

RP	Gen Am	Consonants	RP	Gen Am	Vowels		
•	•	p	pen, copy, happen	•	ɪ	kit, bid, hymn	
•	•	b	back, bubble, job	•	e	dress, bed	
•	•	t	tea, tight, button	•	æ	trap, bad	
•	•	t̃	city, better	•	ɒ	lot, odd, wash	
•	•	d	day, ladder, odd	•	ʌ	strut, bud, love	
•	•	k	key, cock, school	•	ʊ	foot, good, put	
•	•	g	get, giggle, ghost	•	iː	fleece, sea, machine	
•	•	tʃ	church, match, nature	•	eɪ	face, day, steak	
•	•	dʒ	judge, age, soldier	•	aɪ	price, high, try	
•	•	f	fat, coffee, rough, physics	•	ɔɪ	choice, boy	
•	•	v	view, heavy, move	•	uː	goose, two, blue	
•	•	θ	thing, author, path	•	əʊ	goat, show, no	
•	•	ð	this, other, smooth	•	oʊ	goat, show, no	
•	•	s	soon, cease, sister	•	ɒʊ	variant in cold	
•	•	z	zero, zone, roses, buzz	•	aʊ	mouth, now	
•	•	ʃ	ship, sure, station	•	ɪə	near, here, serious	
•	•	ʒ	pleasure, vision	•	eə	square, fair, various	
•	•	h	hot, whole, behind	•	ɑː	start, father	
•	•	m	more, hammer, sum	•	ɑː	lot, odd	
•	•	n	nice, know, funny, sun	•	ɒː	thought, law	
•	•	ŋ	ring, long, thanks, sung	•	ɔː	thought, law	
•	•	l	light, valley, feel	•	ɔː	north, war	
•	•	r	right, sorry, arrange	•	oː	variant in force, four	
•	•	j	yet, use, beauty	•	ɔː	cure, poor, jury	
•	•	w	wet, one, when, queen	•	ɜː	nurse, stir	
In foreign words only:			•	•	ɜː	nurse, stir, courage	
•	•	ɔː	loch, chutzpah	•	•	i	happy, radiation, glorious
•	•	ʃ	Llanelli, Hluhluwe	•	•	ə	about, comma, common
				•	•	u	influence, situation, annual
				•	•	ɪ	intend, basic
				•	•	ʊ	stimulus, educate
			In foreign words only:				
			•	•	ɒ	grand prix, chanson	
			•	•	ɑː	grand prix, chanson	
			•	•	ɒː	chanson	
			•	•	æ	vingt-et-un	
			•	•	ɜː	vingt-et-un	

EXERCISE 11

AIM: To identify which pronunciation of a word is used, when you hear it.



Listen to the speakers on the cassette. Notice their pronunciation of the words studied on pages 7-8. Transcribe the words as they pronounce them, and identify which of the variant pronunciations they use. You might like to say whether you think each speaker is English or American. The first one is done for you.

KEY

	Transcription	Which pron?	English or American?
Speaker 1: mark past mayor Speaker 2: tour part poor Speaker 3: rare new suit ballet Speaker 4: Tube last four	ma:k pæst	main regional (or AmE)	English with regional accent

For those interested in studying some of the differences between American and British English pronunciation, there is a section on American pronunciation in chapters 65-70. Regional pronunciations are discussed in LPD Introduction 2.

3 Alternative pronunciations

In order to present information concisely, alternative pronunciations are often abbreviated. To get the most out of the dictionary, it is important to be able to interpret the conventions which are used.

EXERCISE 12

Diagnostic exercise in interpreting information about alternative pronunciations.

How many pronunciations are represented in this entry from the dictionary?

beautiful 'bju:t əf əl -ɪf-; -ɪ fʊl, -ə- || 'bju:t-

KEY

When you have worked out what you think, check your answer in the key.

If you got the right answer, you made good use of the conventions which enable the dictionary to present so much information in such a small space. You do not need to work through exercises 13-16. Go straight on to exercise 17.

If you didn't spot all the pronunciations of beautiful, you might like to go back now and try to work them out for yourself before you look at the details below and listen to the pronunciations on the cassette.



'bju:t	əf əl	-ɪf-;	-ɪ fʊl, -ə-	'bju:t-
1 2	3 4	5	6	7 - 12

1. The main pronunciation, the one recommended to foreign learners, is 'bju:t əf l

2. Alternative pronunciation: 'bju:t əf əl

The other alternatives all have the same first syllable as the main pronunciation, so this syllable is

2. How many British and American pronunciations exist for **majority**? Transcribe each one.

3. **mandatory** - is the pronunciation mæn 'dɛt ə r i used in America?

4. TRUE OR FALSE? 'Nobody uses /s/ in the middle of **appreciate**.'

5. TRUE OR FALSE? '**acotyledon** is sometimes pronounced with three ə's.'

4 Inflected and derived words

The dictionary shows how inflected and derived words are pronounced. One-syllable words are shown in full. For others, both the spelling and pronunciation are shown as endings following a headword.

reason, R ~ 'ri:zən ~ed d ~ing/s ~ɪŋ/z ~s z

reasonab|le 'ri:zən-əb|əl ~ly li ~ness nəs nɪs

reassess ,ri:ə'ses ~ed t ~es ɪz əz ~ing ɪŋ ~ment/s mənt/s

reassign ,ri:ə'saɪn ~ed d ~ing ɪŋ ~s z

reas|sure ,ri:ə |'ʃɔ: -'ʃʊə; rɪə' -||-'ʃʊə -'ʃɔ: ~sured 'ʃɔ:d 'ʃʊəd ||'ʃʊəd 'ʃɔ:d ~sures 'ʃɔ:z 'ʃʊəz ||'ʃʊəz
'ʃɔ:z ~suring/ly 'ʃɔ:r ɪŋ/li 'ʃʊə- ||'ʃʊrɪŋ/li 'ʃɔ:-

reassuranc|e ,ri:ə 'ʃʊə ənt's -'ʃɔ:r- ||'ʃʊə- 'ʃɔ:- ~es ɪz əz

Reamur, Réamur 'rei əʊ mjuə ||,rei ɒʊ 'mjuə -Fr [ʁe o my:ʁ]

Reave ri:v

reawaken ,ri:ə weɪk ən ~ed d ~ing ~ɪŋ/z ~s z

reason, R ~ 'ri:zən ~ed d ~ing/s ~ɪŋ/z ~s z

In the spelling of this example, endings are added to the headword with no alteration. For the pronunciation of inflected words, just add the pronunciation of the endings. Thus:

reasoned 'ri:zənd

reasoning 'ri:zənɪŋ

reasonings 'ri:zənɪŋz

reasons 'ri:zənz

Sometimes an ending is added not to the complete word but to just part of it. The symbol | is used to show exactly which part is concerned.

reasonab|le 'ri:zən-əb|əl ~ly li ~ness nəs nɪs

reasonab+ly=reasonably 'ri:zən-əb+li='ri:zən-əbli

reassuranc|e ,ri:ə 'ʃʊə ənt's -'ʃɔ:r- ||'ʃʊə- 'ʃɔ:- ~es ɪz əz

reassuranc+es=reassurances ,ri:ə 'ʃʊə ənt's +ɪz=,ri:ə 'ʃʊə ənt's ɪz

EXERCISE 19

AIM: To understand the conventions used in the dictionary to show the spelling and pronunciation of inflected and derived words. To transcribe the pronunciations.

KEY Find the following words in the dictionary extract, and transcribe their pronunciation.

1. reassessment

2. reassigned

3. reassuring

4. reawakens

EXERCISE 20

Quiz on inflected and derived forms.

KEY Use the dictionary to help you answer the following questions.

10. softener	'sɒf n ə	'sɒf ən ə
11. station	'steɪ ʃn	'steɪ ʃən
12. fastened	'fɑːs nd	'fɑːs ənd

 **KEY** b. Listen to the words on the cassette. For each word, circle the appropriate transcription in a. above.

EXERCISE 30

AIM: To recognise contexts in which syllabic consonants are likely. To identify and transcribe syllables containing a syllabic consonant or vowel + consonant, when you hear words.

 **KEY** a. Look at the text below. Underline words which are likely to contain syllabic consonants. Use Key A to check the words you have underlined.

 **KEY** b. Listen to the text on the cassette and notice how the speaker pronounces each word you have underlined: does it have a syllabic consonant? Transcribe these words as spoken on the cassette. Use Key B to check.

GOLDEN OLDIES – the most popular songs chosen by radio listeners:

The Battle of New Orleans
Wooden Heart
Beautiful Dreamer
I Beg your Pardon (I never promised you a rose garden)
The Tunnel of Love
Sentimental Journey
Suddenly it's Spring
Congratulations

3 Likely syllabic consonants are shown in LPD with the symbol ə, thus **suddenly** 'sʌd ən li. LPD's regular principle is that a raised symbol indicates a sound whose insertion LPD does not recommend (see OPTIONAL SOUNDS). Hence this notation implies that LPD prefers bare n in the second syllable. Since there is then no proper vowel in this syllable, the n must be syllabic.

4 Similarly, in **middle** 'mɪd ə l LPD recommends a pronunciation with syllabic l, thus 'mɪd l. In **father** 'fɑːð ə || 'fɑːð ə r LPD recommends for AmE a pronunciation with syllabic r, thus 'fɑːð r.

5 The IPA provides a special diacritic to show a syllabic consonant, thus ŋ̩. 'sʌdŋ̩li. For AmE syllabic r, the symbol ɹ̩ is sometimes used, thus 'fɑːðɹ̩. Because LPD uses spaces to show syllabification, it does not need these conventions. Any nasal or liquid in a syllable in which there is no other vowel must automatically be syllabic.

Since it is always possible to insert ə in a word with a syllabic consonant, words containing syllabic consonants in the dictionary are all shown with ə, as shown in the following entries.

sudden 'sʌd ən ~ly li

Britain 'brɪt ən

frighten 'fraɪt ən ~ing/ly ɪŋ/li

hidden 'hɪd ən

medal 'med əl

needlework 'niːd əl wɜːk

cattle 'kæt ə || 'kɑː əl

petal 'pet əl || 'pet əl ~ed, ~led d ~s z

3. an appearance by a star who had retired
4. a sudden strike
5. a cinematic device where the film switches to an earlier period
6. a sudden period of heavy rain
7. a mechanical (and, metaphorically, other) failure
8. a ten second period immediately before the departure of a rocket
9. the moment of departure of a rocket
10. (initial) expenditure on a particular project

If you are stuck, choose from the nouns listed below.

breakdown break-in comeback countdown downpour flashback hold-up lift-off outlay walkout

9 Stress marking

The stresses marked in the dictionary are lexical (= underlying = potential) stresses; the marking shows how the word is stressed when it is spoken in isolation, and which syllables can be accented in connected speech.

EXERCISE 44

AIM: To recognise the stressed syllable when you hear a word. To use the primary stress mark ' correctly in a word with one stressed syllable.

 **KEY** The extract below comes from *Down and Out in Paris and London* by George Orwell. Orwell is describing his experience as a tramp in London in the 1930's. Listen to the extract on the cassette. Mark the stressed syllable in the words underlined. The first two are done for you.

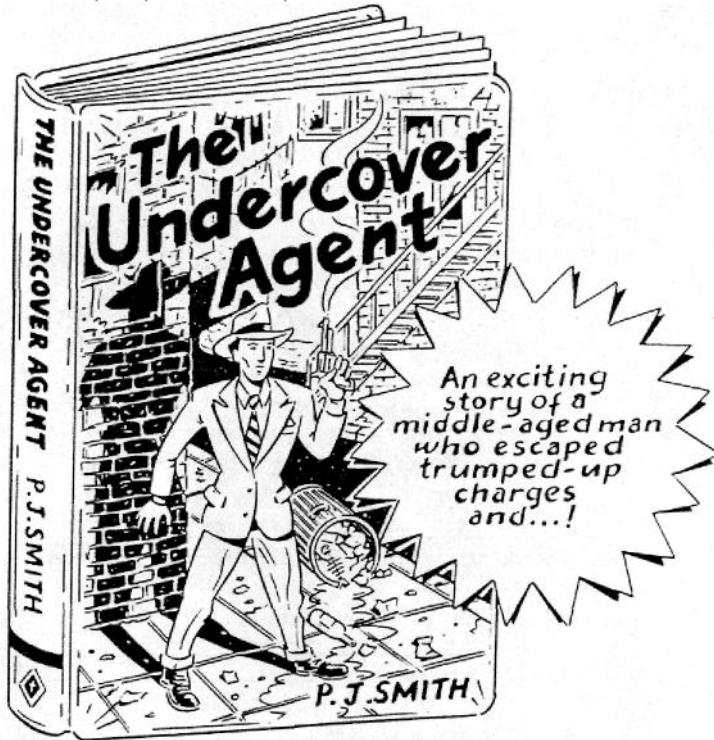
I stayed in the streets till late at night, 'keeping on the move all the time. Dressed as I was, I was half a'fraid that the police might arrest me as a vagabond, and I dared not speak to anyone, imagining that they must notice a disparity between my accent and my clothes. (Later I discovered that this never happened.) My new clothes had put me into a new world. Everyone's demeanour seemed to have changed abruptly. I helped a hawker pick up a barrow that he had upset. "Thank you, mate," he said with a grin. No one had called me mate before in my life – it was the clothes that had done it. For the first time I noticed, too, how the attitude of women varies with a man's clothes. When a badly dressed man passes them they shudder away from him with a quite frank movement of disgust, as though he were a dead cat. Clothes are powerful things. Dressed in a tramp's clothes it is very difficult, at any rate for the first day, not to feel that you are genuinely degraded. You might feel the same shame, irrational but very real, your first night in prison.

EXERCISE 45

AIM: To use the primary stress mark ' correctly in a word with one stressed syllable.

KEY Each of these definitions refers to a word in the dictionary extract below and on the next page. Find the appropriate word, and write its transcription, with the stress marked. The first one is done for you.

1. a business that makes its money esp. by bringing people into touch with others or the products of others ..'eɪdʒ əns i.....
2. a list of subjects to be dealt with or talked about at a meeting
3. to make (a difficult situation) more serious or dangerous; make worse
4. a person whose job is to represent another person, a company, etc. esp. one who brings people into touch with others or deals with the business affairs of a person or company
5. derog always ready to quarrel or attack
6. BrE sl trouble, esp. fighting, eg between groups of young people
7. an language: one in which words are formed by agglutination
8. able to move quickly and easily
9. noun usu. derog increase in size, power or rank, esp. when intentionally planned



Continue this description of a book, using as many as possible of the words and phrases in Exercises 54 to 57. Compare your version with somebody else's, or record yourself reading it aloud.

11 Compounds and phrases

Early and late stress



There are many English expressions consisting of two words, or in which two words have been combined.

e.g. central heating picture frame dishwasher

Some of these have early stress: primary stress is on the first element.

e.g. 'picture frame 'dishwasher

Some have late stress: primary stress is on the second element, e.g. ,central 'heating

Can you give any guidelines for the placement of the ' stress? Write down what you think before you turn over the page.

Early and late stress: some guidelines



Early stress is usual in:

Compounds in which the two elements are written as one word,

e.g. 'dishwasher, 'blackbird

Expressions consisting of NOUN + NOUN, e.g. 'picture frame

Late stress is usual in:

Expressions consisting of ADJECTIVE + NOUN, e.g. ,central 'heating

Note that a word ending in -ing may operate as a noun

e.g. a 'washing machine (a machine for doing the washing)

a 'swimming lesson (a lesson in swimming)

OR a present participle, with the force of:

an adjective e.g. a ,moving 'story (a story which is moving, emotional)

a verb e.g. ,moving 'pictures (pictures which move: hence 'movies')

EXERCISES 59-62

AIM: To understand and use guidelines for predicting stress in compounds and phrases.

EXERCISE 59

were being towed. They turned on all the green lights for him. Some drivers are like that. He never missed one.

It had been a warm afternoon, but the heat was gone. We whipped past a distant cluster of lighted buildings and an endless series of lighted mansions, not too close to the road. We dipped down to skirt a huge green polo field with another equally huge practice field beside it, soared again to the top of a hill and swung mountainward up a steep hill road of clean concrete that passed orange groves, some rich man's pet because this is not orange country, and then little by little the lighted windows of the millionaires' homes were gone and the road narrowed and this was Stillwood Heights.

Farewell, My Lovely Raymond Chandler (Penguin edition p. 126)

15 Homophones

A number of dictionary entries show a homophone - another word, with a different spelling, which has the same pronunciation.

write raɪt (= *right*)

bear n, v beə || beə bəə (= *bare*)

EXERCISE 79

AIM: To use the dictionary marking of homophones as a quick way of checking whether pairs of words have the same pronunciation.

In the sentences below, some of the pairs of words underlined have the same pronunciation, and some have different pronunciations. You can check quickly by looking up the first underlined word in each pair. Mark whether the pronunciations are the same (S) or different (D).

1. The government annalist got so depressed studying the annals that he had to go to an analyst for treatment. ...S...
2. A Victorian lady who sat in her parlour and shunned the sun took pride in the pale of her cheeks.
3. I've been on a cruise several times, and the crews have all been very efficient.
4. They leant on the door so that their sister couldn't go out until she lent them some money.
5. The weather which has been becalming the sailing boats is becoming better.
6. The baron ruled over hundreds of acres of barren land.
7. The assistant who packed the box put this packet. ...
8. If the clasp of your brooch is too loose, you could easily lose it.
9. There are ten cannons at Westchester Cathedral, and ten cannons at Westchester Castle.
10. A teacher wouldn't lessen my interest in the subject by giving one tedious lesson.

16 Abbreviations

Some abbreviations consisting of the initial letters of words are acronyms - the letters are pronounced as if they are a word:

e.g. **SALT** sɔ:lt sɒlt || sɔ:lt sɔ:lt (Strategic Arms Limitation Talks)

In others, the letters are pronounced separately:

e.g. **VIP** ,vi: aɪ 'pi: (very important person)

Some abbreviations are pronounced in both ways:

e.g. **VAT** ,vi: eɪ 'ti: væt (value added tax)

EXERCISE 80

AIM: To use the dictionary to check the pronunciation of abbreviations.

The following items are all commonly abbreviated. Use the dictionary to check whether the initial letters are pronounced as an acronym or separately; enter the abbreviation in the correct column. The first two are done for you.

1. General Certificate of Secondary Education
2. General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
3. Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
4. Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries

Acronym	Separate letters
GATT gæt	GCSE

KEY

EXERCISE 1

a. 5 b. 12 c. 4 d. 17 e. 18 f. 20 g. 6 h. 3 i. 16 j. 13

EXERCISE 2

1. creator 2. yet 7. below 8. surgeon 9. arrange 10. heart, hart 11. drug 14. avid 15. choice 19. wretched

EXERCISE 3

1. B ice 2. A ankle 3. B soul 4. A breathe 5. A avoid 6. B thing 7. B poses 8. B vine 9. A louvre 10. B feelings

EXERCISE 4

1. A aɪz 2. B 'ʌŋkəl 3. A sɔɪl 4. A breθ 5. B ɪ'veɪd 6. A θɪn 7. A pə 'zes 8. A veɪn 9. B 'lʌv ə 10. A 'fɪl ɪŋz

EXERCISE 5

1. i 2. o 3. c 4. g 5. n 6. l 7. d 8. h

EXERCISE 6

a. leather b. washing e. catcher f. loose j. age k. olive m. concord p. ledger

EXERCISE 7

3D – but S in American 4S 5D 6D 7S 8D 9D 10S 11D 12D (but can be S in American)

EXERCISE 8

a. 19 b. 12 c. 4 d. 11 e. 2 f. 9 g. 6 h. 17 i. 15 j. 14

1. pond pɒnd pɑ:nd	2. sue su: sju:	3. pearl pɜ:l pɔ:l
4. rare reə reɪræɪr	5. poor pʊə pɪr	
6. nude nju:d nju:dnju:dnju:		
7. ask ɑ:sk tæsktæ:ks æsk	8. last lɑ:t læst læst	
9. four fɔ: fɔ:r fɔ:r		

EXERCISE 9

EXERCISE 10

	Main pron
6. match	mætʃ
7. ballad	'bæl əd
8. mead	mi:d

	Main pron	Alternative pron
9. lewd	lu:d	lju:d
10. suit	su:t	sju:t

	Main pron	AmE pron
18. mark	mɑ:k	mɑ:rk
19. dot	dɒt	dɑ:t
20. herb	hɜ:b	ɜ:b
21. part	pɑ:t	pɑ:rt

EXERCISE 27

3. 'dist ənts 4. mɪnts 5. 'traɪ ʌmpf 6. ə 'kweɪnt ənts 7. 'kʌmf ət 8. 'empf ə sɪs 9. ə 'sɪst əns 10. səb 'stæntʃl

EXERCISE 28

KEY A:

A: I've just had my lounge decorated. It hadn't been done since I moved in.

B: What colour is it?

A: It's called French Blush.

B: Very tasteful, I'm sure, but it doesn't convey anything.

A: Well, on the chart it looked lovely - a sort of pale tangerine colour.

B: That sounds nice. The lounge faces north, doesn't it, and a tangerine glow would take away the coldness.

A: That's just what I thought: elegant but comfortable. But actually it's more like orange. It's cheerful - but not very restful.

KEY B:

A: aɪv (dʒʌs) hæd maɪ (laʊnz) dek ə reɪt ɪd||ɪt hæd nt bi:n dʌn sɪnz aɪ mu:vd ɪn

B: wɒt kʌl ər ɪz ɪt

A: ɪts kɔ:ld (frenʃ) blʌʃ

B: veri teɪst fʊl aɪm ʃɔ: ||bæt ɪt dʌz nt kən veɪ en i θɪŋ

A: wel θn ðə tʃa:ɪt ɪt (lʊk) lʌv li||ə sɔ:ɪt əv peɪl (tænz ər i:ŋ) kʌl ə

B: ðæt saʊndz naɪs||ðə laʊndʒ feɪs ɪz nɔ:θ (dʌz n) ɪt||ənd ə tændʒ ər i:ŋ gləʊ wʊd teɪk ə weɪ ðə kəʊld nəs

A: ðæts (dʒʌs) wɒt aɪ θɔ:ɪt||el ɪ gənt bæt (kʌmpft əb l)||bæt æk tʃu əl i ɪts mɔ: laɪk ɒr ɪndʒ||t tʃiə fʊl||bæt nɒt veri (res fʊl)

EXERCISE 29B

	<i>syllabic consonant</i>	<i>syllabic consonant</i>
1. suddenly	('sʌd n li)	'sʌd ən li
2. Britain	'brɪt n	'brɪt ən
3. frightening	'fraɪt ɪŋ	('fraɪt ən ɪŋ)
4. hidden	('hɪd n)	'hɪd ən
5. medal	'med l	('med əl)
6. needlework	('ni: d l wɜ: k)	'ni: d əl wɜ: k
7. cattle	'kæt l	('kæt əl)
8. petals	'pet l z	('pet əl z)
9. panel	('pæn l)	'pæn əl
10. softener	'sɒf n ə	('sɒf ən ə)
11. station	'steɪ ʃn	('steɪ ʃən)
12. fastened	('fɑ: s nd)	'fɑ: s ənd

EXERCISE 30

KEY A

GOLDEN OLDIES – the most popular songs chosen by radio listeners:

The Battle of New Orleans

Wooden Heart

Beautiful Dreamer

I Beg your Pardon (I never promised you a rose garden)

The Tunnel of Love

Sentimental Journey

Suddenly it's Spring

Congratulations

KEY B:

'gəʊld ən, 'tʃəʊz ən, 'lɪs n əz, 'bæt l, 'wʊd ən, 'bjʊɪt ɪ fəl, 'pɑ: d n, 'gɑ: d n, 'tʌn əl, ,sent ɪ 'ment l, 'sʌd n li,