

## English Alphabet and Phonetic Alphabets (PA)

The modern **English alphabet** is a Latin-based alphabet consisting of 26 letters:

Called **uppercase** or **capital letters**

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Called **lowercase** or **small letters**

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z

† The letters A, E, I, O, U are considered to be vowels; the remaining letters are considered to be consonants.

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Short Vowels & Long Vowels: / æ, e, a:, ʌ, ɪ, i:, ʊ, u:, ə, ɐ, ɜ:, ɒ, ɔ:/

Diphthongs / eɪ, aɪ, ɔɪ, əʊ, aʊ, ɪə, eə, ʊə/

Vowels			
PA	Examples	PA	Examples
æ	bag	eɪ	a, fate, may
e	bed	aɪ	i, high, buy
a:	father, large	ɔɪ	boy
ʌ	but, luck, mother	əʊ	o, go
ɪ	bit	aʊ	owl, night owl, cow
i:	feet	ɪə	dear, fear
ʊ	good, foot, put	eə	hair, care
u:	food	ʊə	tour,
ə	about, above		
ɜ:	work, world		
ɒ	lock, hotpot		
ɔ:	horse		

Voiceless consonants: / p, t, k, f, θ, s, ʃ, tʃ, ts, tr, h /

Voiced consonants: / b, d, g, v, ð, z, ʒ, dʒ, dz, dr, m, n, ŋ, l, w, j, r, ɹ /

Consonants			
PA	Examples	PA	Examples
p		b	
t		d	
k		g	
f		v	
θ	think, thank	ð	this, that
s		z	
ʃ		ʒ	decision, pleasure, vision
tʃ		dʒ	
ts		dz	
tr		dr	
h		m	
		n	
		ŋ	
		l	world, love, simple
		w	
		j	yes, young
		ɹ	ray, four