tɪ.k.jə.'leɪt
Artisan .....	'ɑː.tɪ.'zæn
Artist .....	'ɑː.tɪst
Artiste .....	'ɑː.tɪ.st
Ascertain .....	'æ.s.'teɪn
Ascribe .....	'æ.s.kraɪb
Asia .....	'eɪʒə
Askance .....	'æ.s.kænts
Aspect .....	'æ.s.pɛkt
Assemble .....	'æ.s.ə.blɪ
Asset .....	'æ.s.ɪt
Assimilation .....	'æ.sɪ.mɪ.'leɪʃ.ən
Associate (n.) .....	'æ.sə.'ʃi.ə.t
Associate (v.) .....	'æ.sə.'ʃi.ə.t
Assonance .....	'æ.s.'n.ənts
Assorted .....	'æ.s.'ɔː.tɪd
Assuage .....	'æ.s.wɛɪdʒ
Assume .....	'æ.s.ju.m
Astern .....	'æ.s.tɜːn
Asthma .....	'æ.sθ.mə
Astrological .....	'æ.s.trə.'lɒdʒ.ɪ.kəl
Astute .....	'æ.s.tjuːt
Asylum .....	'æ.sɪ'lɪ.jəm
Ate .....	'eɪt
Athlete .....	'æθ.li:t
Athletic .....	'æθ.'let.ɪk

Atlantic .....	ˤ'tlæn.t2k
Atmospheric .....	æ.t.mˤs'fer.2k
Atomic .....	ˤ'tɔm.2k
Atrocious .....	ˤ'trɔʃ.ˤs
Atrophy .....	'æt.rˤf2
Attache' .....	ˤ'tæeʃ2
Attitude .....	'æt.2.tju:d
Attorney .....	ˤ'tɜ:n2
Auctioneer .....	ˤ:k.ʃ'n'2ˤr
Audacious .....	ɔ:'de2.ʃˤs
Audience .....	'ɔ:d2.ˤnts
Augment (v.) .....	ɔ:.'g'ment
August (n.) .....	'ɔ:gˤst
August (Adj.) .....	ɔ:'gast
Aunt .....	ɑ:nt
Au pair .....	ˤ'ɔ'peˤr
Auspices .....	'ɔ:.sp2s2z
Authoritative .....	ɔ:'ɔr.2.tˤ.t2v
Autocracy .....	ɔ:'tɔk.rˤ.s2
Autumn (A) .....	'ɔ:tˤm
Autumnal .....	ɔ:'tʌm.nˤl
Avarice .....	'æv.ˤr.2s
Avaricious .....	ˤæv.ˤr'ʃ.ˤs
Aviary .....	'e2v2ˤr2
Avoirdupois .....	ˤæv.ˤ.dˤ'poiz
Away .....	ˤ'we2
Azure .....	'æ3.ˤr

## B

Baboon .....	bˤ'bu:n
Bacon .....	'be2.kˤn
Bade (from bid) .....	be2d
Balcony .....	'bæl.kˤ.n2
Balk .....	bɔ:lk, bɔ:k
Ball .....	bɔ:l
Ballet .....	'bæl.e2
Balliol .....	'be2.l2.ˤl
Balloon .....	bˤ'lu:n

Ballot .....	'bæl. > t
Bamboo .....	bæm'bu
Banal .....	b > 'nɑ:l
Bankrupt .....	'bæŋ.krʌpt
Bankruptcy .....	'bæŋ.kr > pt.s2
Banquet .....	'bæŋ.kw2t
Baptismal .....	bæp't2z.m`l
Barbaric .....	bɑ:'bær.2k
Bargain .....	'bɑ:g2n
Barley .....	'bɑ:l2
Barman .....	'bɑ:m > n
Barometer .....	b > 'nɪm.2.t > r
Baron .....	'bær. `n
Baronial .....	b > 'r > ŋn2 > l
Baoque .....	b > 'nɪk
Barrack .....	'bær. > k
Barrage .....	'bær.ɑ:d3
Basically .....	'be2.s2k`l2
Basil .....	'bæz. `l
Bas-relief .....	,bɑ:r2'li:f
Bass .....	be2s
Bassoon .....	b > 'su:n
Bastion .....	'bæ.t2. > n
Bathos .....	'be2.ʃns
Bawdy .....	'bɔ:d2
Bayonet .....	'be2. > n > t
Bazaar .....	b > 'zɑ:r
Bear .....	be > r
Beatific .....	b2 > 'tʃ.2k
Beatitude .....	b2'æt.2.tju:d
Beatrice .....	'b2 > .trɪs
Because .....	b2kɔz
Beckon .....	'bek. `n
Bedlam .....	'bed.l > m
Bedroom .....	'bed.rʊm
Been .....	bi:n
Before .....	b2'fɔ:r
Began .....	b2'gæn

Beggar .....	'beg.ɹ̄
Begin .....	b2'g2n
Beige .....	be23
Belief .....	b2'l2:f
Belinda .....	b>'l2nd>
Belle .....	bel
Belligerent .....	b>'l2d3.̄r.ɹ̄nt
Beloved (used predicatively) .....	b2'lʌvd
Beloved (used attributively or as a noun) .....	b2'lʌvd
Benefice .....	'ben.2f2s
Beneficient .....	b2'nef.2.s̄nt
Beneficial .....	'ben.2.f2 .̄1
Benefit .....	'ben.2.f2t
Benevolent .....	b2'nev.̄1.ɹ̄nt
Benign .....	b2'nain
Benignant .....	b2'nig.nɹ̄nt
Bequeath .....	b2'kw2:ð, be'kwi:†
Bequest .....	bi'kwest
Beret .....	'ber.e2
Berkley .....	'ba:kl2
Berserk .....	b>'z3:k
Betroth .....	b2'tr>ʊð, b>'tr>ʊ†
Between .....	b2'twi:n
Beverage .....	'bev.̄r.2d3
Bias .....	'ba2>s
Bibliography .....	'b2b.l2'ng.r̄>.f2
Bicycle .....	'ba2.s2.kl
Bigamy .....	'b2g>.m2
Bigot .....	'b2g>t
Bikini .....	b2'ki:n2
Bilingual .....	ba2'l2'g.w̄1
Billet-doux .....	'b2l.e2.'du
Binoculars .....	bi'nʌk.je.le3
Biography .....	ba2'ng.r̄>.f2
Biology .....	ba2'bl.ɹ̄.d32
Biscuit .....	'b2s.k2t
Bison .....	'ba2.s̄n
Blackberry .....	blæk.b>r2

Blackguard .....	'blæg.ɑ:d
Blase .....	'blɑ:ze2
Blaspheme .....	blæs'fi:m
Blasphemy .....	'blæs.f>.m2
Blatant .....	'ble2.t̃nt
Blithe .....	blað
Blockade .....	blɒk'e2d
Boa .....	b>ɔ>
Boat .....	b>ɒt
Bodice .....	'bɒd.ɪs
Bonafide .....	b>ɒ.n>'fɑ2.d2
Bonanza .....	b>'næn.3>
Bonhomie .....	'bɒn.ɒm.2
Booklet .....	'bʊk.l>t
Boor .....	bɔ:ɾ
Booth .....	bu:ð, bu:ɾ
Borax .....	'bɔ:ræks
Born .....	bɔ:n
Borne .....	bɔ:n
Borough .....	'bɔr.>
Bosom .....	'bʊ3̃m
Botanical .....	b>'tæn.2k̃l
Botany .....	'bɒt̃n.2
Boudoir .....	'bu:d.wɑ:ɾ
Bough .....	bɔ
Bouquet .....	bʊ'ke2
Bourgeois .....	'bɔ:3.wɑ:
Bourgeois .....	'bɔ:3.wɑ:'zi:
Boutique .....	bu:'ti:k
Bow (n.) .....	b>ɒ
Bow (v.) .....	bɔ
Bowel .....	bɔ>l
Bowl .....	b>ɒl
Braggart .....	'bræg.>t
Brassiere .....	'bræs.ɾ2
Bravado .....	br>'vɑ.d>ɒ
Bravo .....	brɑ:'v>ɒ
Brawl .....	brɔ:l



Breadth .....	bret <sup>†</sup>
Breakfast .....	'brek.f>st
Breviary .....	'bre.v.i.~ri
Brigade .....	br2'geid
Brocade .....	br>ʊ'ke2d
Brochure .....	'br>ʊ.ʃ>ɹ
Brooch .....	breʊtʃ
Bruise .....	bru:3
Brunet .....	bru:'net
Buffalo .....	'bʌf.~l.>ʊ
Buffet (n.) .....	'bʌf.2t
Buffet (v.) .....	'bʌf.2t
Buffet (refreshments) .....	'bʊf.e2
Bullock .....	'bʊl.>k
Bulwark .....	'bʊl.w>k
Bungalow .....	'bʌŋ.g~l.>ʊ
Bureau .....	'bjʊ>.r>ʊ
Burial .....	'ber.2.>l
Bury .....	'ber.2
Busy .....	'b23i
Business .....	'b2z.nis
Busyness .....	'b23.2.n>s
Button .....	'bʌt.~n

### Suggested Reading

Q.1. Phonetically transcribe the following :

1. Byzantium
2. Bye-Bye
3. Buy
4. Buttress
5. Bush
6. Butane
7. Burgundy
8. Burger
9. Burly
10. Besiege
11. Bicentennial

12. Bereavement
13. Begun
14. Beowulf
15. Benediction
16. Behest
17. Back
18. Baba
19. Boy
20. Bachelor
21. Auto
22. Avon
23. Awe
24. Anthentic
25. Authority
26. Attain
27. Attendant
28. Assess
29. Artist
30. Artificial
31. Article
32. Artefact
33. Arid
34. Argument
35. Agent
36. Accurate
37. Axis
38. Arbitrary
39. Architect.

Given below is a list of words phonetically transcribed.

## C

<i>Word</i>	<i>Transcription</i>
Cabal .....	k>'bæl
Cabaret .....	'kæb. >.re2
Cabbage .....	'kæb.2d3
Cachet .....	'kæ .e2
Cacophonous .....	k>'kɒf. >.n>s
Cacophony .....	k>'kɒf. >.ni
Cadaverous .....	k>'dæv. `r. >s
Cadeuce .....	'ke2.d`nts
Cadet .....	k>'det
Cadre .....	'kɑ:.d>r
Caesar .....	'si:.z>r
Cage .....	ke2d3
Cajole .....	k>'d3>ɔl
Calamity .....	k>'læm. >.t2
Calcium .....	'kæl.s2. >m
Calculable .....	'kæl.kje.1>.bl
Calcutta .....	kæ'kʌt. >
Calendar .....	'kæl. >.n.d>r
Callous .....	'kæl. >s
Calumny .....	'kæl. >m.n2
Cambridge .....	'keim.br2d3
Camouflage .....	'kæm. >.fla:3
Campaign .....	kæm'pe2n
Canal .....	k>'næl
Canary .....	k>'ne>
Canine .....	'ke2.na2n
Cannibal .....	'kæn.b`l
Canoe .....	k>'nu:
Canopy .....	'kæn. >.pi

Cant .....	kænt
Cantankerous .....	kæn'tæŋ.kʰr.ɹ̥s
Canteen .....	kæn't2:n
Capacious .....	kʰ'pei.jʰs
Capitulate .....	kʰ'p2t.jʰ.le2t
Caprice .....	kʰ'pri:s
Capricious .....	kʰ'pr2.l.ɹ̥s
Capsize .....	kæp'sa23
Captivity .....	kæp't2v.ɹ̥.ti
Carburettor .....	'ka:.bjʰ'ret.ɹ̥
Career .....	kʰ'r2ɹ̥
Caress .....	kʰ'res
Caricature .....	'kær.2.kʰ.tʰɹ̥
Carnage .....	'ka:.n2d3
Carnivorous .....	ka:'n2vʰr.ɹ̥s
Carouse .....	kʰ'raʊs
Carrier .....	'kær.2.ɹ̥
Cartoon .....	ka:'tu:n
Cascade .....	kæs'ke2d
Casino .....	kʰ's2:n.ɹ̥v
Castigate .....	'kæs.t2.ge2t
Castle .....	'ka:.sl
Castor .....	'ka:stɹ̥
Castrate .....	kæs'tre2t
Casual .....	'kæ3.ju.ɹ̥l
Catastrophe .....	kʰ'tæs.trʰ.f2
Catechism .....	'kæt.ɹ̥.k2.zʰm
Catharsis .....	kʰ'ta:s2s
Cathedral .....	kʰ'tʰi:.drʰl
Caught .....	kɔ:t
Causal .....	'kɔ:zʰl
Caviare .....	'kæv.2.a:ɹ̥
Cease .....	si:s
Cedar .....	'si:.dɹ̥
Celebrity .....	sʰ'leb.rʰ.ti
Celt .....	selt
Cement .....	s2'ment
Centenary .....	sen'ti:.nʰri

Ceramic .....	s>'ræm.2k
Certificate (n) .....	s>'tʃeɪ.tʃ.2k>t
Certitude .....	'sɜ:tɪ.tʃu:d
Chagrin (n.) .....	'ʃæɡ.rɪn
Chaise .....	ʃeɪz
Chamber .....	'tʃeɪm.b>'r
Chameleon .....	k>'mi:l.ɪ.2>n
Champagne .....	ʃæm'peɪn
Chandelier .....	ʃæn.d>.lɪ.2>'r
Chant .....	tʃɑ:nt
Chaos .....	'keɪ.əs
Chaperon .....	'ʃæp.ər.ʊn
Charade .....	ʃ>'rɑ:d
Charge d' affairs .....	ʃɑ:ʒeɪ.dæfe>'r
Charlatan .....	'ʃɑ:l>.t>n
Charlotte .....	'ʃɑ:l>t
Chase .....	tʃeɪs
Chasm .....	'kæz.əm
Chassis .....	'ʃæ.s.i
Chaste .....	tʃeɪst
Chastity .....	tʃæs.t>.tɪ
Chateau .....	'ʃæ.t>ə
Chauffeur .....	'ʃœf>'r
Chief .....	ʃef
Chemise .....	ʃ>'mi:z
Chevron .....	'ʃev.r>n
Chic .....	ʃi:k
Chiffon .....	'ʃi:f.ən
Chiropodist .....	ki'rɒp.>.dɪst
Chivalrous .....	'ʃɪv.>l.r>s
Chivalry .....	'ʃɪv.>l.rɪ
Chore .....	kwaɪ>'r
Christen .....	'kris.ən
Christianity .....	krɪs.t>ʃən.>.tɪ
Chronological .....	'krɒn.>lədʒ.2k>l
Chronology .....	'krɒn'ɒl.>.dʒi
Chronometer .....	'krɒn'ɒm.2.t>'r
Chute .....	tʃu:t

Cider .....	'saɪ.dɪər
Cigar .....	sɪ'gɑːr
Cigarette .....	ˌsɪg.ə'ret
Cine .....	'sɪn.i
Cipher .....	'saɪ.fər
Civilian .....	sɪ'vɪl.ɪ.ən
Civility .....	sɪ'vɪl.ɪ.ti
Civilization .....	ˌsɪv.ɪ'l.aɪ'zeɪ.ʃən
Clandestine .....	klæn'des.tɪn
Classic .....	'klæs.ɪk
Clean .....	kli:n
Cleanliness .....	'klen.lɪ.nəs
Cleanse .....	klenz
Clergy .....	'klɜːdʒi
Clerk .....	klɑːk
Cliche .....	'kliː.ʃeɪ
Clique .....	kli:k
Cloth .....	kloʊθ
Clothe .....	klɔːð
Clothes .....	klɔːðz
Clue .....	kluː
Coalesce .....	kəʊ'seɪs
Coat .....	kəʊt
Cobra .....	kəʊ.brə
Coercion .....	kəʊ'sɜːʃən
Cognac .....	'kɒn.jæk
Coherent .....	kəʊ'hɪərənt
Collapse .....	kə'læps
Collateral .....	kə'læt.ərəl
Collect (v.) .....	kə'lekt
Colloquial .....	kə'lɒkwɪəl
Cologne .....	kə'lɒn
Colonel .....	'kɜːnəl
Colossal .....	kə'lɒs.əl
Coma .....	kəʊ.mə
Combine (n.) .....	'kɒm.baɪn
Combine (v.) .....	kə'mbaɪn
Comedian .....	kə'miːdɪən

Comedienne .....	kəˈmiːdʲen
Comma .....	ˈkɒm.ə
Commandant .....	ˈkɒm.əndənt
Comment (n.) .....	ˈkɒm.ənt
Committee .....	kəˈmɪti
Communique .....	kəˈmjuːnɪkeɪʃn
Commute .....	kəˈmjuːt
Compact (adj.) .....	kəmˈpækt
Compact (n.) .....	ˈkɒm.pækt
Comparable .....	ˈkɒm.pəˈrə.bəl
Comparison .....	kəmˈpærɪzən
Compere .....	ˈkɒm.peər
Competitive .....	kəmˈpetɪtɪv
Competitor .....	kəmˈpetɪtər
Complacent .....	kəmˈpleɪsənt
Complacency .....	kəmˈpleɪsəntsi
Complicity .....	kəmˈplɪsɪti
Compound (n.) .....	ˈkɒm.paʊnd
Compound (v.) .....	kəmˈpaʊnd
Concentric .....	kənˈsen.trɪk
Concept .....	ˈkɒn.səpt
Concert (n.) (musical instrument) .....	ˈkɒn.sərt
Concert (n) (union) .....	ˈkɒn.sɜːt
Concert (v) .....	kənˈsɜːt
Concord (n) .....	ˈkɒn.kɔːd
Concord (v) .....	kənˈkɔːd
Concur .....	kənˈkɜːr
Condemn .....	kənˈdem
Condemnation .....	kɒn.dem.ˈneɪʃn
Conduct (n.) .....	ˈkɒn.dʌkt
Conduct (v.) .....	kənˈdʌkt
Confederation .....	kənˈfed.əˈreɪʃn
Confidant .....	ˈkɒn.fɪ.dənt
Congratulate .....	kənˈgrætʃ.ʊ.leɪt
Congregate .....	ˈkɒn.grɪ.ɡeɪt
Congress .....	ˈkɒn.gres
Congruent .....	ˈkɒn.gru.ənt
Conjugal .....	kɒn.dʒʊ.gəl

Conjure (to do tricks) .....	'kʌn.dʒ   ɹ
Conjure (to appeal) .....	kʌn'dʒʊɹ
Connect .....	kʌ'nekt
Connoisseur .....	kɒn.ɹ'sɜ:ɹ
Conscience .....	'kɒn.tʃɪnts
Conscientious .....	kɒn.tʃɪ'entʃs
Consecrate .....	'kɒn.sə.kreɪt
Consecutive .....	kʌn'sek.jʊ.tɪv
Conservative .....	kʌn'sɜ:v.ɪ.tɪv
Conspicuous .....	kʌn'spɪk.ju.əs
Conspiracy .....	kʌn'spɪr.ɪ.si
Conspire .....	kʌn'spaɪɹ
Constancy .....	'kɒn.stʌnt.si
Consul .....	'kɒn.sʌl
Consular .....	'kɒn.sjʊ.lɹ
Consultative .....	kʌn'sʌl.tɪ.tɪv
Consummate (adj.) .....	kʌn'sʌm.ɪ.t
Consummate (v) .....	'kɒn.sʌ.meɪt
Consumptive .....	kʌn'sʌmp.tɪv
Contagion .....	kʌn'teɪ.dʒɪn
Contagious .....	kʌn'teɪ.dʒɪs
Contentious .....	kʌn'ten.tʃɪs
Context .....	'kɒn.tekst
Contiguous .....	kʌn'tg.ju.əs
Contingent .....	kʌn'tɪn.dʒɪnt
Contour .....	'kɒn.tʊɹ
Contrary (opposed) .....	'kɒn.trɪ
Contrary (perverse) .....	kʌn'treɪ.ri
Contretemps .....	'kɒn.trɛ.tɑ:ʃ
Contrite .....	kʌn'traɪt
Controversy .....	'kɒn.trɛ.vɜ:si
Convalesce .....	kɒn.vɹ'les
Convalescene .....	kɒn.vɹ'les.ɪnts
Converse (adj.) .....	'kɒn.vɜ:s
Converse (v.) .....	kʌn'vɜ:s
Convex .....	kɒn'veks
Convivial .....	kʌn'vɪv.ɪ.əl
Conviviality .....	kʌn'vɪv.ɪ.əl.ti



Coolie .....	'ku:.li
Co-operate .....	k>ʊp.˘r.e2t
Copious .....	k>ʊ.p2>s
Copulate .....	'kɒp.j>.le2t
Coquette .....	kɒk'et
Coquettish .....	kɒk'et.ʃ
Cordial .....	'kɔ:.d2.>1
Corn .....	kɔ:n
Corporal .....	'kɔ:.p˘r.˘1
Corporeal .....	kɔ:˘pɔ:.r2.>1
Correct .....	k>'rekt
Correlate .....	'kɔr.˘1.>t
Cosmetic .....	kɒz'met.2k
Cosmos .....	'kɒz.mɒs
Coterie .....	'k>ʊ.t>r.i
Cottage .....	'kɒt.2d3
Cough .....	kɒf
Countenance .....	'kəʊn.t˘n.>nts
Counterfeit .....	'kəʊn.t>.f2t
Countryman .....	'kʌn.tr2.m>n
Coup .....	ku:
Coup de grace .....	'ku:.d>'grɑ:s
Coup de tat .....	'ku:.de2'tɑ:
Coupe' .....	'ku:.pei
Courage .....	'kʌr.2d3
Courageous .....	k>'re2.d3>s
Courier .....	'kɔr.2.>˘r
Courtesan .....	'kɔ:..ti'zæn
Couth .....	ku:˘t
Coxcomb .....	'kɒk.sk>ʊm
Cradle .....	'kre2.dl
Crass .....	kræs
Crease .....	kri:s
Creche .....	kreʃ
Credence .....	'kri:d˘nts
Credentials .....	kri'den.tʃ˘1
Credulity .....	kr>'dju:˘1>.ti
Crew .....	kru:

Criminology .....	ˈkrɪm.ɪˈnɒl.ɪ.dʒi
Crimson .....	ˈkrɪm.zən
Crises .....	ˈkraɪ.sɪz
Crisis .....	ˈkraɪ.sɪs
Critique .....	krɪˈti:k
Crochet .....	ˈkrɒʃ.jeɪ
Crude .....	kru:de
Cruise .....	kru:z
Crupper .....	ˈkrʌp.ɹ
Cuisine .....	kwɪˈzi:n
Culpable .....	ˈkʌl.pə.bl
Cumulative .....	ˈkju:mjə.lətɪv
Cupboard .....	ˈkʌb.ɔ:d
Cupidity .....	kjuˈpɪd.ɪ.ti
Curfew .....	ˈkɜ:fju:
Curriculum .....	kʌˈrɪkjʌlə.m
Curtail .....	kɜ:ˈteɪl
Curtsy .....	ˈkɜ:tʃ.ɪ
Cushion .....	ˈkʊʃ.ən
Cussed (adj.) .....	ˈkʌs.tɪd
Custodian .....	kʌsˈtɔ:dɪ.ən
Cute .....	kju:t
Cynosure .....	ˈsaɪ.nə.sjʊɹ
Czar .....	zɑ:ɹ

## D

Dabble .....	dæb.l
Dactyl .....	ˈdæk.təl
Dairy .....	ˈdeɪ.ri
Dais .....	ˈdeɪ.ɪs
Dalliance .....	ˈdæl.ɪ.ənts
Damask .....	ˈdæm.əsk
Damsel .....	ˈdæm.zəl
Daniel .....	ˈdæn.jəl
Daphne .....	ˈdæf.ni
Daughter .....	ˈdɔ:tɹ
Dearth .....	dɜ:θ
Debacle .....	deɪˈbɑ:kəl

Debilitate .....	d2'b2l.2.te2t
Debris .....	'de2.bri:
Debut .....	'de2.bju:
Decade .....	'dek.e2d
Decadence .....	'dek. >.d`nts
Decease .....	di'si:s
December .....	di'sem.b>^r
Decisive .....	d2'sa2.s2v
Declamation .....	'dek.l>'me2.f`n
Decor .....	'de2.ko:~r
Decorous .....	'dek.~res
Decorum .....	d2'ko:r>^m
Decrease (n.) .....	'di:kri:s
Decrease (v.) .....	di'kri:s
Defamation .....	'def.>'mei.f`n
Defer .....	di'f3:~r
Deference .....	'def.~r.~nts
Deficient .....	d2'f2].~nt
Deficit .....	'def.2.s2t
Definitive .....	d2'f2n.>.t2v
Defunct .....	d2'f>kt
Deify .....	'de2.2.fai
Deity .....	'de2.2.t2
Deleterious .....	'de.l.2't2>.r2.>s
Delicious .....	d2'l2].>s
Delineate .....	d2'l2n.2.e2t
Delinquency .....	d2'l2k.w>^nt.si
Delirium .....	d2'l2r.2.>^m
Delude .....	d2'lu:d
Deluge .....	'del.ju:d3
Delusion .....	d2'lu:z`n
Demeanour .....	d2'mi:n>^r
Demesne .....	d2'me2n.d>
Demise .....	d2'ma2z
Demon .....	'd2:m>^n
Denigrate .....	'den.2.gre2t
Denouement .....	de2'nu:.ma&
Deodorant .....	d2'>u.d`r.ent

Depot .....	'dep.əʊ
Depreciate .....	dɪ'pri:ʃɪ.eɪt
Derby .....	'dɑ:.bi
Derelict .....	'der.ɪ.lɪkt
Derisive .....	dɪ'rɑ:ɪ.sɪv
Derivative .....	dɪ'rɪv.ɪ.tɪv
Derogatory .....	dɪ'rɒɡ.ə.t̩.ri
Desdemona .....	ˌdez.dɪ'mɔ:n
Desecrate .....	'des.ɪ.kreɪt
Desecration .....	ˌdes.ɪ.'kreɪʃ.ən
Desert (n) .....	dɪ'zɜ:t
Desert (v) .....	dɪ'zɜ:t
Designate (adj.) .....	'dez.ɪɡ.neɪt
Designate (n) .....	'deɪ.ɪɡ.neɪt
Desist .....	dɪ'sɪst
Desolate (adj.) .....	'des.ɪ.l.ə.t̩
Desolate (n) .....	'des.ɪ.l.ə.t̩
Desperado (adj.) .....	ˌdes.pə'rɑ:d.ə.v
Despicable .....	dɪ'spɪk.ə.bəl
Despise .....	dɪ'spaɪz
Dessert .....	dɪ'zɜ:t
Desultory .....	'des.ɪ.t̩.ri
Detail .....	'di:teɪl
Detainee .....	ˌdi:teɪ'ni:
Deter .....	dɪ'tɜ:r
Deterrent .....	dɪ'ter.ɪnt
Deuce .....	dju:s
Devastate .....	'dev.ə.steɪt
Deviate .....	'di:vɪ.eɪt
Devour .....	dɪ'vaʊə
Devout .....	dɪ'vaʊt
Diet .....	daɪt
Digraph .....	'dɪɡ.rəf
Dilatory .....	dɪl.ə.t̩.ri
Dilemma .....	dɪ'lem.ə
Dilettante .....	ˌdɪl.ɪ.tænt
Diplomacy .....	dɪ'plɒ.məsi
Direct .....	dɪ'rekt

Disaster .....	dɪˈzɑːstər
Discotheque .....	ˈdɪs.kɔːtek
Discrepancy .....	dɪˈskrep.ənt.sɪ
Discrete .....	dɪˈskri:t
Discretion .....	dɪˈskref.ʃən
Discuss .....	ˈdɪs.kʌs
Discuss .....	dɪˈskʌs
Disease .....	dɪˈziːz
Disguise .....	dɪsˈgaɪz
Dishevelled .....	dɪˈsev.əld
Disinfectant .....	ˌdɪs.inˈfek.tənt
Dismal .....	ˈdɪz.məl
Dissect .....	dɪˈsekt
Dissent .....	dɪˈsen
Dissident .....	ˈdɪs.ɪd.ənt
Dissolve .....	dɪˈzɒlv
Diurnal .....	ˌdaɪ.əːnəl
Divers .....	ˈdɑːvɜːz
Divination .....	ˌdɪv.ɪ.neɪ.ʃən
Divinity .....	dɪˈvɪn.ə.ti
Divorce .....	dɪˈvɔːs
Domestic .....	dɒˈmes.tɪk
Domineer .....	ˌdɒm.ɪn.eɪər
Donkey .....	ˈdɒŋ.ki
Doth .....	dɒθ
Douche .....	duːʃ
Dragon .....	ˈdræɡ.ən
Dramatic .....	drəˈmæt.ɪk
Dramatist .....	ˈdræm.ə.tɪst
Drastic .....	ˈdræs.tɪk
Drawer (person) .....	ˈdrɔː
Drawer (sliding box) .....	drɔːr
Drill .....	drɪl
Droll .....	drɔːl
Dubious .....	ˈdjuː.bɪ.əs
Dungeon .....	ˈdʌn.dʒən
Dynastic .....	dɪˈnæs.tɪk
Dynasty .....	ˈdɪn.ə.stɪ

## E

Eagle .....	'i:gle
Earl .....	ɜ:l
Earthen .....	'ɜ:ɾ̃n
Easel .....	'i:z̃l
Easily .....	'i:z̃li
Easy .....	'i:zi
Eau-de-cologne .....	'ɔ̃-d>.k>'leʊn
Echo .....	'ek.>ʊ
Eclipse .....	2'klɪps
Ecology .....	i:'kɒl.>.dʒi
Ecstasy .....	'ek.st>.si
Eczema .....	'ek.s2.m>
Edict .....	'i:d2kt
Eerie .....	'ɪ>.ri
Efface .....	2'feɪs
Effeminate (adj.) .....	2'fem.2.n>ɪt.
Effeminate (v) .....	2'fem.2.neɪt
Effete .....	2'fi:t
Efficacy .....	'ef.2.k>.si
Efficiency .....	2'fɪ.ɪnt.si
Ego .....	'i:g>ʊ
Eight .....	eɪt
Eighteen .....	'eɪ.ti
Elastic .....	i'læs.t2k
Embassy .....	'em.b>.si
Emotion .....	2m>ʊʃ̃n
Emphatic .....	2m.'fæt.ik
Enable .....	i'nei.bl
Enclosure .....	2n'klɔ̃.ʒ>ɾ̃
Encumbrance .....	in'kʌm.br>nts
Endear .....	2ndɪ>ɾ̃
Endemic .....	en'dem.2k
Engine .....	'en.dʒ2n
Engima .....	2n2gm>
En masse .....	ã:m'mæs
Ennui .....	'ã:n.wi:

Eu passant .....	ˌɛ:m'pæs.ɑ:ʃ
En route .....	ˌɛ:n'ru:t
Ensemble .....	ˌɛ:n'sɑ:m.bəl
Enthuse .....	in'ʃju:z
Enthusiasm .....	2n'ʃju:z.æz.əm
Entrance (n.) .....	'en.trɑ:nts
Entrance (v.) .....	in'tra:nts
Entrée .....	'ɑ:n.trei
Envenom .....	2n'ven.əm
Envious .....	'en.vi.əs
Ephemeral .....	2fem.rəl
Epidemic .....	ˌep.ɪ'dem.ɪk
Epistle .....	2'pɪs.l
Epitome .....	2pɪt.ə.mi
Epoch .....	'i:pɒk
Equal .....	'i:kwəl
Euanimity .....	ˌek.wə'nɪm.ə.ti
Equivalent .....	2'kwɪv.əl.ənt
Equivocal .....	2'kwɪv.əl
Era .....	i:ə'ei
Ere .....	eɪ
Erotic .....	2rɒt.ɪk
Erratic .....	i'ræt.ɪk
Erudite .....	'er.ʊ.dɑ:t
Escapade .....	ˌes.kə'peɪd
Eschew .....	2s'tʃu:
Esoteric .....	ˌes.ə'ter.ɪk
Espouse .....	2'spəʊz
Essay (n.) .....	'es.eɪ
Essay (v.) .....	es'eɪ
Estate .....	2'steɪt
Esteem .....	2'sti:m
Esthete .....	'2:s.θi:t
Esthetic .....	i:s'tet.ɪk
Etiquette .....	'et.ɪ.ket
Eunuch .....	'ju:nʌk
Euphoric .....	'ju:fɔr.ɪk
Evacuee .....	2.væk.ju'i:

Evocative .....	2'vɒk.ə.tɪv
Ewer .....	'ju:.ə
Exacerbate .....	2g'zæs.ə.beɪt
Exaggerate .....	2g'zædʒ.ɪr.eɪt
Exalt .....	2g'zɔ:lɪt
Examination .....	2gzæm.ɪ'neɪʃ.ən
Example .....	2g'zɑ:m.pl
Exasperate .....	2g'zæs.pɪr.eɪt
Except .....	2k'sept
Excrement .....	ˌek.skɾə'ment
Excrescence .....	2k.'skres.ənts
Executive .....	2g'zek.jʊ.tɪv
Exegesis .....	ˌek.sɪ'dʒi:.sɪs
Exhale .....	eks'heɪl
Exhaust .....	2g'zɔ:st
Exigency .....	'ek.sɪ.dʒənt.sɪ
Exonerate .....	2g'zɒn.ɪr.eɪt
Exotic .....	2g'zɒt.ɪk
Extravagance .....	2k'stræv.ə.gənts

### Suggested Question

#### Attempt Phonetic transcription of the following words :-

1. Cough
2. Carry
3. Coin
4. Comb
5. Caress
6. Confidence
7. Conscience
8. Cooperate
9. Cyst
10. Cymbal
11. Chorus
12. Choreograph
13. Creche
14. Crease



15. Dumb
16. Duffer
17. Dwarf
18. Duncan
19. Dubious
20. Dangerous
21. Dungeon
22. Dross
23. Drought
24. Donkey
25. Delicate
26. Delinquent
27. Demograph
28. Demagogue
29. Dementia
30. Demonical
31. Donation
32. Doughty
33. Expurgate
34. Expunge
35. Exquisite
36. Extensive
37. Eyewash
38. Exuvial
39. Exultant
40. Extrude
41. Extirpation
42. Extinguish

Given below is a list of words phonetically transcribed.

## F

<i>Word</i>	<i>Transcription</i>
Fabulous .....	fæb.j>.l>s
Facade .....	f>'sa:d
Facet .....	'fæs.2t
Facetious .....	fæksim-1-li
Facsimile .....	f>'s2.j>s
Faculty .....	'fæk.>l.ti
Fakir .....	'fe2.k2>r
Falcon .....	'fɔ:l.k^n
Fallacy .....	'fæl.>.si
Fallacious .....	f>'le2.j>s
Fallow .....	'fæl.>v
Famous .....	'fe2.m>s
Fanatic .....	f>'næt.2k
Fantastic .....	fæn.tæs.t2k
Fantasy .....	'fæn.t>.s2
Fascism .....	'fæ].2.z^m
Fastidious .....	fæs't2d.2>s
Fatal .....	'fe2.t^l
Fatality .....	f>'tæl.>.ti
Fatuous .....	'fæt.ju.>s
Faust .....	fɑst
Faustus .....	'fɔ:.st>s
Faux pas (singular) .....	f>v'pɑ:
Faux pas (plural) .....	f>v'pɑ:
Feasible .....	'f2:.z>.bl
February .....	'feb.ru.~r.i
Fecund .....	'fek.>nd
Feint .....	fe2nt

Felicitate .....	fə'li:ts.2.te2t
Felicity .....	fə'li:ts.2.t2
Female .....	'fi:.me2l
Ferocious .....	fə'rʊʃəs
Fete .....	fe2t
Fiance (e) .....	f2'a:n.sei
Fiasco .....	f2'æs.kʊ
Fidelity .....	f2'del.2.ti
Fiend .....	fi:nd
Finale .....	fi'nɑ:.li
Finance .....	'fɑ2.nænts
Finite .....	'fɑ2.na2t
Firmament .....	'f.m.2.m.2nt
Fish monger .....	'fɪʃ.mʌŋ.gə
Fissiparous .....	f2'sɪp.2r.2s
Flaccid .....	'flæk.s2d
Flag .....	flæg
Flagellation .....	flædʒ.2'le2.ʃn
Flagrant .....	'fle2.gr.2nt
Flamboyant .....	flæm'bɔ2.2nt
Flew .....	flu:
Flippant .....	'flɪp.2nt
Flirtatious .....	flɜ:'te2.ʃs
Flour .....	flɑʊə
Flower .....	flaʊə
Fluidity .....	flu'2d.2.ti
Flute .....	flu:t
Foetus .....	'fi:təs
Foliage .....	'fɒ.li:2dʒ
Foment .....	fə'ment
Forensic .....	fə'rent.s2k
Forgive .....	fə'gɪv
Fortuitous .....	fɔ:'tju:2.2təs
Fought .....	fɔ:t
Fountain .....	'fɔ:n.t2n
Foyer .....	'fɔ2.e2
Fragile .....	'frædʒ.2a2l
Fragrance .....	'fre2.gr.2nts

Fraternal .....	fr>'tɜ:n¹
Fraudulent .....	'frɔ:dʒ>.l>nt
Freight .....	fre2t
Frigate .....	'frɪg>t
Frivolity .....	fr2'vɒl.>.ti
Frivolous .....	'frɪv.>l.>s
Frontispiece .....	'frʌn.t2s.pi:s
Fugitive .....	'fju:dʒ>.t2v
Fundamental .....	fʌn.d>'men.t¹
Funeral .....	'fju:n`r.>l
Funereal .....	'fju:n2>.r2.>l
Furnace .....	'fɜ:n2s
Fusillade .....	'fju:z>.'le2d
Futurity .....	fju:'tʃʊ>.r>.ti

## G

Gabardine .....	gæb.>'.d2n
Gaiety .....	'g2.>.ti
Galaxy .....	'gæl.>k.si
Gallivant .....	'gæl.2.vænt
Galore .....	g>'lɔ:r
Galoshes .....	g>'lɑʒ
Gaol .....	dʒe2l
Garrison .....	'gær.2.s`n
Garrulity .....	gær'u:.l>.ti
Garrulous .....	'gær.>l.>s
Gaseous .....	'gæs.2.>s
Gaudy .....	'gɔ:.di
Gauge .....	gɔ:z
Gazette .....	g>'zet
Gazetteer .....	gæz.>.'t2>r
Generative .....	'dʒen.>r.>.t2v
Generic .....	dʒ>'ner.2k
Genre .....	'ʒɑ:n.r>
Genetics .....	dʒ>'net.2ks
Genie .....	'dʒ2:ni
Genteel .....	dʒen'ti:l
Gesticulate .....	dʒes't2k.je.le2t

Ghastly .....	'ga:st.li
Ghetto .....	'get.ɹ̥ʊ
Gig .....	gɪg
Gloucester .....	'glʊs.t̥r̥
Go .....	gəʊ
Gnu .....	nu:
Goulashes .....	g>'lʊz
Goose .....	gu:s
Goose berry .....	'gʊz.b̥r̥.i
Gorgeous .....	'gɔ:.dʒ>s
Gorilla .....	g>'rɪl>
Gourd .....	gʊ>d
Gourmet .....	'gʊ>.meɪ
Govern .....	'gʌv.̃n
Governess .....	'gʌv.̃n.>s
Government .....	'gʌv.̃n.m>nt
Governor .....	'gʌv.̃n.>r̥
Grandeur .....	'græn.dj>r̥
Gratuity .....	gr>'tju:.>.ti
Gravel .....	'græv.>l
Grease (n).....	gri:s
Greenwich .....	'gren.ɪdʒ
Gregarious .....	gr>'ge>.rɪ.>s
Grievous .....	'gri:v>s
Grisly .....	'grɪz.li
Grotesque .....	gr>ʊ'tesk
Group .....	gru:p
Guarantee .....	gæ.r̃.'n'ti:
Guava .....	'gwɑ:
Guerrilla .....	g>'rɪl>
Guillotine .....	'gɪl.>.ti:n
Guise .....	gi:z
Gymnastics .....	dʒɪm'næs.tɪks

## H

Habitat .....	'hæb.ɪ.tæt
Habitual .....	h>'bɪtʃ.u.>l
Haemoglobin .....	hi:m>ʊ'gl>ʊ.bɪn

Haemorrhage .....	'hem.˚r.2d <sub>3</sub>
Half penny .....	'ha:f.pen.i
Half pence .....	'he2.p˚nts
Hall .....	hɔ:l
Hallo .....	h>l>ʊ
Hallow .....	'hæl.˚ʊ
Halo .....	'he2.l>ʊ
Handkerchief .....	'hæŋ.k˚.tsi:f
Haphazard .....	˚hæp'hæz.˚d
Happily .....	'hæp.2.li
Harangue .....	h>'ræŋ
Harass .....	'hær.˚s
Harem .....	'ha:.ri:m
Hassock .....	'hæs.˚k
Havoc .....	'hæv.˚k
Healthy .....	'hel.θi
Hearken .....	'ha:k˚n
Hearse .....	hɜ:s
Heart .....	ha:t
Hearth .....	ha:θ
Heavily .....	'hev.2.li
Heckle .....	'hek.l
Hedonism .....	'hi:d˚n.2.z˚m
Hegemony .....	h2'gem.˚.ni
Heifer .....	'hef.˚r
Height .....	haɪt
Heinous .....	'he2.nes
Heir .....	e a˚r
Herald .....	'her.˚ld
Heredity .....	h2'red.˚.ti
Heretic .....	'her.˚.t2k
Hero .....	'hi>.r>ʊ
Heroic .....	h2r>ʊ.2k
Heroine .....	'her.˚ʊ.2n
Hesitate .....	'hez.2.te2t
Hiatus .....	ha2.'e2.tes
Hiccough .....	'h2k.ʌp
Hideous .....	'h2d.2.˚s

Hippopotamus .....	hɪp.pə'pɒt.əm>s
Histrionic .....	hɪs.trɪ'ɒn.ɪk
Homogeneity .....	ˌhɒmə'niː.ə.ti
Housewife .....	'haʊs.waɪf
Husband .....	'hʌz.bʌnd
Hussy .....	'hʌs.i
Hyperbole .....	haɪ'pɜː.bəl
Hypnosis .....	hɪp'nɒs.ɪs
Hypocrisy .....	hɪ'pɒk.re.sɪ

## I

Icicle .....	'aɪ.sɪ.kl
Icon .....	'aɪ.kɒn
Idea .....	aɪ'dɪ.ə
Ideograph .....	'aɪ.dɪ.ə'grɑːf
Idyll .....	'aɪ.dɪ.əl
Ignominious .....	ɪ'ɡnɒmɪ'nɪ.əs
Illicit .....	ɪ'lɪ.sɪt
Imbecile .....	'ɪm.bɪ.sɪ:l
Immovable .....	'ɪm.u.və.bəl
Impasse .....	'æm.pɑːs
Imperial .....	ɪm'pɪ.ri.əl
Imperious .....	ɪm'pɪ.ri.əs
Important .....	ɪm'pɔːt.ənt
Impotent .....	'ɪm.pə.tənt
Impudent .....	ɪm'pjuː.dənt
Inaccurate .....	ɪn.'æk.jə.rɪ.t
Incest .....	'ɪn.sest
Incestuous .....	ɪn'ses.tʃu.əs
Increase (v) .....	ɪn.'kriːs
Indict .....	ɪn.'daɪt
Indigenous .....	ɪn'dɪdʒ.ɪ.nəs
Indolence .....	'ɪn.dəl.ənts
Infamous .....	'ɪn.fə.məs
Infidel .....	'ɪn.fɪ.dəl
Infinity .....	ɪn'fɪn.ə.ti
Inflammable .....	ɪn'flæm.ə.bəl
Influence .....	'ɪn.flu.ənts

Ingenuity .....	ˌɪŋ.dʒəˈnjuː.ə.ti
Ingenious .....	ɪnˈdʒen.ju.əs
Inherent .....	ɪnˈher.ənt
Inimical .....	ɪnɪm.ɪkəl
Iniquitous .....	ɪnɪkwɪtəs
Injurious .....	ɪnˈdʒʊr.ɪ.əs
Innate .....	ɪˈneɪt
Innocence .....	ˈɪn.ə.sənts
Innuendo .....	ɪn.juˈen.dʊ
Inquisition .....	ˈɪnkwɪzɪʃ.ən
Insidious .....	ɪnˈsɪd.ɪ.əs
Instance .....	ˈɪnst.ənts
Insurance .....	ɪnˈʃʊr.ənts
Interim .....	ˈɪn.t̩r.ɪ.m
Interrupt .....	ɪn.t̩r̩r̩pt
Interval .....	ˈɪnt̩.ə.vəl
Intimacy .....	ˈɪntɪm.ə.sɪ
Intestine .....	ɪnˈtes.tɪn
Intrepid .....	ɪnˈtrep.ɪd
Intricate .....	ˈɪn.trɪ.kət
Invalid (noun) .....	ˈɪn.vəlɪd
Invalid (adj.) .....	ɪnˈvæl.ɪd
Iron .....	ˈaɪrən
Irony (n) .....	ˈaɪr.ə.ni
Irony (adj.) .....	ˈaɪr.ənɪ
Irrelevant .....	ɪrɪˈlev.ə.vənt
Irreligious .....	ɪrɪˈlɪdʒ.əs
Islam .....	ˈɪz.lɑːm
Isthmus .....	ˈɪs.məs
Itinerary .....	aɪˈtɪn.ər.ɪ.ərɪ

## J

Jackal .....	ˈdʒæk.əl
Jacket .....	ˈdʒæk.ət
Jeopardy .....	ˈdʒep.ə.di
Jersey .....	ˈdʒɜː.zi
Jew .....	dʒuː
Joust .....	dʒaʊst



Juice ..... d<sub>3</sub>u:s

## K

Kangaroo ..... ,kæŋ.g`r'u:  
 Karate ..... k>'rɑ:.ti  
 Kilo ..... k2.ɔ̃v  
 Kinetic ..... k2'net.2k  
 Kiosk ..... 'k2:.ɒsk  
 Kudos ..... 'kju:.dʌs

## L

Lackadaisical ..... ,læk.ɤ'de2.z2.k`l  
 Lacunae ..... l>'kju:.n>  
 Lager ..... 'la:.g>^r  
 Laity ..... le2.ɤ.ti  
 Lament ..... l>'ment  
 Language ..... 'læŋ.gw2d<sub>3</sub>  
 Latent ..... 'le2.t`nt  
 Lethe ..... le2ð  
 Lavatory ..... 'læv.ɤ.t`ri  
 Lawyer ..... 'b2.ɤ^r  
 Learned (adj.) ..... 'lɜ:.n2d  
 Lease ..... li:s  
 Legacy ..... 'leg.ɤ.si  
 Legend ..... 'led<sub>3</sub>.ɤ.nd  
 Legion ..... 'li:.d<sub>3</sub>ɤn  
 Leicester ..... 'les.t>^r  
 Leigh ..... li: ,lai  
 Leisure ..... 'le<sub>3</sub>.ɤ^r  
 Leopard ..... 'lep.ɤ.d  
 Lessee ..... les'2:  
 Lethal ..... 'li:.θ`l  
 Lethargic ..... l>'θɑ:.d<sub>3</sub>2k  
 Lewd ..... lju:d  
 Liaison ..... l2'e2.z`n  
 Liar ..... 'la2.ɤ^r  
 Lieutenant ..... leften.ɤ.nt

Lilliput .....	'lɪl.ɪ.pʌt
Lilliputian .....	'lɪl.ɪ.pjuː.ʃn
Limb .....	lɪm
Limousine .....	'lɪm.ʊ.'zi:n
Linguist .....	'lɪŋ.gwɪst
Literature .....	'lɪt.rə.tʃər
Litigious .....	'lɪtɪdʒ.ɪəs
Litre .....	'liː.tər
Live (adj.) .....	laɪv
Live (v.) .....	lɪv
Lively .....	'laɪv.li
Loathe .....	lɔːð
Loath .....	lɔːθ
Loathsome .....	lɔːð.səm
Longitude .....	'lɒŋ.dʒ.tʃuːd
Loose .....	luːs
Lose .....	luːz
Lucidity .....	luː'sɪd.ɪ.ti
Ludicrous .....	'luː.dɪ.krəs
Lugubrious .....	luː'guː.brɪəs
Lunatic .....	'luː.n.tɪk
Luncheon .....	'lʌ.tʃn
Luxuriant .....	lʌ'ʒʊ.rɪ.ənt
Luxurious .....	lʌ'ʒʊ.rɪ.əs
Luxury .....	'lʌk.ʃrɪ

## M

Macabre .....	m>'kɑ.br>
Magazine .....	'mæɡ.ə'zi:n
Magi .....	'meɪ.dʒaɪ
Maintain .....	meɪn'teɪn
Maintenance .....	'meɪn.t̩n.ənts
Malady .....	'mæl.ə.di
Malaise .....	m>'leɪz
Malevolent .....	m>'lev.əl.ənt
Malignant .....	m>'lɪɡ.nənt
Maligns .....	m>'la:n
Mall .....	mæl

Mama .....	m>'ma:
Mandatory .....	'mæ.n.d>.t`ri
Manoeuvre .....	m>'nu:v>`r
Manger .....	'me2n.d3>`r
Maniac .....	'me2.n2.æk
Manure .....	m>'njʊ>`r
Marathon .....	'mæ.r.>.θ`n
Marine .....	m>'ri:n
Maroon .....	m>'ru:n
Martyr .....	'ma:t>`r
Masochism .....	'mæs.>.k2.z`m
Massacre .....	'mæs.>.k>`r
Masturbate .....	'mæs.t>.be2t
Maternal .....	m>'tɜ:n`l
Maternity .....	m>'tɜ:n>.ti
Matriculate .....	m>'tr2k.j>.le2t
Matron .....	'me2.tr`n
Mature .....	m>'tjʊ>`r
Meadow .....	'med.>ʊ
Meander .....	m2'æ.n.d>`r
Mediaeval .....	'med.2':.v`l
Mediocre .....	'mi:d2'>ʊ.k>`r
Melodic .....	m>'ləd.2k
Memoir .....	'mem.wa:r
Menu .....	'men.ju:
Mercenary .....	'mɜ:.'f`n.>`ri
Mete .....	mi:t
Middle .....	'm2d.l
Midget .....	'm2d3.2t
Miraculous .....	m2'ræk.j>.l>s
Miscreant .....	'm2s.kr2.>nt
Mnemonic .....	n2'mɒn.2k
Modal .....	'm>ʊ.d`l
Model .....	'mɒd.`l
Modernity .....	mɒd's:.n>.ti
Molecular .....	m>ʊ'lek.j>.l>`r
Monarch .....	'mɒn.>.k
Monopoly .....	m>'nɒp.`li

Monotony.....	m>'nɒt.~ni
Moral .....	'mɒr.~l
Morale .....	m>'rɑ:l
Moslem .....	'mɒz.l>m
Mosquito .....	mɒs'ki:t>ʊ
Moustache .....	m>'stʌ:ʃ

## N

Nadir .....	'neɪ.dɪ>r
Naive .....	nə'vi:v
Nasty .....	'nɑ:.sti
Nation .....	'neɪ.ʃ̃n
National .....	'næ.ʃ̃n.~l
Nausea .....	'nɔ:sɪ>
Navel.....	'neɪ.vəl
Necessarily .....	'nes.>.s̃r.~li
Necessary.....	'nes.>.s̃ri
Nee .....	nei
Neg'lige .....	'neg.lɪ.ʒei
Nephew .....	'nef.ju:
Nisi .....	'naɪ.sai
Nomadic.....	n>'ɒmæd.ɪk
Nominee .....	nɒm.ɪ'ni:
Noose .....	nu:s
Notoriety .....	n>'ɒt.rɪ>.ti
Notorious .....	n>'ɒt.rɪ>.s
Nude .....	nju:d
Nugget .....	'nʌg.ɪt

## O

Oasis .....	>'eɪ.sɪs
Oaths .....	>θ
Obedience .....	>'bi:d>.nts
Obese .....	ɒ'bi:s
Obsequious .....	>'bi:kw>.s
Occasion .....	>'keɪ.ʒ̃n
Occur.....	>'kɜ:r

Oceanic .....	ˌoʊ.jəˈæn.ɪk
Of .....	ɒv
Off .....	ɒf
Omelette .....	ˈɒm.lɪt
Omit .....	ˌɒm.ɪt
Onion .....	ˈɒn.jən
Onerous .....	ˈɒ.nə.r.əs
Onomatopoeia .....	ˌɒ.nəˈmæt.əˈpi:ə
Opera .....	ˈɒp.ə.r.ə
Operative .....	ˈɒp.ə.r.ət.ɪv
Opinion .....	ˌɒp.ɪ.n.jən
Oppress .....	ˌɒpres
Oracular .....	ˈɒr.æk.jʊ.l.ər
Orb .....	ɔ:b
Ordeal .....	ɔ:ˈdi:l
Ordinance .....	ˈɔ:d.ɪ.n.ənts
Orient (v.) .....	ˈɔ:r.ɪ.ənt
Orthographic .....	ɔ:θəˈgræf.ɪk
Otiose .....	ˈɒ.tɪ.əz
Oven .....	ˈɒv.ən
Owl .....	ɔ:l
Ozone .....	ˈɒ.zən

### Suggested Question

#### Phonetically transcribe the following words :

1. Fame
2. Famous
3. Further
4. Furious
5. Fashion
6. Fetish
7. Fragrance
8. Girl
9. Goose
10. Gander
11. Grandeur
12. Grace

13. Hiatus
14. Hang
15. Hiccup
16. Harangue
17. Host
18. Inky
19. Icicle
20. Ice-cream
21. Imp
22. Jam
23. Jazzy
24. Junior
25. Jockey
26. Junkey
27. Knit
28. Cross
29. Christmas
30. Cash
31. Costume
32. Lamé
33. Loan
34. Lunar
35. Lunacy
36. Morning
37. Moss
38. Nude

Given below is a list of words phonetically transcribed.

## P

<i>Word</i>	<i>Transcription</i>
Pacific .....	p>'sɪf.ɪk
Packet .....	'pæk.ɪt
Padre .....	'pɑ:.dreɪ
Pageant .....	'pædʒ.ənt
Pajamas .....	p>'dʒɑ:m>
Palace .....	'pæl.ɪs
Palate .....	'pæl.ət
Palfrey .....	'pɔ:l.fri
Palsy .....	'pɔ:l.zi
Pamphleteer .....	pæm.fl>.'tɪ>ɪ
Panacea .....	pæn.ə.'si:.ə
Panegyric .....	pæn.ə.'dʒɪr.ɪk
Papier-mâché .....	pæp.ɪ.eɪ'mæʃ.ei
Paradise .....	'pær.ə.dɑɪs
Paralysis .....	p>'ræl.ɪ.sɪs
Paranoid .....	'pær.ə'nɔɪd
Parliament .....	'pɑ:l.ə.m>nt
Parody .....	'pær.ə.di
Paroxysm .....	'pær.ə'k.sɪz.əm
Participate .....	pɑ'tɪs.ɪ'peɪt
Particular .....	p>'tɪk.j>.'l>ɪ>ɪ
Pastor .....	'pɑ:.st>ɪ
Patent .....	'peɪ.t>nt
Patois (singular) .....	'pæ.t.wɑ:
Patois (plural) .....	'pæ.t.wɑ:z
Patrician .....	p>'trɪʃ.ɪn
Patron .....	'peɪ.tr>ɪn
Payee .....	peɪ'i:
Pejorative .....	p>'dʒɔ:r.ə'tɪv

Penchant .....	'pɑ:ʃ.[ɑ:ʃ
Peremptory.....	p>'rempt.t̃r.i
Perilous .....	'pe. ̃l. >s
Perquisite .....	'pɜ:.kw2.z2t
Personnel .....	ˌpɜ:.s̃'n'eɪ
Peruse .....	p>'ru:z
Petite .....	p>'ti:t
Phoneme .....	'f>ʊ.ni:m
Photograph.....	'f>ʊ.t>.grɑ:f
Photographic .....	'f>ʊ.t>'græf.2k
Physician .....	f2z2].̃n
Piazza .....	p2æt.s>
Picturesque .....	p2k.tj̃'r'esk
Pioneer .....	pai>'n2>'r
Pique .....	'p2:.kei
Pittance .....	'p2t.̃nts
Plait .....	plæt
Plasma .....	'plæz.m>
Plaza .....	'plɑ:.z>
Pleasure .....	'plez. >r
Poignant .....	'pɔ2.nj>nt
Police.....	p>'li:s
Position .....	p>'z2].̃n
Posthumous .....	'pɔs.tj>.m>s
Postpone .....	p>ʊst'p>ʊn
Potato.....	p>'te2.t>ʊ
Precipitate (adj.) .....	prɪ's2p.2.t>t
Precipitate (n).....	pr2's2p.2.te2t
Precis (singular).....	'pre2.si:
Precis (plural).....	'pre2.si:z
Predicative .....	pr2'd2k.>.t2v
Prefer .....	pr2'fɜ:'r
Preference .....	'pref.̃r.̃nts
Premiere .....	'prem.2.e>'r
Preparatory .....	pr2'pæɜ.>.t̃ri
Present (v) .....	pr2'zent
Present (n) .....	pr2'zent
Present (adj.) .....	'prez.̃nt



Prestige .....	pres'ti:z
Pretty .....	'prɪt.i
Privacy .....	'prɪv.ə.si
Prodigious .....	prɔ'dɪdʒ.ɪəs
Proficient .....	prɔ'fɪʃ.ənt
Profiteer .....	prɔf.ɪ'ti:ə
Profligate .....	'prɔf.lɪ.gət
Profuse .....	prɔ'fju:s
Prohibition .....	prɔ'vɪh.ɪ'bɪʃ.ən
Promenade .....	'prɒm.ə'nɑ:d
Proximity .....	prɒk'sɪm.ə.ti
Prudent .....	'pru:d.ənt
Publicity .....	pʌb'lɪs.ə.ti
Pulpit .....	'pʊl.pɪt
Puny .....	'pju:ni
Pursue .....	pɜ'sju:
Puss .....	pʊs
Pussy .....	'pʊs.i

## Q

Quality .....	'kwɒl.ə.ti
Quay .....	ki:
Questionnaire .....	'kwes.tjən.ə.ri
Quote .....	kwɔt

## R

Racketeer .....	'ræk.ɪ'ti:ə
Radar .....	'reɪ.dɑ:ə
Raft .....	rɑ:ft
Rapport .....	ræp'ɔ:
Rascal .....	'rɑ:skəl
Raspberry .....	'rɑ:z.bəri
Rather (adj.) .....	'rɑ:ðə, 'ræð.ə
Ration .....	'ræʃ.ən
Rationale .....	'ræʃ.ən.əl
Ravine .....	'ræv.ɪn
Realistic .....	riəlɪ'stɪk

Rebel (v) .....	r2'bel
Rebel (n) .....	'reb. 1
Recapitulate .....	,ri:k>.'p2t.j>.le2t
Receipt .....	r2'si:t
Recipient .....	r2's2p.2>nt
Recluse .....	r2'klu:s
Reconcile .....	'rek. 1n.sa2l
Recur .....	r2'k3:r
Refer .....	r2'f3:r
Refuse (n) .....	'ref.ju:s
Refuse (v) .....	r2'fju:z
Regime .....	re2'3:m
Region .....	'ri:d3 1n
Release .....	r2'li:s
Reparable .....	'rep. 1r.>.bl
Repartee .....	,rep.a:'ti:
Resign .....	r2'za2n
Resignation .....	,rez.2g'ne2.1n
Rescue .....	'res.kju:
Resume (V) .....	r2'zju:m
Resume (N) .....	rez>hei
Reynolds .....	'ren. 1ld
Rhetorical .....	r2'tr.2k 1
Ribaldry .....	'r2b. 1ldri
Rigorous .....	'r2g. 1r.>s
Romance .....	reʊ'mæts
Rook .....	rʊk
Rouge .....	ru:3
Rural .....	'rʊ>.r 1

## S

Sacred .....	'se2.kr2d
Sagacious .....	s>'ge2.1s
Salmon .....	'sæm.>n
Sample .....	'sɑ:m.pl
Sandwich .....	'sæn.w2d3
Satanic .....	s>'tæn.2k
Said .....	se2d

Say .....	seɪ
Says .....	sez
Scarcity .....	'skeɪ.sɪ.ti
Schedule .....	'fed.ju:l
Schizophrenia .....	'skɪz.ə'frɪ.nɪ.ə
Schooner .....	'skʊ:nər
Scythe .....	sɑɪð
Seethe .....	sɪð
Sensual .....	'sent.sjʊəl
Sensuous .....	'sent.sjʊəs
Sentence (n).....	'sen.tənts
Sepia .....	'si:pɪ.ə
Sequel .....	'si:kwəl
Sergeant .....	'sɑ:dʒənt
Serenade .....	'ser.ə'neɪd
Serviette .....	'sɜ:vɪ'et
Sever .....	'sev.ər
Severe .....	sɪ'vɪər
Sew .....	səʊ
Sewage .....	'su:.ɪdʒ
Sheath .....	'ʃi:θ
Sheathe .....	'ʃi:ð
Shove .....	ʃʌv
Shovel .....	'ʃʌv.əl
Show .....	ʃəʊ
Sieve .....	sɪv
Sikh .....	si:k
Signature .....	'sɪɡ.nətʃər
Simultaneity .....	'sɪm.əl'teɪ.ni.ti
Simultaneous .....	'sɪm.əl'teɪ.nɪ.əs
Sinecure .....	'sɪn.ɪ.kjʊər
Slander .....	'slɑ:n.dər
Slough (n) .....	slʌʊ
Slough (v) .....	slʌf
Smear .....	smɪər
Sobriety .....	sə'brɪ.ə.ti
Soliloquy .....	sə'lɒl.ə'kwɪ
Soot.....	sʊt

Soothe .....	su:ð
Sophism .....	'sɒf.ɪ.zəm
Sophisticated .....	s>'fɪs.tɪ.kətɪd
Sordid .....	'sɔ: .dɪd
Spasm .....	'spæz.əm
Spinach .....	'spɪn.ɪtʃ
Spontaneity .....	spɒn.t>'neɪ.ti
Square .....	skwe>'r
Stability .....	st>'bɪl.ə.ti
Stampede .....	stæm'pi:d
Stephen .....	sti:vən
Stomach .....	'stʌm.ə.k
Stubborn .....	'stʌb.ən
Student .....	'stju: .d>nt
Suave .....	swɑ:v
Suede .....	sweɪd
Sugar .....	'ʃʊg.>r
Suggest .....	s>'dʒest
Suite .....	swi:t
Supreme .....	su:'pri:m
Swear .....	swe>'r
Synonymous .....	sɪ'nɒn.ɪ.m>s

## T

Taboo .....	t>'bu:
Tactile .....	'tæ.k.təɪl
Talc .....	tælk
Talent .....	'tæl.ənt
Talkative .....	'tɔ:k>.tɪv
Tangerine .....	'tæŋ.dʒ>'ri:n
Tapestry .....	'tæp.ɪ.stri
Tattoo .....	tæt'u:
Tear (n) .....	t>'r
Tear (n.v.) .....	te>'r
Telegraphist .....	t>'leg.r>.fɪst
Telephony .....	t>'lef.əni
Temperature .....	'tem.p>.tj>'r
Temporary .....	'tem.p>'r.ə.ri

Tenacity .....	t2'næs. > .ti
Tentative .....	'ten.t > .t2v
Tete-a-tete .....	te2t.ɑ'te2t
Thames .....	te2mz
Theist .....	'i:'2s.t
Theistic .....	'i:'2s.t2k
Thomas .....	'θm. > s
Thermos .....	'θ:..mθs
Thorough .....	'θr. >
Thought .....	'θ:t
Thursday .....	'θ:z.de2
Thwart .....	'θw:t
Timothy .....	'tim. > .fi
Tithe .....	taið
Tobacco .....	t>'bæk. > v
Tolerable .....	'tɒl. > r. > .bl
Tomato .....	t>'mɑ:t > v
Tomb .....	tu:m
Tooth .....	tu:θ
Topography .....	tɒp'ɒg.r > .fi
Tornado .....	tɔ:'ne2.d > v
Tortoise .....	'tɔ:.t > s
Tournament .....	'tɔ>.n > .m > nt
Tousle .....	'təʊ.zl
Towel .....	təʊ>l
Tradition .....	tr>'dɪ. > n
Tragedian .....	tr>'di:d32. > n
Transact .....	træn'zækt
Travail .....	'træv.e2l
Treasure .....	'tre3. > r
Triad .....	'tra2.æd
Trough .....	trʌf
Truths .....	tru:θ
Tryst .....	tr2st
Tuition .....	tju'2l. > n
Tyranny .....	't2r. > n.i

## U

Ubiquitous .....	ju:'b2k.w2.t>s
Unanimous .....	ju:'næn.2.m>s
Uneasy .....	ʌni:.z2
Urban .....	'3:.b`n
Urbane .....	3:'be2n
Urine .....	'jʊ>.r2n
Use (n) .....	ju:s
Use (v) .....	ju:z
Used (accustomed) .....	ju:st, ju:zd
Used (employed) .....	ju:zd
Usual .....	'ju:.3`l
Usurer .....	'ju:.3`r
Uxorious .....	ʌk'sʊ:.r2.>s

## V

Vacancy .....	've2.k`nt.si
Vacuum .....	'væk.ju:m
Vagina .....	v>'d3a2.n>
Vandal .....	'væn.d`l
Various .....	've>.r2.>s
Varsity .....	'vɑ:.s>.ti
Vase .....	vɑ:z
Vassal .....	'væs.>`l
Vehement .....	'vi:.>.m>nt
Vehicular .....	v22k.j>.l>r
Veneer .....	v>'n2>r
Venison .....	'ven.2.s`n
Veracity .....	v>'ræs.>.ti
Verdure .....	'v3:.dj>r
Vessel .....	'ves.>`l
Veteran .....	'vet.`r.`n
Vicar .....	'v2k.>'
Victuals .....	'v2t.`l
Villian .....	'v2l.>n
Visual .....	'v23.u.>l
Vicarious .....	v2ve2.j>s
Vocabulary .....	v>ʊ'kæb.j>.l`r.i

Volcano .....	vɒl'keɪ.2.n>v
Vowel .....	vəʊ>l

## W

Waft .....	wɒft
Waltz .....	wɒls
Warmth .....	wɔ:mpθ
Watch .....	wɒtʃ
Water .....	'wɔ:.t>r
Wear .....	we>r
Wednesday .....	'wenz.deɪ
Whale .....	'hweɪl
Wheat .....	hwi:t
Whey .....	hweɪ
White .....	hwaɪt
Width .....	wɪdθ
Woman .....	'wɒm.>n
Women .....	'wɒm.2n
Womb .....	wɒm
Worsted .....	'wɒs.tɪd
Wreath .....	ri:θ
Writhe .....	raɪð

## X

Xerox .....	'zɪ>.rɒks
Xylophone .....	'zɪl.>.fɒn

## Y

Yacht .....	jɒt
Year .....	jɪ>r
Yeast .....	jɪ:st
Yeats .....	jeɪts
Your .....	jɔ:ɹ
Youths .....	ju:θ

## Z

Zenith .....	'zen.ɪθ
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Zoological ..... 'z>õ. >õ'.ld<sub>3</sub>.2.k<sup>-1</sup>

### Suggested Questions

**Phonetically transcribe the following words :**

1. Prudent
2. Proxy
3. Prism
4. Prevent
5. Piquant
6. Pierce
7. Pyre
8. Poignant
9. Precarious
10. picturesque
11. Random
12. Rodent
13. Relinquish
14. Rhapsody
15. Raucous
16. Redeem
17. Rampant
18. Rapacious
19. Rostrum
20. Sully
21. Sullivan
22. Sagacious
23. Sordid
24. Solemn
25. Succour
26. Sophism
27. Sojourn
28. Sombre
29. Tissue
30. Timer
31. Tinker
32. Tense
33. Talkative
34. Tulip
35. Umbrella
36. Umpteen
37. Vine
38. Vacuous
39. Xenophobia
40. Zebra