



An Animated and Narrated Glossary of
Terms used in Linguistics
presents

The IPA Chart



IPA?

- IPA = International Phonetic Association
- IPA = International Phonetic Alphabet
- Founded in 1886 by French and British phoneticians
- IPA chart is a chart of symbols useful for notating all the sounds of the world's languages.

IPA system

- The IPA system of notation is particularly useful for a scientific study of the sounds of the world's languages because it has a **one-to-one correspondence between a unit of linguistic sound and a letter symbol.**
- As of 2008, there are **107 distinct letters, 52 diacritics, and 4 prosody marks** in the IPA proper.

Slide 3

IPA chart

Table of **pulmonic consonants**

Table of **non-pulmonic consonants**

Table of **vowels**

Table of **other symbols**

Table of **suprasegmentals**

Table of **diacritics**

THE INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ALPHABET (revised to 2005)

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	Labial	Labiodental	Dental	Alveolar	Postalveolar	Retroflex	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyngeal	Glottal
Plosive	p b		t d	ʈ ɖ	c ɟ	k ɡ	q ɢ				ʔ
Nasal	m	ɱ	n	ɳ	ɲ	ɳ	ɲ	ŋ	ɴ		
Fricative		f v	s z	ʃ ʒ	ʂ ʐ	ç ʝ	x ɣ	χ ʁ	ħ ʕ	h ɦ	
Approximant				l			ʎ	ʝ	ʋ		
Liquoid				l			ʎ	ʝ	ʋ		

Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a voiced consonant. Shaded areas indicate unattested or disputed segments.

OTHER SYMBOLS

ʌ	Voiced labial-velar fricative	ɕ	Voiced palato-alveolar fricative
ʋ	Voiced labiodental fricative	ʄ	Voiced alveolar fricative
ɸ	Voiced bilabial fricative	β	Voiced bilabial fricative
ɸ	Voiced bilabial fricative	β	Voiced bilabial fricative
ɸ	Voiced bilabial fricative	β	Voiced bilabial fricative

DIACRITICS

ˈ	Primary stress	ˌ	Secondary stress
ː	Long	ˑ	Short
ˑ	Short	ˑ	Short
ˑ	Short	ˑ	Short
ˑ	Short	ˑ	Short
ˑ	Short	ˑ	Short
ˑ	Short	ˑ	Short
ˑ	Short	ˑ	Short
ˑ	Short	ˑ	Short
ˑ	Short	ˑ	Short

Slide 4

Pulmonic consonants

Consonant sounds made by air pushed out from the lungs.

Place of articulation

CONSONANTS (PULMONIC)													© 2005 IPA			
	Bilabial	Labiodental	Dental	Alveolar	Postalveolar	Retroflex	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyngeal	Glottal					
Plosive	p b			t d		ʈ ɖ	c ɟ	k ɡ	q ɢ		ʔ					
Nasal	m	ɱ		n		ɳ	ɲ	ŋ	ɴ							
Trill	ʙ			r					ʀ							
Tap or Flap		ⱱ		ɾ		ɽ										
Fricative	ɸ β	f v	θ ð	s z	ʃ ʒ	ʂ ʐ	ç ʝ	x ɣ	χ ʁ	ħ ʕ	h ɦ					
Lateral fricative				ɬ ɮ												
Approximant		ʋ		ɹ		ɻ	j	ɰ								
Lateral approximant				l		ɭ	ʎ	ʟ								

Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a voiced consonant. Shaded areas denote articulations judged impossible.

Manner of articulation

Slide 5

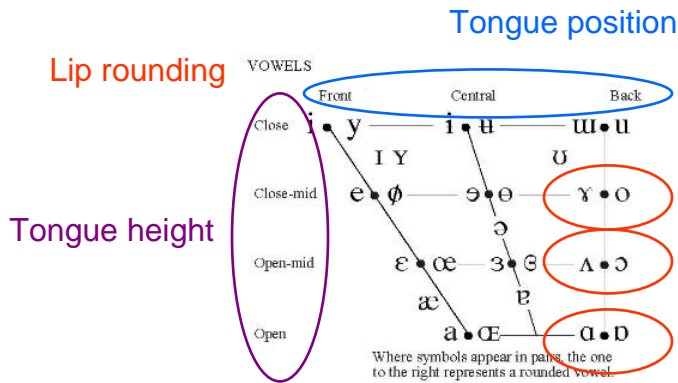
Non-pulmonic consonants

CONSONANTS (NON-PULMONIC)					
Clicks		Voiced implosives		Ejectives	
◌ǀ	Bilabial	◌ɓ	Bilabial	◌ʼ	Examples:
◌ǃ	Dental	◌ɗ	Dental/alveolar	◌pʼ	Bilabial
◌ǂ	(Post)alveolar	◌ɗ	Palatal	◌tʼ	Dental/alveolar
◌ǁ	Palatoalveolar	◌ɠ	Velar	◌kʼ	Velar
◌ǁ	Alveolar lateral	◌ɠ	Uvular	◌sʼ	Alveolar fricative

Consonant sounds made without use of the lungs.

Slide 6

Vowels



Slide 7

Suprasegmentals

SUPRASEGMENTALS			
ˈ	Primary stress		
ˌ	Secondary stress		
	ˌfoʊnəˈtʃən		
ː	Long eː		
ˑ	Half-long eˑ		
◌̥	Extra-short e̥		
	Minor (foot) group		
	Major (intonation) group		
·	Syllable break ˌi.ækt		
◌̣	Linking (absence of a break)		
TONES AND WORD ACCENTS			
LEVEL	CONTOUR		
ē or ˥	Extra high	ě or ˨	Rising
é	High	ê	Falling
ē	Mid	ē	High rising
ē	Low	ē	Low rising
ē	Extra low	ē	Rising-falling
↓	Downstep	↗	Global rise
↑	Upstep	↘	Global fall

These are symbols that indicate information of **length**, **stress**, **intonation** and **tone**.

Slide 8



Further reading

- Ashby, Michael and John Maidment (2005) *Introducing Phonetic Science*. Cambridge University Press.
- Crystal, David (1997) *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Language*, 2nd edition, pp. 123-178. Cambridge University Press.
- Fromkin, Victoria and Robert Rodman (1998) *An Introduction to Language*, 6th edition. Fort Worth: Harcourt Brace College Publishers.
- International Phonetic Association (1949/84) *The Principles of the International Phonetic Association*.
- International Phonetic Association (1999) *Handbook of the International Phonetic Association: A Guide to the Use of the International Phonetic Alphabet*. Cambridge University Press.
- International Phonetic Association. <http://www.arts.gla.ac.uk/IPA/index.html>
- Ladefoged, Peter (2001) *A Course in Phonetics*, 4th edition. Fort Worth: Harcourt College Publishers.
- Ladefoged, Peter (2001) *Vowels and Consonants: an introduction to the sounds of languages*. Blackwell.

Slide 11



The End

Wee, Lian-Hee and Winnie H.Y. Cheung (2009)
An animated and narrated glossary of terms used in Linguistics.
Hong Kong Baptist University.