

# Hungarian

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## 1 Background

**Language family:**

- Uralic
  - Finno-Ugric

**Adopted variety:** ECH (Educated Colloquial Hungarian) (Siptár and Törkenczy 2000)

## 2 Phonology and Orthography

### 2.1 Consonants (Siptár and Törkenczy 2000, p 18-19; Szende 1994)

Table 1: Consonants

Voicing		labial		alveolar		post-alveolar		palatal		velar		glottal	
nasal		m	m	n	n	ɲ	ny						
vs		p	p	t	t			c	ty	k	k		

stop	vd	b	b	d	d			j	gy	g	g	
fricative	vs	f	f	s	sz	ʃ	s				h	h
	vd	v	v	z	z	ʒ	zs					
affricate	vs			ts	c	tʃ	cs					
	vd			dz	dz	dʒ	dzs					
tap/trill				r	r							
approximant				l	l			j	j ly			

<sup>a</sup> placeless /N/ appears preconsonantly and receives place from the following consonant

<sup>b</sup> The [O] columns stands for orthography.

<sup>c</sup> [vs] and [vd] in the second column stands for voiceless and voiced

## 2.2 Vowels (Szende 1994)

	IPA	Writing	Example	Gloss
1	ɑ	a	agy	brain
2	aː	á	ágy	bed
3	ɛ	e	egy	one
4	eː	é	ért	understand
5	i	i	irt	eradicate
6	iː	í	ír	write
7	o	o	orr	nose
8	oː	ó	ól	sty
9	ø	ö	öl	kill
10	øː	ő	őr	guard
11	u	u	ujj	finger

	IPA	Writing	Example	Gloss
12	uː	ú	úgy	like that
13	y	ü	ügy	affair
14	yː	ű	űrr	space
Marginal <sup>1</sup>	a, e, ɔː, ɛː			

## 2.3 Note on the Alphabet

Letters q, x, y, w as well as the combination ‘ch’ are excluded in hu.rules since they only occur in borrowed words like *homoszexuális*, and traditional surnames e.g. *Andrássy*.

# 3 Rules

see hu.rules written based on Section 2.1 and 2.2

## 3.1 Controversies and choices

1. Whether “ty”, “dy” are affricates or stops as seen in 2.1

- stops (see Siptár and Törkenczy 2000, p 82)
- does not changed the result of translation

2. Whether there are diphthongs

- no (see Siptár and Törkenczy 2000, p 16-18)

<sup>1</sup>typically used for pronouncing letters in abbreviations and borrowed words (Siptár and Törkenczy 2000, p 280)

3. Whether [dz] is a phoneme or just a surface sound
  - surface (see Siptár and Törkenczy 2000, p 87-89)
  - underlying (see Szende 1994)
4. The placeless [N] as the underlying default nasal preconsonantly that undergoes progressive nasal assimilation
  - (see Siptár and Törkenczy 2000, p 207-212)

## 4 Lenition Processes

- Degemination (Siptár and Törkenczy 2000, p 83): Across word boundaries, affricates remain unmerged in careful speech. In colloquial speech, the first affricate may lenite into a fricative due to OCP

Writing	careful speech	colloquial speech
rác cég	[ra:ts-tse:g]	[ra:s-tse:g]
bölcs csere	[bøltʃ-tʃɛɾɛ]	[bølf-tʃɛɾɛ]

## References

- Siptár, Péter, and Miklós Törkenczy. 2000. *The Phonology of Hungarian*. Oxford University Press.
- Szende, Tamás. 1994. "Hungarian." *Journal of the International Phonetic Association* 24 (2): 91-94.