

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

In order to fulfill this graduation paper, I have received a lot of help, advice, encouragement and supports from many of my teachers, my relatives and my friends.

First of all, I wish to express my gratitude to my supervisor Mr. Mai Van Sao for his valuable advice, comments, encouragement and whole-hearted direction from the beginning days until the finished research paper. His supports have also helped me a lot during the time of my writing.

Secondly, I would also be grateful to Mrs. Tran Ngoc Lien, Dean of Foreign Language Department, and all the teachers of Foreign Language Department of Haiphong Private University who taught me for the past four years.

In preparing, this graduation paper, I want to express special acknowledgements to all my friends, for their highly valuable encouragement and support for my study.

Finally, my overriding deep continues to be to my lovely family members who always stand by me to help me to overcome every difficulty in completing this task.

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

### **Acknowledgements**

| <b>PART I: INTRODUCTION</b> | <b>Page</b> |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
|-----------------------------|-------------|

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. Rationale of the study | 1 |
| 2. Aims of the study      | 2 |
| 3. Scope of the study     | 2 |
| 4. Methods of the study   | 2 |
| 5. Design of the study    | 3 |

### **PART II: DEVELOPMENT**

#### **CHAPTER I: THEORITICAL BACKGROUND**

- |                                                        |   |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---|
| I. INTRODUCTION ON PHONEME, PHONETICS<br>AND PHONOLOGY | 4 |
| 1. Definition of phoneme                               | 4 |
| 2. Definition of phonetics & phonology                 | 4 |
| 3. Difference between phonetics & phonology            | 5 |
| II. THE PRODUCTION OF SPEECH SOUNDS                    | 5 |
| 1. Articulators above the larynx.                      | 5 |

|    |            |    |
|----|------------|----|
| 2. | Vowels     | 7  |
| 3. | Consonants | 13 |

## **CHAPTER II: VARIATIONS OF VOWELS AND CONSONANTS IN SPEECH ENGLISH**

|     |                                        |    |
|-----|----------------------------------------|----|
| I.  | PRINCIPLES OF VOWELS PRONONCIATION     | 17 |
| 1.  | Mono-vowels                            | 17 |
| 2.  | Diphthongs                             | 28 |
| 3.  | Triphthongs                            | 38 |
| II. | PRINCIPLES OF CONSONANTS PRONONCIATION | 39 |
| 1.  | Single consonants                      | 39 |
| 2.  | Double consonants                      | 44 |
| 3.  | Silent consonants                      | 46 |

## **CHAPTER II: FINDINGS AND IMPLICATION**

|     |             |    |
|-----|-------------|----|
| I.  | FINDINGS    | 54 |
| II. | IMPLICATION | 57 |

## **PART III: INCLUSION** **59**

### **REFERENCES**

### **EXERCISES**

## **PART I: INTRODUCTION**

### **1. Rationale of the study**

In order to speak English more exactly, specialists devised an international phonetic symbols for people who want to learn and speak English more easily and more quickly because learning a foreign language is based on the international phonetic alphabet ( IPA) which can help them pronounce and speak English more accurately like truly native speakers. However, today there are so many different systems of the phonetic symbols corresponding to each individual country in the world. For example, Vietnam also has its owned phonetic symbols along with Vietnamese language and voice. In all of those phonetic methods, only the International Phonetic Alphabet is used most conveniently and most popularly.

In fact, according to researched statistics, the majority of English learners in Vietnam who don't often have a using habit of this IPA because they still think that using their personally Vietnamese phonetic symbols is considered the most convenient & most easy way to learn a foreign language. This is truly a big mistake because using their mother tongue's phonetic symbols can't rewrite exactly the words that they hear. For example, when learners want to pronounce the 'MAP' word in English, if they use their Vietnamese phonetic symbols to copy the sound of the 'Map' word they will write it into the 'mép' word in Vietnamese. Actually, native speakers don't speak that word completely the same way as the Vietnamese phonetic symbols like the 'mép' of the 'môm mép' word in Vietnamese. So, learners should speak the 'map' word is the 'ma+ép' or the 'ma+ẹp' according to similarly Vietnamese speaking. Your communication can be a success or a breakdown which can be due to your grammar or vocabulary mistakes but sometimes due to your phonetic ones. Therefore, a study on the sounds of vowels and consonants in English has been one of my big concerns that have become one of the main reasons motivating me to carry out this research.

## **2. Aims of the study**

For the purpose of pointing out the principles of vowels and consonants pronunciation in speech English, my study focuses on:

Introducing theoretical background about phoneme, phonetics & phonology, the production of speech sounds and the study on vowels & consonants in speech English.

Particularly, giving the principles of vowels & consonants pronunciation may make learners try to speak like native speakers in English communication.

Indicating the findings and implication, proposing some suggestions.

Providing some exercises may be very helpful for learners in English pronunciation as well as in English communication today.

## **3. Scope of the study**

A properly English speaking and pronunciation is an extremely large study, including researching for principles of vowels & consonants pronunciation, mentioning to principles of recognizing the word stress or discussing the intonation of a sentence etc... However, due to the limit of time and knowledge, the writer don't have ambition to study all the matters relating to speech English. As mentioned above, in this paper, only study on the sounds of vowels & consonants in English are presented and analyzed. Especially, the writer pays much attention to principles of vowels & consonants pronunciation for learners' English speaking & communication.

## **4. Methods of the study**

To achieve the aims of the study successfully & effectively, in my studying process, I stored knowledge from a lot different kinds of resources specialized in the sounds of vowels & consonants in English. This study is fulfilled due to the information collected from different resources to give the theoretical background

such as introduction about phoneme, phonetics & phonology. Then, an analysis on the production of speech sounds is carried out as pointing out definition, classification & description of the sounds, giving out the principles of the sounds' pronunciation. After that, the implication is referred for a better English speaking & communication. Finally, there come suggestions for further study.

## **5. Design of the study**

My graduation paper consists of 3 main parts of which the second part\_ the development is the most important one.

**Part I:** Introduction, which indicates the rationale, the aims, the scope, the methods & the design of the study.

**Part II:** Development mentions the main content of the study and it is further divided into 3 chapters as below:

**Chapter1:** is called “Theoretical background” in which the introduction on phoneme, phonetics & phonology (definition, difference, importance of them), the production of speech sounds (introduction on articulators above the larynx, vowels & consonants) are presented.

**Chapter2:** namely variations of vowels & consonants in speech English, deals with the 2 following matters: The principles of vowels pronunciation & the principles of consonants pronunciation.

**Chapter3:** Pointing out the findings and implication as well as some suggestions for using the English pronouncing principles in order to gain a better English communication.

**Part III:** Conclusion gives a brief summary of the study and suggestion for further study.

Besides, the writer would like to state herein the appendix in which some exercises of English word pronunciation are presented.

## PART II: DEVELOPMENT

### CHAPTER I: THEORITICAL BACKGROUND

#### I. INTRODUCTION ON PHONEME, PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY

##### 1. Definition of phoneme:

“*Phoneme* \_ the smallest phonetic unit in a language that is capable of conveying a distinction in meaning, as the /m/ of “mat” and the /b/ of “bat” in English”

(Jones: 1950)

“*Phoneme*\_ the smallest sound unit in a language that is capable of conveying a distinct meaning, such as the /s/ of “sing” & the /r/ of “ring” in English”

(Abercrombie: 1967)

“*Phoneme* (linguistics) \_ one of the small set of speech sounds that are distinguished by the speakers of a particular language”.

(Gimson: 1962)

##### 2. Definition of phonetics & phonology:

“*Phonetics*” is the study of sounds (voice). It is concerned with the actual properties of speech sounds (phones) as well as those of non-speech sounds and their production, audition & perception, as opposed to phonology, which operates at the level of sound systems & abstract sound units such as phonemes & distinctive features.

“*Phonetics*” deals with speech sounds themselves, how they are made (articulator phonetics), how they are perceived (auditory phonetics) & the physics involved (acoustic phonetics).

(Abercrombie: 1967)

“*Phonology*” is a subfield of linguistics which studies the sounds systems of a

specific language. Phonology describes the way sounds function within a given language or across languages.

“*Phonology*” deals with how these speech sounds are organized into system for each individual language; for example, how the sounds can be combined, the relations between them, and how they are affected each other.

(Gimson: 1962)

An important part of phonology is studying which sounds are distinctive units within a language and studies how sounds alternate. For example: The /p/ in “pin” is aspirated while the same phoneme in “spin” is not.

### **3. Difference between phonetics & phonology.**

“*Phonetics*” simply describes the articulatory & acoustic properties of phones (speech sounds).

“*Phonology*” studies how sounds interact as a system in a particular language.

In the other ways, “*Phonetics*” studies which sounds are present in a language, “*Phonology*” studies how these sounds combine and how they change in combination, as well as which sounds can contrast to produce differences in meaning or “*Phonology*” describes the phones as allophones of phonemes.

## **II. The production of speech sounds:**

### **1. Articulators above the larynx:**

All the sounds we make when we speak are the result of muscle contracting. We have a large and complex set of muscles that can produce changes in the shape of the vocal tract, and in order to learn how the sounds of speech are produced it is necessary to become familiar with the different parts of the vocal tract. These different parts are called “*articulators*”.

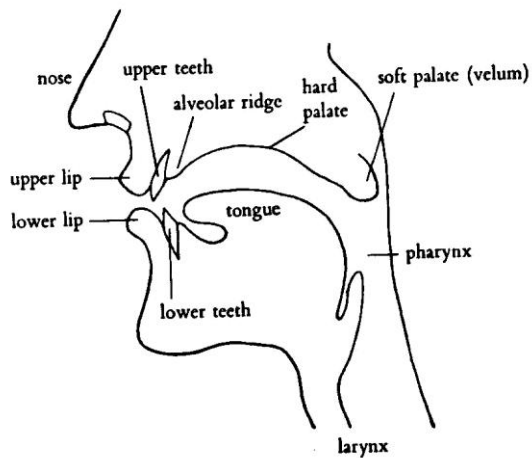


Diagram of articulators above the larynx.

The articulators that can't move are called "*the passive articulator*" (teeth, alveolar ridge...)

The articulators that can move are called "*the active articulators*" (epiglottis, tongue, lips...)

**1.1. The pharynx:** Is a tube which begins just above the larynx. It is about 7 cm long in woman and about 8 cm in men, and at its top end it is divided into 2, one part being the back of the mouth and the other being the beginning of the way through the nasal cavity.

**1.2. The velum or soft palate:** Is a part that allows air to pass through the nose and through the mouth. Yours is probably in that position now, but often in speech it is raised so that air can't escape through the nose.

The other important thing about the velum is that it is one of the articulators that can be touched by the tongue. For example, when we make the sounds /k/ and /g/, the tongue is in contact with the lower side of the velum and we call /k/ and /g/ velar consonants.

**1.3. The hard palate:** Is often called the "roof of the mouth" you can feel its smooth curved surface with your tongue.

**1.4. The alveolar ridge:** Is between the top front teeth and the hard palate you can easily feel its shape with your tongue. Its surface is really much rougher than it feels, and is covered with little ridge. Almost sounds are made with the tongue touching the alveolar ridge. For example: When you make the sounds /t/ and /d/, these sounds are called alveolar consonants.

**1.5. The tongue:** Is a very important articulator and it can be moved into many different places and different parts like tip, blade, front, back, and root of the tongue.

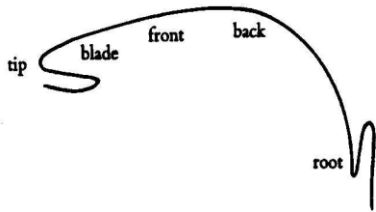


Figure of tongue blade

**1.6. The teeth upper and lower:** Are shown in diagrams. Almost speakers have teeth to the sides of their mouths, back almost to the soft palate. The tongue is in contact with the upper side teeth for many speech sounds made with the tongue touching the front teeth are called dental consonants like: /θ/, /ð/.

**1.7. The lips:** Are important in speech. They can be pressed together when we produce the sounds /p/, /b/, brought into contact with the teeth (as in /f/, /v/) or rounded to produce the lip – shape for vowels like /u:/. Sounds in which the lips are in contact with each other are called bilabial like /p/, /b/, /m/, while those with lip – to – teeth contact are called labiodentals like /f/, /v/.

## 2. Vowels

### 2.1. Definition of Vowels:

#### a. Monophthongs:

Monothongs (short vowels) are sounds in the production of which there is no obstruction to the flow of air as it passes from the larynx to the lips .They are usually pronounced with the vibration of the vocal cord.

### **b. Diphthongs:**

Diphthong is a sound consisting of a movement or a glide from one vowel to another. In terms of length, diphthong is considered as long vowels and the first part in a diphthong is longer than the second.

### **c. Triphthongs.**

A triphthong is a glide from one vowel to another and then to a third, all produced rapidly and without interruption.

## **2.2. Classification of vowels:**

There are **20** vowels in English sound system including **12** pure vowels & **8** diphthongs plus **5** triphthongs.

### **\*Monothongs:**

/i/: sit, kiss

/æ/: cat, bad

/e/: bed, pet

/ʊ/: put, soot

/ə/: hammer, teacher

/ʌ/: cut, shut

/ɒ/: hot, sport

/i:/: seat, see

/u:/ : school, spoon

/a:/: car, father

/ɔ:/ : sport, floor

/ɜ:/ : heard, girl

Monophthongs are classified according to **3 criteria:**

**According to the height of the tongue:**

High vowels: / i:, i , ʊ, u: /

Middle vowels: / e,ɔ, ɜ:, ə/

Low vowels: / æ, ʌ, ɒ,a:/

**According to the front /back of the tongue:**

Front vowels: / i:, i, e, æ/

Central vowels: /ʌ, ɜ:, ə/

Back vowels: /ɒ, u:, ʊ, ɔ:,a:/

**According to the lips rounding:**

Rounded vowels: /ɒ, u:, ʊ, ɔ:/

Unrounded /spread vowels: /ʌ, ɜ:, ə,a/

Neutral vowels:/e,i, i:,æ/

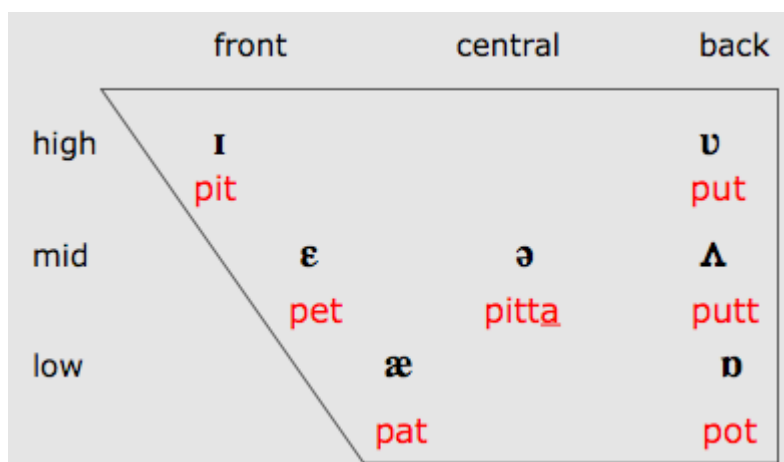


Diagram of vowels classification

**\*Diphthongs:**

/i ə/: beard, fiece

/eə/: aried, scarce

/ʊə/: moored, tour

/ei/ paid, face

/ai/: tide, nice

/ɔi /: void, voice

/əʊ/: load, most/ aʊ/ : loud, house

Diphthongs can be classified into 2 groups: Centring diphthongs (ending in /ə /) include /iə/, /eə/, /ʊə/. Closing diphthongs (ending in /i/) include /ei/, /ai/, /ɔi / (ending in /ʊ/) include /əʊ/ & /aʊ/.

### **\*Triphthongs**

The triphthongs can be looked on as being composed of the five closing diphthongs described above with /ə / added on the end.

Thus, we get: - eiə, aiə, ɔiə, əʊə, aʊə.

## **2.3. Description of vowels:**

### **a. Mono-vowels:**

1. /e/: bet, men, yes ...

-The tongue position is lower and mouth is more open for /e/ (middle vowel), front vowel, spread vowel

2. /æ/ bat, man, gas ...

-The mouth is wide open; the tongue comes forward for /æ/ (low vowel), front vowel, spread vowel.

3. /ʌ/ but, some, rush ...

-The mouth only opens a little for /ʌ/ (low vowel), front vowel, neutral vowel

4. /ɒ/ pot, gone, cross ...

-The mouth opens a lot for /ʊ/ (low vowel), back vowel, rounded vowel

5. /ʊ/ put, full, but ...

-The tongue position is closer to /ʌ/, the mouth only opens a little for /ʊ/ => (high vowel), rounded vowel

6. /i/ bit, pin, fish ...

-The tongue is pulled back and down (high vowel), front vowel, neutral vowel

7. /ə/ about, oppose, perhaps ...

-The mouth only opens a little for /ə/ (middle vowel), central vowel, neutral vowel

8. /i:/ beat, mean, peace ...

-For /i:/ keep pushing the body of the tongue forward and spread the lips (high vowel), front vowel, spread vowel

9. /ɜ:/ bird, fern, purse ...

-The back of the tongue is bunched up & pulled back, the tip of the tongue is slightly raised but never touches the roof of the mouth (middle vowel), central vowel, neutral vowel

10. /ɑ:/ card, half, pass ...

-The tongue comes further back for /ɑ:/ (low vowel), back vowel, neutral vowel

11. /ɔ:/ board, torn, horse ...

-The mouth is more open and the lips are only slightly rounded for /ɔ:/ (middle vowel), back vowel, rounded vowel

12. /u:/ food, soon, loose ...

-Push the tongue high and back and round the lips strongly for /u:/ (high vowel),

back vowel, rounded vowel

## **b. Diphthongs:**

1. /iə/: beard, Iran, fierce ...

The starting point is a little closer than /i/ in 'bit', 'pin'.

2. /eə/: aried, cairn, scarce ...

This diphthong begins with the same vowel sound as the /e/ of 'get'. 'men'.

3. /ʊə/: moored, tour, sure ...

For speakers who have this diphthong, this has a starting point slightly closer than /ʊ/ in 'put', 'pull'.

4. /ei/: save, pain, face ...

The starting point is the same as the /e/ of 'get', 'men'.

5. /ai/: tide, fine, cry ...

This diphthong begins with an open vowel which is between front and back, it is quite similar to the /ʌ/ of the words 'cut', 'bun'

6. /ɔi/: void, loin, noise ...

The first part of this diphthong has the same quality as /ɔ:/ in 'ought', 'born'.

7. /əʊ/: load, home, slow ...

The vowel position for the beginning of this is the same as for the 'schwa' vowel /ə/. The lips may be slightly round in anticipation of the glide towards /ʊ/, for which there is quite noticeable lip- rounding.

8. /aʊ/: loud, gown, flower ...

This diphthong begins with a vowel similar to /a: / since this is an open vowel, glide to /ʊ/ would necessitate a large movement. Usually in English the glide towards /ʊ/ begins but is not completed.

### **3. Consonants.**

#### **3.1: Definition of consonants:**

A consonant is a sound in spoken language that is characterized by a closure or stricture of the vocal tract sufficient to cause audible turbulence. So, a consonant is the sound in the production of which one articulator moves toward another or two articulators come together obstructing the air stream so the air stream can't get out freely.

#### **3.2: Classification of consonants: According to 2 criteria:**

##### **a. Place of articulation:** Including 9 groups:

Bilabial sounds: / p, b, m, w /

Labio – dental sounds: / f, v /

Dental sounds: /θ, ð /

Alveolar sounds: /t, d, l, n, s, z /

Palato – Alveolar sounds: /ʃ, ʒ, tʃ, dʒ/

Velar sounds: / k, ŋ, g/

Glottal sound: / h /

Retroflex sound: / r /

Palatal sound: / j /

##### **b. Manners of articulation:** Including 6 groups:

Stop/plosive sounds: /p-b/, /t-d/, /k-g/

Nasal sounds: /m, n, ŋ/

Fricative sounds: /f-v/, /θ-ð/, /s-z/, /ʃ-ʒ/, /h/

Approxamant: /r, w, j/

Affricative sounds: /tʃ, dʒ/

Lareral sound: /l/

|                        | bilabial |     | labiodental |   | dental |   | alveolar |   | postalveolar | retroflex | palatal | velar | glottal |
|------------------------|----------|-----|-------------|---|--------|---|----------|---|--------------|-----------|---------|-------|---------|
|                        |          |     |             |   |        |   |          |   | r            |           |         |       |         |
| plosive                | p        | b   |             |   |        |   | t        | d |              |           |         | k     | g       |
| nasal                  |          | m   |             |   |        |   |          | n |              |           |         | ŋ     |         |
| fricative              |          |     | f           | v | θ      | ð | s        | z | ʃ            | ʒ         |         |       | h       |
| approximant            |          | (w) |             |   |        |   |          |   |              | r         | j       | (w)   |         |
| lateral<br>approximant |          |     |             |   |        |   |          | l |              |           |         |       |         |
| affricate              |          |     |             |   |        |   |          |   | tʃ           | dʒ        |         |       |         |

**3.3: Description of consonants:** According to 3 criteria:

**\*The place of articulation:**

Bilabials /b, p, m, w/ are the sounds made with 2 lips.

Labio – dentals /f, v/ are the sounds made with the lower lip and the upper front teeth.

Dentals/θ, ð/ are the sounds made with the tip of the tongue and the upper front teeth. The tip of the tongue nearly touches the upper front teeth.

Alveolar /t, d, n, l, s-z/ are the sound made with the tip of the tongue and the alveolar ridge. The tip of the tongue is moved to the alveolar ridge.

Palatal /j/ are the sounds made with the front of the tongue and the hard palate.

Palatal – alveolar/ ʃ, ʒ, tʃ, dʒ / are the sounds made with the palate of the tongue and the back of the alveolar ridge.

Velars/k, g, ŋ/ are the sounds made with the back of the tongue and the soft palate.

Glottal /h/ is made at the epiglottis.

Retroflex /post alveolar /r/ are the sounds made with the tip of the tongue and the back of the alveolar.

**\*The manners of articulations:**

*Stops / plosives:* /p-b/, /t-d/, /k-g/

Stops are the sounds in the production of speech. The air stream is obstructed in the oral cavity. Because of a complete closure of the articulators involved and the soft palate is raised blocking off the nasal cavity so that the air stream escaped strongly causing a plosure.

*Nasals:* /m-n, ŋ/

Nasals are the sounds made with the air stream being obstructed in the oral cavity with the complete closure of the articulators involved but the soft palate is lowered so that the air stream escapes through the nose.

*Fricatives.* /f-v/, /s-z/, /h/, /θ-ð /, /tʃ- dʒ/

Fricatives are produced where two articulators come close together but there is till a small opening between them so that the air stream is partially obstructed and an audible friction noise is produced.

*Affricates:* /tʃ-dʒ/

Affricates are produced when the stop is immediately followed by a fricative which is hormorgnic.

*Laterals.* /l/

Lateral is made when the air stream is being obstructed centrally and the air stream escaped laterally.

*Approximants: /r,w, j/*

Approximants are produced when two articulators nearly touch. The air stream is partially obstructed but not enough to cause friction.

**\*According to their voicing** are classified into **2 types:**

**\*Voiceless** means that the vocal folds don't vibrate during the production of voiceless consonants.

**\*Voiced** means that the vocal folds vibrate during the production of voiced consonants.

Voiceless (Fortis) like: /p, t, k/ etc.

Voiced (Lenis) like: / b, d, g/ etc.

## CHAPTER II: VARIATIONS OF VOWELS AND CONSONANTS IN SPEECH ENGLISH

### I – Principles of vowel pronunciation:

#### 1. MoNo – vowels:

##### 1.1: How to pronounce “A”: “A” is pronounced into /æ/:

a. In case, the words which have only one syllable and end with 1 or more consonants.

Ex: Lad /læd/ = con trai.

Dam /dæm/ = đập ngăn nước

Slang /slæŋ / = tiếng lóng

b. In case, “A” is stressed and is in a syllable of the word which has many syllables and stands before 2 consonants.

Ex: Candle /ˈkændl / = cây nến

Baptize /ˈbæptaiz / = rửa tội

Narrow /ˈnærəu/ = chật hẹp

“A” is pronounced into /ei/:

a. In case, the words which have only one syllable and have an ending way: A + consonant + E.

Ex: Cane /keɪn / = cây gậy

Mate /meɪt / = bạn đồng nghiệp

Gate /geɪt / = cổng

b. In case, “A” is in a syllable of the word standing next to the other syllable which ends with “ – ion” or “ – ian”.

Ex: Nation /'neɪʃən / = quốc gia

Translation /'trænsleɪʃən/ = bài dịch

Liberation /libə'reɪʃən / = sự giải phóng

But: Mansion /'mæɪnʃən/ = lâu đài

Companion /'kəmpæniən / = bạn đồng hành

Italian /'ɪtæliən/ = người Ý

“A” is pronounced into /ɔ:/

a. In case, the words which only have one syllable and end with “ll”.

Ex: All /ɔ:l/ = tất cả

Call /kɔ:l / = kêu gọi

Small /smɔ:l / = nhỏ bé

But: Shall /ʃæl / = phải sẽ

“A” is pronounced into /ɔ:/

a. In case, the words which have one stressed syllable or begin with “w” semi – vowel

Ex: Was /wɔz/ = quá khứ của “to be”

Wand /wɔnd / = đũa thần

Watch /wɔtʃ/ = đồng hồ

But: Way /wei / = con đường

Waste /weist / = hoang phí

Wag /wæg / = ngoe nguẩy

“A” is pronounced into /a:/

In case, the words have one syllable which end with “R” consonant or with “R + another consonant”, or in one syllable of word when “a” stands before “R + another consonant”.

Ex: Bar /ba:/ = thanh dài

Star /sta:/ = ngôi sao

Barn /ba:n/ = vừa thóc

But: Scarce /skɜəs/ = khan hiếm

Half /ha:f / = 1 nửa

Quart /kwɔ:t / = một lít Anh (=1 lít 135)

Sparrow /ˈspærəu/ = chim sẻ

“A” is pronounced into /ɜə/:

In case, the words have “A” standing before “R” consonant.

Ex: Prepare /ˈpripeɪə/ = sửa soạn

Harem /ˈhɜərəm / = khuê phòng

Garish /ˈgɜəriʃ/ = lòe loẹt

But: are /a:/ = động từ to be

“A” is pronounced into /i/:

“A” is pronounced end with “ate” and two syllables – nouns end with “age”.

Ex: Deliberate /diˈlibərit / = đắn đo

Village /ˈvɪlɪdʒ / = làng xã

Cottage /ˈkɒti dʒ / = nhà tranh

Damage /ˈdæmɪdʒ/ = thiệt hại

“A” is pronounced into /ə/:

In case, the syllable of the word isn't stressed.

Ex: Separate /ˈsepəreɪt/ = ngăn cách

Explanation /ekspləˈneɪʃən/ = sự giải thích

National /ˈnæʃən/ = có tính quốc gia

But: magnanimous /mægˈnæniməs/ = quảng đại

Kitchen /ˈkɪtʃən/ or /ˈkɪtʃɪn/ = cái bếp

## 1.2: How to pronounced “E”:

“E” is pronounced into /e /:

In case, the words have only syllable and with 1 or more consonants except for “R”, or in the stressed syllable of the word.

Ex: Bed /bed / = cái giường

Them /ðem / = chúng nó

Member /ˈmembə/ = thành viên

Extend /ɪkˈstend / = mở rộng

But: Her /hə: / = cô ấy

Term /tə: m/ = thời hạn

Interprete /intəˈpri:t / = thông ngôn

“E” is pronounced into /i:/ :

In case, “E” stands before the words like “de”, “ne ”, “te”, “se”...or has the ending method of the word is consonant + e.

Ex: Cede /si:d /= nhượng bộ

Complete /ˈkəmplit /= hoàn toàn

Vietnamese /ˈviɛtnəmi:z /= người Việtnam

“E” is pronounced into /i:/

In case, “E” is in the prefix of the word such as “be”, “de”, “re”, “etc”.

Ex: Begin /ˈbiɡin / = bắt đầu

Behave /beˈhæv/ = cư xử

Remind /riˈmaɪnd/= nhắc nhở

Reorganize /riˈɔ:gənaɪz/ = tổ chức lại

“E” is pronounced into /ə/:

In case, “E” is in the unstressed syllable of the word.

Ex: Silent /ˈsaɪlənt/ = im lặng

Open /ˈoʊpən/ = mở ra

Chicken /ˈtʃɪkən/ = gà con

Punishment /ˈpʌnɪʃmənt/ = sự trừng phạt

### **1.3: How to pronounce “I”**

“I” is pronounced into /ai /:

In case. The words have their ending is i + consonant + e

Ex: Bite /bait / = vết cắn

Site /sait / = địa điểm

Like /laik / = ưa thích

But: To live /liv / = sống

To give /giv/ = cho, ban cho

“I” is pronounced into /i/:

In case, the words have one syllable and end with “ i + consonant “.

Ex: Bit /bit / = miếng nhỏ

Din /din/ = tiếng ồn ào

Twin /twin/ = song sinh

Him /him / = ông ấy

“I” is pronounced into /i:/

In case, “I” is in some words which descend of French

Ex: Machine /məʃi:n / = cái máy

Regime /reiʒi:m/ = chế độ ăn uống

Mandoline /mændəʹli:n / = đàn măng cầm

Routine /ruʹti:n/ = công việc hàng ngày

#### **1.4 How to pronounced “O”.**

“O” is pronounced into /oʊ/:

a. In case, “O” stands at the word.

Ex: No /noʊ / = không

So /soʊ/ = bởi vậy

Mosquito /mə'skitʊ/ = con muỗi

Dynamo /'daɪnəmoʊ/ = bộ phận phát điện

But: to do /tu du:/ = làm

b. In cases, the words which have only one syllable or end with 2 consonants or with “consonant +e”, and in the stressed syllable of the words which have more syllables.

Ex: Comb /koʊm/ = cái lược

Cold /koʊld / = lạnh

Mobile /'moʊbail/ = lưu động

Moment /'moʊmənt/ = 1 lát

Monage /'moʊnidʒ/ = tuổi vị thành niên

But: Bomb /bɔm / = trái bom

Fond /fɔnt / = ưa thích

Soft /sɔft/ = mềm

“O” is pronounced into /ɔ:/:

In case, “O” stands before “R” + consonant.

Ex: Born /bɔ:n/ = sinh ra

Horn [hɔ:n ] = cái sừng

North /nɔ: θ / = phương Bắc

Corner /'kɔ:nə/ = góc phố

Portrait /'pɔ:treit / = chân dung

“O” is pronounced into /ɔ:/

In case, the words have only one syllable with a consonant ending and in the stressed syllable of the words which have many syllable.

Ex:Cod/kɔd/ = cá thu

Sob/sɔb/=khóc nước nỡ

Coffee/'kɔfi/= cà phê

Opposite /ɔ'pəzɪt]= trái ngược

“O” is pronounced into /ʌ/:

In case, the words have only one syllable and in the stressed syllable of the more syllable words.

Ex:Come/kʌm/= đến

Done/dʌn/= đã xong

Monkey/'mʌnki/=con khỉ

Company/'kʌmpəni/ =công ty

Honey/'hʌni/=mật ong

“O” is pronounced into /u:/:In the following words.

Ex: Do/du:/=làm

Move/mu:v/=chuyển động

Prove/pru:v/=chứng minh

Tomb/tu:m/=phần mộ

“O” is pronounced into /ə/:

In case, “O” is in the unstressed syllable of the word which has many syllables.

Ex: Atom/‘ætəm/=nguyên tử

Bosom/‘buzəm/=tâm trí

Compare/kəm‘pɜ:/=so sánh

Control /kən‘trɒl/=kiểm soát

### **1.5 How to pronounce “U”.**

“U” is often pronounced into /u:/

Ex: Bush/buʃ/= bụi cây

Full/ful/= đầy

Push /puʃ/= đẩy

Bullet/‘bʌlt/=viên đạn

“U” is pronounced into /u: /

Ex: Blue/blu:/=màu xanh da trời

Brute/bru:t/=người thô bạo

Lunar/‘lu:nə/=thuộc mặt trăng

Salute/sə‘lu:t/=sự chào mừng

“U” is pronounced into /ju:/

Ex: Mute /mju:t/=câm

Cucumber /'kju:kəmbə/=dưa chuột

Immune /im'ju:t/=miễn dịch

Commune /kə'mju:t/=đàm luận

“U” is pronounced into /jʊə/:

In case, the words in which include u +r+ vowel

Ex: Cure /kjʊə/=phương pháp cứu chữa

Pure /pjʊə/=thuần khiết

Furious /'fjʊəriəs/=giận dữ

Curious /'kjʊəriəs /=tò mò

But: Sure /ʃʊə/=chắc chắn

“U” is pronounce into /ə:/:

In case, the words which have only one syllable and end with U+ R in the words which have U+ R+ consonant.

Ex: Blur /blə:/=làm lu mờ

Burn/bə:n/=đốt cháy

Nurse/nə:s/=y tá

Burglar/'bə:glə/=tên trộm

Thursday/'θə:sdei]/=thứ 5

“U” is pronounced into /ʌ/:

In case, the words which have their prefix like “un-“, “um-“and in some popular words.

Ex: But/bʌt/=nhưng

Cup/kʌp/=cái tách

Skull/skʌl/=xương sọ

Uneasy/ʌnˈi:zi/=bối rối

Umbrella/ʌmˈbrelə/=cái ô

### **1.6: How to pronounce “Y”.**

a. “Y”. is pronounced into /ai/:

In case, the words have only one syllable or is in the stressed syllable of the word.

Ex: Cry./krai/=khóc

Type/taip/=loại

Typhoid/ˈtaifɔɪd/=bệnh thương hàn

But: Hym /him/=quốc ca

Mystic/ˈmistɪk/=huyền bí

Typical/ˈtɪpɪkl/=tiêu biểu

Pyramid/ˈpɪrəˌmɪd/=kim tự tháp

b.”y” is pronounced into /i/

In case, “y” is in the stressed syllable of the word.

Ex: Copy /kɒpi/=sao chép

Candy/ˈkændi/=kẹo ngọt

Gravy/ˈgreɪvi/=nước sốt thịt

Quality/ˈkwɒləti/=phẩm chất

But: Beautify /ˈbju:tɪfaɪ/= làm cho đẹp

Pacify /ˈpæsɪfaɪ/=bình định an ninh

Nullify/ˈnʌlɪfaɪ/=phê bỏ

## **2. Diphthongs( long vowels)**

### **2.1 How to pronounce “AI-AU-AW-AY”.**

“AI” is pronounced into /eɪ/ when it stands before any consonants except for “R” letter.

Ex: Hail/heɪl/=chào mừng

Nail/neɪl/=móng tay

Wait/weɪt/=chờ đợi

Faint/feɪnt/=ngất xỉu

“AI” is pronounced into /ə/when it comes before “R” letter.

Ex: Air/ə/=không khí

Fair/fə/= đẹp

Chair/tʃə/=cái ghế

Laird/lərd/= điền chủ

“AU” is almost pronounced into /ɔ:/ in the words which consists of “au”.

Ex:Fault/fɔ:lt/= lỗi lầm

Haunt/hɔ̃nt/= ám ảnh

Audience/ˈɔ:diəns/=thính giả

“AU” is pronounced into /a:/ in some words which have “au”.

Ex: Aunt/a:nt/=cô, dì

Laugh/la:f/=cười

Draught/dra:ft/=sự kéo

“AW” is often pronounced into /ɔ: /in words which have “AW”

“law /lɔ:/= luật pháp

Crawl/krɔ:l/=bò lê

Awful/ˈɔ:ful/=khủng khiếp

“AY” is usually pronounced into .ei/ in all the words which have “AY”.

Ex: Clay/klei/= đất sét

Day/dei/=ngày

Hay/hei/= cỏ khô

But: Quay/ki:/=bến tàu

Mayor/mɛə/= ông thị trưởng

Papaya/pəˈpaijə/=trái đu đủ

## **2.2 How to pronounce “EA- EE-EI-EX-EY”.**

A. “EA” is often pronounced into:

/e/ Ex: Head/hed/ = cái đầu

Breakfast/ˈbreksfəst/=bữa sáng

Steady/ˈstedi/=vững chắc

Jealous /ˈjeləs/=hay ghen

Meadow/ˈmedou/=cánh đồng

/i:/ Ex: East/i:st/=phương đông

Easy/i:zi/=dễ dàng

Heat/hi:t/= hơi nóng

Breathe/ˈbri: θ/=thở

/ə:/ Ex: Learn/lə:n/=học

Earth/ə: θ/=trái đất

Dearth/də:θ/= nạn đói

But: Search /sə:tʃ/= tìm kiếm

Ocean /ˈouʃən/= đại dương

/ʒə/ Ex: Bear/bʒə/=con gấu

Tear/tʒə/ = xé rách

Bearish/ˈbʒəriʃ/=hay gắt

Swear/swʒə/=lời thề

/iə/ Ex: Tear/tiə/=nước mắt

Rear /riə/=phía sau

Dreary/ˈdiəri/=buồn tẻ

Beard /biəd/=râu

/ei/ Ex: Great/greit/=to lớn

Break/break/=làm vỡ

Steak/steik/=miếng mỏng

Breaker/ˈbreikə/=song bạc đầu

b: “EE” is pronounced into /i:/ in the following words:

Ex: See/si:/= trông thấy

Free/fri:/= tự do

Screen/skri:n/=màn ảnh

“EE” is pronounced into /iə/ when it stands before “R” at the end of the word.

Ex: Beer /biə/=rượu bia

Cheer/tʃiə/=sự vui vẻ

Deer/diə/=con nai

Engineer /ˈendʒiə/=kỹ sư

c. “EI” is often pronounced into:

/i:/ Ex: Seize /si:z/=túm lấy

Ceiling /ˈsi:liŋ/ =trần nhà

Conceive/kənˈsi:v/=quan niệm

Deceive/diˈsi:v/= đánh lừa

/ei/ Ex: Eight /eit/= số 8

Weight /weit/=trọng lượng

Deign/dein/=chiếu cố

Freight/freit/=hàng hoá

Sleight/slei/=xe trượt tuyết

/ai/ Ex: Either/‘aiðə/ or /i:ðə/ =cái này hay cái kia

Neither/‘naiðə/ or /ni:ðə/ =không cái nào cả

Sleight=/lait/= sự khôn khéo

Height/hait/=chiều cao

/ʒə/ Ex: Heir/hʒə/=người thừa kế

Their/ðʒə/=của họ

/e/ Ex: Leisure /‘leʒə/= sự nhàn rỗi

Heifer/‘hefə/=bò nái

d.”EX” is pronounced into /eks/ when it is the first syllable of the word which is stressed on.

Ex: Exercise/‘eksəsaiz/=bài tập

Exorcise /‘eksɔ:saiz/=trừ tà ma

Execute/‘eksikju:t]=thực thi

Expert/‘ekspə:t/=chuyên viên

“EX” is pronounced into /iks/ when it is the unstressed syllable of the word and stands before a consonant.

Ex: Exclusive/iks‘klusiv/= độc quyền

Extensive /iks‘tensiv/=rộng lớn

Experience/iks‘piəriəns]=kinh nghiệm

“EX” is pronounced into /igz/when it is the unstressed syllable of the word and stands in front of a vowel or “h” letter.

Ex: Examine/ig‘zæmin/=quan sát

Exaggerate /igˈzæɡəreɪt/=phóng đại

Existence /igˈzɪstənt/=sự sống

e. “EY” is often pronounced into:

/ei/ Ex: Prey /prei/=con mồi

Grey/grei/= xám

Obey/ˈoubei/=vâng lời

/i:/ or /i/ Ex: Money/ˈmʌ ni/= tiền bạc

Attorney/ˈætəni/=luật sư

Key /ki:/=chìa khoá

### **2.3 How to pronounce “IE”.**

“IE” is pronounced into [i:] when it is in the middle vowels of the word.

Ex: Grief/gri:f/=mối lo phiền

Chief/tʃi:f/=người đứng đầu

Believe /biˈli:v/=tin tưởng

Grievance/ˈgri:vəns/ = nỗi cơ cực

“IE” is pronounced into /ai/ when it is last vowels of the word which only has a syllable.

Ex: Die/dai/= con súc sắc

Lie/pai/= nói dối

Tie/tai/= cà vạt

### **2.4 How to pronounce “OA- OO- OU- OW”.**

a. “OA” is often pronounced into:

/ou/ in the one syllable word ends with one or double consonants.

Ex:Coax/koukx/= nịnh hót

Goat/gout/=con dê

Loan/loun/= cho vay

But:Broad/brɔ:d/= rộng rãi

/ɔ:/ when it stands in front of “R” letter.

Ex:Oar/ɔ:/=mái chèo

Soar/sɔ:/=bay vút

Hoard/hɔ:/=tích trữ

b. “OO” is often pronounced into /ʊ/ or /u:/ in the following words.

Ex:Book/bʊk/=quyển sách

Brook/brʊk/=dòng suối nhỏ

Look/lʊk/=nhìn trông

Cool/ku:l/=mát mẻ

Booby/ˈbu:bi/=người đàn độn

Bamboo/bæmˈbu:/=cây tre

But: Blood/blʌd/=máu

Flood/flʌd/= nước lụt

“OO” is pronounced into /ʊə/ in the words which have their “R” ending .

Ex: Boor/bʊə/=người quê mùa

Moor/mʊə/= đất hoang

Poor/pʊə/=nghèo

Spoor/spʊə/=dấu chân thú

But:Door/dɔː/=cửa ra vào

Floor/flɔː/= sàn nhà

c. "OU" is often pronounced into:

/aʊ/ in the following words:

Ex:Bound /baʊnd/=giới hạn

Cloud /klaʊd/=mây

Doubt/d aʊt/=sự nghi ngờ

Mouth /maʊθ/=miệngMountain/m aʊtɪn/=núi non

/aʊə/

Ex:Our /aʊə/= của chúng tôi

Hour /aʊə/=giờ

Flour/fl aʊə/=bột mì

Sour/s aʊə/=chua

/ʊə/ Ex: tour /tʊə/ = chuyển đi

Tourney /'tʊəni/ = cuộc đấu thương trên ngựa

Gourmand /'gʊəmənd/ = người sành ăn

/ɔ:/ Ex: four /fɔ:/ = số 4

Pour /pɔ:/ = đổ ra

Fought /fɔ:t/ = đã chiến đấu

Nought /nɔ:t/ = số 0

Ought /ɔ:t/ = phải nên

/ou/ Ex: Dough /dou/ = tiền bạc

Mould /mould/ = cái khuôn

Soul /soʊl/ = linh hồn

Shoulder /ʃouldə/ = vai

/ʌ/ Ex: Rough /rʌf/ = gồ ghề

Touch /tʌtʃ/ = chạm

Enough /'inʌf/ = đủ

Flourish /'flʌrɪʃ/ = phát đạt

Country /'kʌntri/ = quốc gia

/ʊ/ or /u:/ Ex: Could /kud/ = có thể

Would/wud/=sẽ

Croup/kru:p/= bệnh đau cổ họng

Troupe/tru:p/= gánh hát

Douche/du:ʃ/= vòi hoa sen

d. “OW” is pronounced into:

/aʊ/ Ex: Vow/vaʊ/= lời thề

Plow/plaʊ/= cái cày

Fowl/faʊl/=chim , gà, vịt

Coward/ˈkaʊəd/=hèn nhát

Drown /draʊn/=chết đuối

/ou/ Ex: Low/lou/=hạ thấp

Sow/sou/=reo

Crow/krou/=con quạ

Narrow/ˈnærou/= chật hẹp

## **2.5 How to pronounce “UI”.**

a.”UI” is pronounced into [ai] in the words which have “UI”. + consonant+ E”.

Ex: Guide/gaid/=sự hướng dẫn

Guile/gail/=sự xảo trá

Quite/kwait/=hoàn toàn

Require/ˈrekwaiə/=đòi hỏi

But: Quite/kwaiət/= yên tĩnh

b. "UI" is also pronounced into /i/ in the following words.

Ex: Build/bild/= xây dựng

Guinea/ˈɡini/= đồng tiền Anh (21 shilling)

Guitar/gita: /= đàn ghita

But: Mosquito/mɒːsˈkiːtu/= con muỗi

c. "UI" is pronounced into [ju:].

Ex: Suitable/ˈsju:təbl/= thích hợp

Pursuit/pəˈsju:t/= sự theo đuổi

Tuition/ˈtjuːʃn/= dạy học

d. "UI" is pronounced into [u:].

Ex: Bruise/bru:s/= vết thâm tím

Fruit/fru:t/= trái cây

Cruiser/ˈkru:sə/= tuần dương hạm

Ruin/ˈru:in/= sự đổ nát

### **3. Triphthongs (/aʊə/, /oiə/, /aiə/, /eiə/, /əʊə/)**

There is a general principle to pronounce a triphthong that is to pronounce a triphthong in English we need to have a glide from one vowel (first vowel) to another (second one) and then to a third, all are produced rapidly and without interruption.

Ex: Flower/ˈflaʊə/= bông hoa

Employer/imˈploiə/= người chủ thuê

Crier/ˈkraiə/= anh mõ

Sayer/ˈseɪə/=người nói

Lower/ˈləʊə/=thấp hơn

## **II- Principles of consonants pronunciation.**

### **1.Single consonants:**

#### **1.1 How to pronounce “C”.**

a. “C” is pronounced into {s} when it stands before “e”, “i”, & “y”

Ex:Cement/siˈment/=xi măng

Century/ˈsentʃuri/=thế kỉ

Circle/ˈsəkl/=vòng tròn

Cynic/ˈsinik/=người bi quan

But:Soccer/ˈsɒkə/=bóng đá

Sceptic/ˈseptik/=hoài nghi

b.”C” is pronounced into [k] when it stands in front of “a-o-u” and “-r”.

Ex:Cage/keɪdʒ/=cái lồng

Cake/keɪk/=bánh ngọt

Combat/ˈkʌmbət/=cuộc chiến đấu

Custom/ˈkʌstəm/=phong tục

Class/kla:s/=lớp học

Crowd/kraʊd/=đám đông

Crude/kru:d/=thô sơ

c.”C” is pronounced into [ʃ] when it stands before “ia-ie-io-iu”

Ex: Official/ə'fiʃl /= chính thức

Ancient/ˈeiʃnt/=cổ

Conscious/ˈkɒnʃəs/= hiểu biết

Spacious/ˈspeɪʃəs /= rộng rãi

Confucious/kən'fju:ʃəs /= đức không tử

But: Ocean/ˈouʃən/= đại dương

## 1.2 How to pronounce “G”.

“G” is pronounced into [g] when it is in front of “a-o-u”.

Ex: Garbage/ˈga:bi dʒ/= nhà để xe

Luggage/ˈlæɡɪdʒ/= hành lý

But: Goat/ dʒeɪl/= nhà tú

b. “G” is pronounced into [dg] when it stands before “e-i-y” and it is in the “ge” at the end of the word.

Ex:

Gem/ dʒem/= ngọc thạch

Germ/ dʒə:m/=vi trùng

Ginger/ˈdʒɪn dʒə/=gừng

Gigolo/ dʒɪ'goulou/=ma cô

But: Get/get/= có

Giggle/ˈgɪɡl//= cười khúc khích

Geisha/ˈgeɪʃə/= vũ nữ Nhật Bản

Geese/ɡiːs/= con ngỗng( số nhiều)

### 1.3 How to pronounce “S”

a. “S” is pronounced into [s]

\* when it is at the beginning of the word.

Ex: Sad/sæd/= buồn rầu

Sing/sɪŋ/= hát

Speaker/ˈspiːkə/= diễn giả

But: Sure/ʃʊə/= chắc chắn

Sugar/ˈsʊɡə/= đường ăn

\*when it is contained in one word and it isn't stayed between 2 vowels.

Ex: Haste/heɪst/= vội vàng

Describe/dɪsˈkraɪb/= mô tả

Insult/ɪnˈsʌlt/= lăng mạ

But: Cosmic/ˈkɒzmɪk/= thuộc về mặt trời

Cosmopolitan/kɒzməˈpɒlɪtən/= có tính quốc tế

Dessert/diˈzɜːt/= món tráng miệng

Scissors/ˈsɪzəz/= cái kéo

\*when it is at the end of word and stands behind “f-k-p-t-gh”.

Ex: Stuffs/stʌfs/= vật liệu

Books/buks/= những quyển sách

Coughs/kɔfs/= tiếng ho

Laughs/laf/= tiếng cười

b. “S” is pronounced into [z]:

\*when it is in the inside of word and stands between 2 vowels except for “u-ia-io” vowels.

Ex: Nose/nouz/= cái mũi

Noise/noiz/= tiếng ồn

Season/‘si:zn/=mùa

Result/ri‘zʌlt/=kết quả

But:Base/beis/=nền tảng

Case/keis/= trường hợp

Basin/‘beisn/= chậu rửa mặt

Loose/lu:s/= nói ra

\*when it is in the end of the syllable and is behind a vowel ( except for “u”) or is behind a consonant ( except for “f-k-p-t-gh”)

Ex: As/æz/= như là, bởi vì

Is/iz/= thì hiện tại của tobe

Coins/koinz/= đồng tiền xu

Windows/‘windouz/=cửa sổ

But:Us/ʌs/= chúng tôi

Bus/bʌs/= xe buýt

Isthmus/ˈisməs/= eo đất

Christmas/ˈkristməs/= lễ giáng sinh

c. "S" is pronounced into [z] when it goes behind a vowel and stand before "u-ia=io".

Ex: Usual/ˈjuː ʒəl/= thông thường

Pleasure/ˈpleʒə/= sự vui vẻ

Measure /ˈmeʒə/= sự đo lường

Asia/ˈeɪdiəʒə/= Châu Á

Invasion/inˈveɪʒən/= sự xâm chiếm

d. "S" is pronounced into [s] when it is behind a consonant and is before "u-ia-io".

Ex: Ensure/inˈʃuə/= đảm bảo

Insure/ˈɪnʃə/= bảo hiểm

Pressure/ˈpreʃə/= sức ép

Mission/ˈmɪʃən/= sứ mệnh

Tension/ˈtenʃən/= sự căng thẳng

#### **1.4 How to pronounce "T".**

a. "T" is often pronounced into [t] in almost the popular words.

Ex: Take/teɪk/= cầm lấy

Talk/tɔːlk/= nói chuyện

Talented/ˈtæləntɪd/= có tài

Altitude/‘æltitju:d/= độ cao

b.”T” is pronounced into [t] when it is in the inside of the word and stands before “ia-io”.

Ex:Militia/‘miliʃə/= dân quân

Initial/‘iniʃl/= phần đầu

Potential/‘pətenʃl/= tiềm năng

Patio/‘peɪʃou/= sân sau

But:Celestial/‘silestiəl/= thuộc mặt trời

Question/‘kwesʃən/= câu hỏi

c.”T” is pronounced into [t] when it is in the inside of the word and goes before “ur + vowel”.

Ex:Century/‘sentʃuri/= thế kỉ

Natural/‘nætʃərə/= bản chất

Culture/‘kʌltʃə/= văn hoá

Picture/‘pɪktʃə/= bức tranh

But:Rightious/‘raɪʃəs/= đúng đắn

## **2. Double consonants:**

### **2.1 How to pronounce “CH”.**

a. “CH” is often pronounced into [tʃ] in almost popular words.

Ex:Chalk/tʃɔ:k =phấn viết

Cheer/tʃiə/= hoan hô

Chat/tʃæt/= tán gẫu

Choose/tu:zʃ/= lựa chọn

“CH” is also pronounced into [k] in some particular words.

Ex: Chaos/keiəs/= sự rối loạn

Chord/kɔ:d/= dây cung

Choir/kɔiə/= bản hợp ca

Scheme/ski:m/= kế hoạch

Chemistry/ˈkemistri/= hoá học

Monarchy/ˈmɒnəki/= nước quân chủ chuyên chế

Cholera/ˈkɒlərə/= bệnh dịch tả

c.”CH” is pronounced into /ʃ/ in the words which come from French literature.

Ex: Chic/ʃik/= hợp mốt

Chute/ʃu:t/= thác nước

Machine/ˈməʃin/= máy móc

Charlatan/ˈʃa:lətən/= thầy lang băm

## **2.2 How to pronounce “SH”.**

“SH” is always pronounced into /ʃ/ in all cases.

Ex: Shake/ʃeɪk/= lắc, rũ

Shall/ʃæl/= sẽ, phải

Sharp/ʃa:p/= sắc

Shop/ʃɒp/= cửa tiệm

Mushroom/ˈmʌʃrʊm/= nấm

## 2.3 How to pronounce “TH”

“TH” is pronounced into /ð/

Ex: This, these /ðɪs, ði:z/ = cái này, những cái này

Though/ðəu/= dẫu cho

Gather/ˈgæðə/= tụ họp

Weather/ˈweðə/= thời tiết

Clothes/ˈkləʊðz/= quần áo

“TH” is pronounced into /θ/.

Ex: Think/θɪŋk/= suy nghĩ

Thirty/ˈθə:ti/= ba mươi

Through/θru:/= xuyên qua

Length/leŋθ/= chiều dài

## 3. Silent consonants:

### 3.1 Silent B

“B” is a silent letter if it is before “T” and is behind “M”

Ex: Debt/det/= món nợ

Subtle/ˈsʌtl/= tinh vi

Numb/nʌm/= tê cóng

Limb/lim/= chân tay

Thumb/θʌm/= ngón tay cái

### **3.2 Silent G.**

“G” is a silent letter if “G” is in the beginning of the word and it is before “N”.

Ex:Gnarl/na:l/= mắu

Gnash/næʃ/= nghiêng răng

Gnaw/nɔ:/= động vật gặm nhấm

Gnu/nu:/= linh dương đầu bò

“G” isn’t pronounced if it is at the end of the word and it is before “M” ,”N”.

Ex:Sign/sain/= kí tên

Campaign/ˈkæmpeɪn/= chiến dịch

Foreign/ˈfɔrɪn/= nước ngoài

Diaphragm/ˈdaɪəfræm/= màng nhĩ

### **3.3 Silent GH.**

“GH” isn’t pronounced if it is at the end of the word or it is front of “T”.

Ex:Nigh/nai/= gần

Night/nait/= đêm

Sign/sai/= thờ dài

Flight/flait/= chuyển bay

### 3.4 Silent H

“H” is a silent letter when it is at the initial of the word and it is behind “G”.

Ex: Ghetto/getou/= khu người do thái

Ghost/goust/= bóng ma

Ghoul/gu:l/= ma cà rồng

“H” is also not pronounced when it is in the first of the word and it is behind “R”.

Ex: Rhetoric/‘retərik/= thuật hùng biện

Rhinoceros/‘rainəsərəs/= con tê giác

Rhyme/raim/= vần thơ

Rythm/riðm/= nhịp điệu

“H” isn’t pronounced when it is in the beginning of the word and is behind “EX”.

Ex: Exhaust/ig‘zɔ:st/= mệt lử

Exhibit/ig‘zibit/= triển lãm

Exhilarant/ig‘zilərənt/= điều vui vẻ

Exhauster/ig‘zɔ:stə/= máy hút gió

“H” isn’t pronounced when it stands at the end of the word.

Ex: Ah/a:/= ôi chao

Verandah/və‘rændə/= hàng hiên

Besides, “H” isn’t pronounced in some following words:

Ex: Heir/3ə/= người thừa kế

Heirdom/‘3ədəm/= tình trạng kế thừa

Heirship /ˈɜːʃɪp/= tư cách kế thừa

### 3.5 Silent K.

“K” is n’t pronounced when it is in the beginning of the word and before “N”.

Ex:Knee/niː/= đầu gối

Knit/nɪt/= đan

Know/nou/= biết

Knock/nɒk/= cú đá

### 3.6 Silent L.

“L” is pronounced when it is after “A”, before “F”, ”K” or “M”.

Ex:Walk/wɔːk/= đi dạo

Calm/kæm/= yên tĩnh

Almond/ˈɑːmənd/= quả hạnh

Alms- house/ˈɑːmz həʊs/= nhà tế bào

“L” is also not pronounced when it is before “D”.

Ex:Could/kud/= quá khứ của can

Should/ʃud/= quá khứ của shall

Would/wud/= quá khứ của will

### 3.7 Silent M.

“M” isn’t pronounced when it is before “N” and is in the beginning of the word.

Ex:Mnemonic/niˈmɒnik/= giúp trí nhớ

Mnemonics/niˈmɒniks/= thuật nhớ

### 3.8 Silent N.

“N” isn’t pronounced, when it is after “M” and is at the beginning of the word.

Ex:Autumn/‘ɔ:təm/= mùa thu

Condemn/ kən‘dem/= kết án

Column/‘kɒləm/= cột báo

### 3.9 Silent P.

“P” isn’t pronounced when it is in the first of the word and is before “N”.

Ex:Pneumatic/‘nju:mætik/= thuộc khí

Pneumatics/‘nju:mætiks/= khí lực học

Pneumonic/‘nju:mounik/= thuộc viên phổi

“P” isn’t pronounced,when it stands in front of “S”.

Ex:Psalm/sa:m/= bài thánh ca

Psyche/‘saiki:/= linh hồn

Psychology/sai‘kɒlədʒi/= tâm lí học

“P” isn’t pronounced when it is before “T”

Ex:Receipt/ri‘si:t/= tờ biên lai

Empty/‘emti/= trống rỗng

Ptisan/ ti‘zæn/= nước gạo rang

### 3.10 Silent S

“S” isn’t pronounced in the following words:

Ex:Corps/kɔ:p/= quân đoàn

Island/ˈaɪlənd/= hòn đảo

Aisle/ail/= cánh bên

### **3.11 Silent T**

“T” isn’t pronounced when it is formed into “STEN” at the end of the word.

Ex:Fasten/ˈfɑːsn/= buộc chặt

Hasten/ˈheɪsn/= thúc giục

Listen/ˈlɪsn/= nghe

“T” isn’t pronounced when it is also formed into “STL” at the end of the word.

Ex:Castle/ˈkɑːsl/= lâu đài

Apostle/əˈpɒsl/= sứ đồ

Whistle/ˈhwɪsl/= huýt sáo

“T” isn’t pronounced in the 2 following words:

Ex:Christmas/ˈkrɪsməs/= lễ giáng sinh

Often/ˈɒfn/= thường xuyên

### **3.12 Silent U**

“U” isn’t pronounced when it is before “A”, “E”, “I” or “Y” and after “G”.

Ex:Guard/gɑːd/= canh gác

Guarantee/ˈgærəntiː/=bảo đảm

Conquer/ˈkɒŋkə/= chinh phục

League/lig/= đồng minh

Epilogue/ˈepɪlɒg/= sự kết thúc

Guilty/ˈgɪlti/= có tội

Circuit/ˈsəkit/= chu vi

Guerilla/ˈgərilə/= di kích

### **3.13 Silent I**

“I” is n’t pronounced when it is after “U”.

Ex: Juice/dʒu:s/= nước ép trái cây

Suit/su:t/= bộ quần áo

Bruise/bru:z/= làm thâm tím

### **3.14 Silent W**

“W” isn’t pronounced when it is before “R” & is at the beginning of the word.

Ex: Wrap/ræp/= khăn choàng

Wreck/rek/= làm hỏng

Write/raɪt/= viết

Wrinkle/ˈrɪŋkl/= vết nhăn

“W” isn’t pronounced in the following words:

Ex: Answer/ˈɑ:nsə/= trả lời

Sword/swɔ:d/= gươm

Whole/houl/= toàn thể

Awe/ɔ:/= làm sợ hãi

Awn/ɔ:n/= râu ở đầu hạt thóc

### 3.15 Silent R

“R” is n’t pronounced when it is between a vowel & a consonant.

Ex: Arm/a:m/= cánh tay

Farm/fa:m/= nông trại

Dark/da:k/= tối

## CHAPTER III: FINDINGS AND IMPLICATION

### 1. FINDINGS

#### 1.1 *Some findings on spelling some vowels in English.*

##### *Vowel /I/*

/i:/ is one of the most common vowel in English. It is usually spelled <i> + consonant (followed by one or more consonant) In stressed syllables of academic words it may be spelled <y> + consonant.

Ex: <i>: sit, this, pick

<y>: syllables, system, physics

##### *Vowel /i:/*

/i:/ is usually spelled <ee>, <ea>, <e> alone (followed by a consonant and silent <e>). In unstressed syllables at the end of a word, it is often spelled <y> or <ey>.

Ex: <ee> : see, week, cheese

<ea>: tea, each, leave

<e>: we, these, complete

<y> : baby, happy, money

Sometimes /i:/ is spelled <ie> or less commonly <ei>

Ex: <ie>: believe, piece, field

<ei> : receive, ceiling, leisure

Like all vowels /i/ is longer when it is followed by a voiced consonant such as /b/, /d/, /g/, /v/, /z/, /d/ than by a voiceless consonant.

Ex: /i/ becomes short

They always hit them

I know they are rich

Ex: /i/ *becomes longer*

They always hid them

I know their ridge

*Vowel /æ/*

In many American accents, particularly in East Coast cities, /æ/ sounds more like /ɜə/ or /eə/ before certain consonants. This occurs in some very common words such as: ham, man, can't, bad, class...

*Vowel /ə/*

/ə/ (schwa) is one of the most common vowels in English. In stressed syllables, it is usually spelled <u> + consonant(s) but in some very common words it may be spelled <o> + consonant, <o> + consonant + e or <oo> + consonant.

Ex: <u> : but, jump, study

<o>: won, some, of

<ou> : young, country, cousin

In unstressed syllables, /ə/ may be spelled <a> , <o>, <e> or <u> . It can also have other spellings since many vowels in unstressed syllables are reduced to /ə/.

Ex: <a>: about, agree, America

<o>: occur, today, photograph

<e>: violent, believe, problem

<u>: instrument, unhappy, success

Vowel /ʊ/ & /u:/

/ʊ/ is only found in a relatively small number of words. It is spelled <u> + consonant(s) or <oo> + consonant.

Ex: <u>: put, push, full

<oo> : good, foot, book

/ʊ/ is spelled <oul> in 3 very common words (<l> is silent).

Ex: could, would, should

/u:/ is spelled <ou> , <ew> , <o> alone or <o> + consonant + e.

Ex: <ou>: you, soup, group

<ew> : new, threw, sewer

<o>: do, who, lose, move

## *1.2 Some findings on spelling some consonants in English.*

### *Simplification of consonant group:*

We are already learned that some groups of 3 consonants at the end of words can be simplified by omitting the middle consonant.

Ex: handsome, sandwich, government, raspberry

In fast speech, final /t/ & /d/ are often very reduced or omitted in groups of 3 (or more) consonants across common boundaries. This is especially common in words whose base form ends in /d/ or /t/ but sometimes even the /ed/ending.

Ex: Left, told, keep, worst, first, next, milked, filmed...

### *Omission of /t/ after /n/.*

In fast speech, /t/ is often omitted after /n/ in unstressed syllables of common words & place names. This is especially common in Canada & the mid west.

Ex: twenty, plenty, quality, advantage, county...

*Palatalization across word boundaries :*

Palatalization occurs when /s/, /z/, /t/, /d/ combines with a following /i:/ or /y/ to produce /ʃ/, /ʒ/, /tʃ/ or /dʒ/

Ex: /s+ʃ/= > ʃ

/z+ʃ=>ʃ

A nice shop

pleasure show (me)

In fast speech , palatalization occurs across boundaries within phrases, particularly with auxiliary verbs & the common words “you” & “your” sounds the same as “seizure” , “ate your” sounds like “nature”, “made your” sounds like “major” etc.

## 2. IMPLICATION

Learning a new foreign language needs a lot of time and good method because it is not easy for anyone to learn. Moreover, English Alphabets & Vietnamese's are also not the same. So, this causes quite a lot of difficulties for learners in the studying process. In fact, some vowels and consonants in English are completely different from them in Vietnamese both their spelling and writing .For example, vowels like /æ/, /i:/, /ʊ/ etc or consonants like /θ/, /ð /, /tʃ/ or /dʒ/ etc .These sounds make Vietnamese learners feel really problematic to pronounce them. Besides, the differences of word and sentence structure in English are also not the same as Vietnamese. For example, in English speech, English people often pronounce each word 's ending sound like /t/, /d/, /s/ or having sounds liking in a sentence between a word ends with a consonant and another begins with a vowel .

like: set\_up, come\_in, shut\_up, stand\_up...

But in Vietnamese language, we can't have sound liking like: *Thắt\_áo* (no liking between /t/ & /a/).

Therefore, in order to have a best English pronunciation Teachers as well as learners should have a certain knowledge and consciousness about English vowels and consonants' pronunciation because applying those principles to pronouncing English properly like English speakers that are a very important thing in learning English. It is a reason that English learners need being patient on practicing speaking English everyday. For example, Teachers can design teaching programs for learners specifically and choosing a best pronouncing books which can help learners remember English alphabets more easily and pronounce it more exactly especially pronunciation teaching program at the University which should be taught continuously through students' four school years and study more thoroughly about English pronunciation in order to help them have speaking it more properly and that is also one of the main aims of learning English to server the best for theirs after communication. However, each learner has different learning methods for their pronouncing practices but in my opinion, learners should be hard-working on the principles of sounds pronunciation in English and listen to English DVDs /CDs everyday as well as reading more and more English magazines & books to collect new words as far as possible to serve for their English pronunciation. Besides, since the beginning days of learning English, learners should pay much attention to looking for English new words "transcription" in dictionary & learn writing and spelling English alphabets carefully because those things are very necessary & important to help their English pronunciation become better & more exactly.

In short, each learner has to choose for himself one best suitable method and being patient on practicing them everyday. Especially, they need study the pronouncing articulators carefully and learning by heart all the principles of sounds pronunciation to pronounce English words more correctly. If they can do so, it is certain that their English speaking will become much better and better day by day.

### **PART III: CONCLUSION**

Learning a new language is not an easy task for anyone especially that is not their mother tongue language which they are still speaking everyday. So, learning a new foreign language also needs spending much time as well as has to find out the most suitable method for each person. Because the differences between English and Vietnamese language so learners will meet many difficulties in spelling and grammar due to the formation of English words or English sentence which have distinctive differences. Moreover, vowels and consonants in English have variations and differently spelling principles.

Therefore, the research paper “A study on the sounds of vowels and consonants in English” introduces some main principles in pronouncing English. This study is fulfilled due to the information collected from different resources to give clear & detailed principles of sound pronunciation. Hoping that can help learners in the process of learning English.

It is obviously that my study will remain certain limit due to my limited time & knowledge. So, I sincerely desire for valuable contribution from my teacher, my friends to make this study more perfect. Therefore, any remark and criticism contributed to the study will highly appreciated. Hoping that learners will find many useful things on this research paper to learn English better and better.

## EXERCISES:

**Exercises 1:** Reading the following sentences and make sure pronouncing the underlined vowels in each sentence differently.

1. Birds don't have beards.
2. Did you hear what I heard?
3. She spent her earnings on new earrings.
4. I see fresh deer tracts in the dirt.
5. He fears being first.
6. Where were you last night?
7. Her hair was a mess.
8. People suffer many perils diving for pearls.
9. Warm air covered the earth.
10. Last term was terrible.

**Exercise 2:** Read and circle the word that doesn't rhyme as the remains.

- |          | (a)   | (b)   | (c)   | (d)    | symbol |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| Example: | bead  | feed  | need  | bread  | -----  |
| 1.       | teen  | mean  | thin  | scene  | -----  |
| 2.       | true  | knew  | zoo   | do     | -----  |
| 3.       | food  | would | good  | should | -----  |
| 4.       | done  | gone  | son   | fun    | -----  |
| 5.       | no    | sew   | toe   | row    | -----  |
| 6.       | heard | board | third | word   | -----  |

- |     |       |       |        |        |       |
|-----|-------|-------|--------|--------|-------|
| 7.  | much  | such  | touch  | couch  | ----- |
| 8.  | lined | find  | friend | signed | ----- |
| 9.  | loan  | phone | tone   | none   | ----- |
| 10. | stays | raise | weighs | keys   | ----- |

**Exercise 3:** Writing the following words using the phonetics alphabet .Then, practice reading them.

Example:      fine          /fain/

- |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| 1. boat     | 6. Edge     |
| 2. Ring     | 7. Noise    |
| 3. Sheep    | 8. pleasure |
| 4. Think    | 9. Chew     |
| 5. Children | 10. Hot     |

**Exercise 4:** Practicing going smoothly and continuously from one place of articulation to another in the following phrases.

- |                 |                   |                    |                |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 1. /f/+s/       | 2. /f/ +/θ, ð/    | 3. /θ/ + /s, z/    | 4. /v/ +/θ, ð/ |
| a. laughs a lot | a. math final     | a. health service  | a. live there  |
| b. enough sun   | b. fifth floor    | b. tenth season    | b. love them   |
| c. rough sea    | c. tough things   | c. south central   | c. of the      |
| d. eats fish    | d. cough then     | d. says things     | d.givethanks   |
| e. a nice fit   | e. breathe freely | e. the girl thinks | e.bothvoices   |
| 5. /v/+z, s/    | 6. /θ / + /z, s/  | 7. /ʃ/ + /θ, ð/    | 8./v/+z/ +/ð/  |

|                   |                |                |                 |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| a. themselves     | a. sees them   | a. both shoes  | a. loves them   |
| b. leave silently | b. plays those | b. fourth shot | b. lives there  |
| c. sees very well | c. knows the   | c. wash them   | c. arrives then |
| d. is vacant      | d. likes that  | d. wish that   | d. saves these. |

**Exercise 5:** Read the following words for consonants and write down the phonetic symbols for consonants that you are having producing.

/p/ pan, played, cap, rope, open

/b/ ban, blade, cab, rob, rubber, baby

/t/ tan, try, bat, night, cigarette, crystal

/d/ dan, dry, bad, made, ladder, handle

/k/ can, king, cream, back, take, occur

/g/ go, green, bag, struggle, finger,

/f/ fan, leaf, effort, off, enough

/v/ van, voice, leave, develop, every

// thin, three, breathe, month, south

/s/ sin, bus, glass, this, place

/z/ zoo, buzz, these, diseases, easy

/ʃ/ shoe, she, wish, fashion, tradition

/dʒ/ measure, casual, seizure, garage

/tʃ/ chew, which, watch, achieve, nature

/dʒ/ juice, major, adjust, injure, edge

/m/ make, some, simmer, smile, socialism

/n/ no, son, sinner, knock, know, snack

/ŋ/ sung, tongue, singer, belonging, think

/l/ low, pilot, hello, tall, fly, cloud

/r/ row, pirate, hurry, fry, crowd

/w/ woman, away, what, quite, suite

/y/ yes, beyond, Europe, music, few

/h/ how, behave, hotel, hold, inherit.

## REFERENCES

1. Alan Cruttenden; professor of Phonetics, department of Linguistics University of Manchester, July 2000. *Gimson's Pronunciation of English* (sixth edition). Oxford University Press Inc, New York.
2. Peter Avery and Susan Ehrlich. 1997. *Teaching American English Pronunciation* (sixth edition). Oxford University Press.
3. Marianne Celce-Murcia, Donna M. Brinton, and Jane M. Goodwin. 1996. *Teaching Pronunciation; A reference for Teacher of English to Speakers of Other languages*. Cambridge: University Press.
4. Jean Peccei. *A beginner's Guid to Phonetics*. Roehampton University.
5. Peter Roach (Xuan Ba translate and annotate). 2000. *English Phonetics and Phonology-A practical course* (third edition). Senior Lecture University of Leeds.
6. Longman Dictionary of contemporary English – *The living Dictionary* (International edition).
7. J.D.O' Connor. 1991 . *Sound English –A pronunciation practice book* (third edition). Longman
8. Jean Peccei. *A Beginner's Guide to Phonetics*
9. Ann baker. *Ship or sheep*

### **Website:**

1. [http:// www.azlifa.com/category/phonetics-phonology/page/3](http://www.azlifa.com/category/phonetics-phonology/page/3)
2. <http://jsaaea.coehd.utsa.edu/index.php/JSAAEA/article/viewPDFInterstitial>