

INTEGRATING LANGUAGE SKILLS

Phonetics: The Sounds of Language

Sound Segments

- Knowing a language includes knowing the sounds of that language
- Phonetics is the study of speech sounds
- We are able to segment a continuous stream of speech into distinct parts and recognize the parts in other words
- Everyone who knows a language knows how to segment sentences into words and words into sounds

The Phonetic Alphabet

- Dialectal and individual differences affect pronunciation, but the sounds of English

English Phonetic Symbols

Consonants

[p] pig [pɪg]	[θ] think [θɪŋk]	[h] hand [hænd]	[b] box [bɒks]
[ð] this [ðɪs]	[m] man [mæn]	[t] time [taɪm]	[s] sun [sʌn]
[n] nose [nouz]	[d] dog [dɒg]	[z] zoo [zu:]	[ŋ] wing [wɪŋ]
[k] cat [kæt]	[ʃ] shoe [ʃu:]	[r] run [rʌn]	[g] go [gou]
[ʒ] treasure [trézər]	[l] light [laɪt]	[f] face [feɪs]	[tʃ] chair [tʃɛər]
[j] year [jiər]	[v] vase [veɪs]	[dʒ] juice [dʒu:s]	[w] west [west]

Vowels Monophthongs (single, pure vowel sound)

[i:] feet [fi:t]	[ə] bird [bɜrd]	[aɪ] eye [aɪ]	[ɪ] fish [fɪʃ]
[u:] two [tu:]	[e] bed [bed]	[u] book [buk]	[ɔ] ball [bɔl]
[j] you [ju]	[ʌ] sun [sʌn]	[ɑ] mama [m'ɑmɑ]	[ə] alive [əl'aɪv]

Diphthongs (two vowel sounds joined in one syllable)

[au] mouse [maʊs]	[ɔɪ] toy [tɔɪ]	[æ] apple [æpl]	[eɪ] cake [keɪk]
[əʊ] go [gəʊ]	[iə] near [niə]	[uə] pure [puə]	[aɪ] five [faɪv]