

## International phonetic alphabet

In various guidance documents produced for the Year 1 phonics screening check, the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) has been used to explain the pronunciation of pseudo-words in the check. The table below explains each symbol and the associated grapheme used in the check.

### Consonants

Phoneme	Example
/b/	<b>bad</b>
/d/	<b>dog</b>
/ð/	<b>this</b>
/dʒ/	<b>gem, jug</b>
/f/	<b>if, puff, photo</b>
/g/	<b>gum</b>
/h/	<b>how</b>
/j/	<b>yes</b>
/k/	<b>cat check, key, school</b>
/l/	<b>leg, hill</b>
/m/	<b>man</b>
/n/	<b>man</b>
/ŋ/	<b>sing</b>
/θ/	<b>both</b>
/p/	<b>pet</b>
/r/	<b>red</b>
/s/	<b>sit, miss, cell</b>
/ʃ/	<b>she, chef</b>
/t/	<b>tea</b>
/tʃ/	<b>check</b>
/v/	<b>vet</b>
/w/	<b>wet, when</b>
/z/	<b>zip, hens, buzz</b>
/ʒ/	<b>pleasure*</b>

### Vowels

Phoneme	Graphemes
/ɑ:/	<b>father, arm</b>
/ɒ/	<b>hot</b>
/æ/	<b>cat</b>
/aɪ/	<b>mind, fine, pie, high</b>
/aʊ/	<b>out, cow</b>
/ɛ/	<b>hen, head^</b>
/eɪ/	<b>say, came, bait</b>
/ɛə/	<b>air</b>
/əʊ/	<b>cold, boat, cone, mould, blow</b>
/ɪ/	<b>hit</b>
/ɪə/	<b>beer*</b>
/i:/	<b>she, bead, see, scheme, chief</b>
/ɔ:/	<b>launch, raw, born</b>
/ɔɪ/	<b>coin, boy</b>
/ʊ/	<b>book^, cup^, could</b>
/ʊə/	<b>tour*</b>
/u:/	<b>stew, room, you, blue, brute</b>
/ʌ/	<b>cup^</b>
/ɜ:/	<b>fern, turn, girl</b>
/ə/	<b>farmer</b>

^ This grapheme-phoneme correspondence only applies to certain regional pronunciations

\* Not included in the phonics screening check

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