# Bell Language Centre

## PRONUNCIATION

*Sound Symbols & Vowel Contrasts*

## THE PHONEMIC CHART

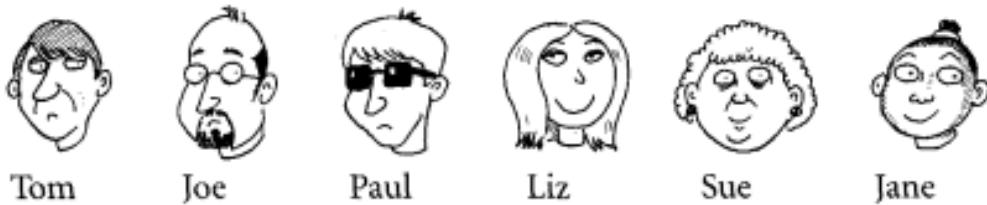### Consonants

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| /p/ | /t/ | /k/ | /f/ | /s/ | /θ/ |
| /b/ | /d/ | /g/ | /v/ | /z/ | /ð/ |
| /ʃ/ | /tʃ/ | /ʒ/ | /dʒ/ | /h/ | /l/ |
| /r/ | /w/ | /m/ | /n/ | /ŋ/ | /j/ |

**Note:** Words like *happy* and *hungry* end in a short sound halfway between /iː/ and /ɪ/. Some dictionaries show this as /i/.

## Vowels & Diphthongs

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| /ɪ/ | /iː/ | /uː/ | /ʊ/ | /eɪ/ |
| /ɪə/ | /əʊ/ | /ə/ | /ɜː/ | /ɔː/ |
| /ɒ/ | /aɪ/ | /eə/ | /aʊ/ | /e/ |
| /æ/ | /ɑː/ | /ʌ/ | /ɔɪ/ | /ʊə/ |

## TASK 1: TRANSCRIPTION CHALLENGE



Tom, Joe, Paul, Liz, Sue, Jane

1. /tɒm laɪks ˈraɪtɪŋ ˈpəʊətri/

_____

_Tom likes writing poetry._

2. /dʒeɪnz gɒt ə ˈfrendli braʊn pet kæt/

_____

3. /suː wəz fɑːst əˈsliːp wen ðə ˈbɜːgləz keɪm/

_____

4. /dʒəʊ bɔːt ə ˈbɒtəl əv hʌnˈgeərɪən waɪn lɑːst naɪt/

_____

5. /lɪz wɒnts tə biː rɪtʃ ənd ˈfeɪməs wʌn deɪ/

_____
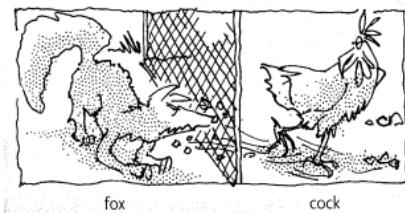
6. /pɔːlz ə ˈwelθi jʌŋ ˈtʊərɪst/

_____
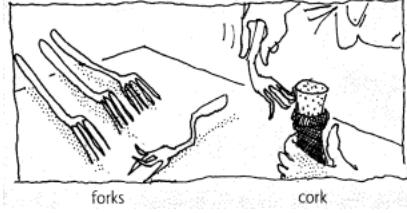
7. /tɒm ənd lɪz ə gʊd ət ˈspænɪʃ/

_____

8. /dʒəʊ wɜːks ɪn ə ˈnɔɪzi ˈgærɑːʒ/
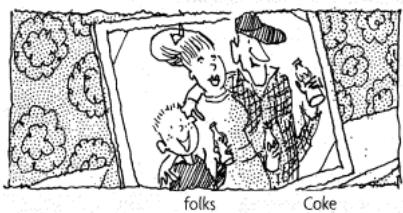
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## TASK 2: THE SOUNDS /ɒ/, /ɔː/, AND /əʊ/



fox    cock    forks    cork    folks    Coke

### Listen and Tick

*You will hear ten words. For each word, put a tick (✓) in the correct box.*

|     | /ɒ/ | /ɔː/ | /əʊ/ | Word  |
| --- | --- | ---- | ---- | ----- |
| 1   | ✓   |      |      | clock |
| 2   |     |      |      |       |
| 3   |     |      |      |       |
| 4   |     |      |      |       |
| 5   |     |      |      |       |
| 6   |     |      |      |       |
| 7   |     |      |      |       |
| 8   |     |      |      |       |
| 9   |     |      |      |       |
| 10  |     |      |      |       |

## TASK 3: CATEGORIZATION

*Put the words from the box into the correct columns below.*

| walk | wrong | won't | gone |
|------|-------|-------|------|
| ago | novel | water | all |
| quarrel | want | only | door |
| moment | thought | phone | although |

| [ /ɒ/ ] | [ /ɔ:/ ] | [ /əʊ/ ] |
|---------|----------|----------|
| | walk | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

## Task 1: Transcription Challenge

1. Tom likes writing poetry.
2. Jane's got a friendly brown pet cat.
3. Sue was fast asleep when the burglars came.
4. Joe bought a bottle of Hungarian wine last night.
5. Liz wants to be rich and famous one day.
6. Paul's a wealthy young tourist.
7. Tom and Liz are good at Spanish.
8. Joe works in a noisy garage.

## Task 2: Listen and Tick

|    | /ɒ/ | /ɔː/ | /əʊ/ | Word |
|----|-----|------|------|------|
| 1  | ✓   |      |      | clock |
| 2  |     | ✓    |      | sport |
| 3  |     |      | ✓    | boat |
| 4  |     | ✓    |      | saw |
| 5  | ✓   |      |      | got |
| 6  |     |      | ✓    | joke |
| 7  | ✓   |      |      | box |
| 8  |     |      | ✓    | shown |
| 9  |     | ✓    |      | born |
| 10 |     |      | ✓    | coat |

## Task 3: Categorization

- **/ɒ/:** quarrel, wrong, novel, want, gone
- **/ɔː/:** walk, thought, water, all, door
- **/əʊ/:** ago, moment, won't, only, phone, although