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English PronunciationS
The Pronunciation of English around the World
Geo-social Applications of the Natural Phonetics & Tonetics Method

1. International, American & British neutral Accents

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o. A general introduction

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o.1. In this handbook on *English PronunciationS*, we will deal with different accents of English: either *neutral* (in the first volume) or *regional & social* accents (more than 200, in the second volume). Arguably, today, *five* of them are the fittest for describing and teaching purposes: three *neutral* and two *mediatic* accents.

Of course, they are the American and British neutral accents (rather than ‘standard accents’, because the term ‘standard’ stands more for something which is common and cheap, rather than excellent and recommended), together with their ‘mediatic’ variants (from non-local TV & radio), which are now as frequently heard as the neutral ones, in the news, in the movies, and in songs.

o.2. The fifth is the ‘International’ accent of English, which we prefer to use as a first choice, instead of having to choose between the American and the British one, either in their neutral or mediatic versions. In fact, it could usefully be employed in other pronunciation books and pronouncing dictionaries (and in common dictionaries, too), as well as in everyday teaching.

As a matter of fact, this International pronunciation has proven to be a good teaching and descriptive device, which is somehow intermediate between the two principal present-day accents: neutral American or British.

The correspondent mediatic ones, although not properly a kind of regional accents, are in any case more differentiated from one another, than the neutral ones.

o.3. The International accent is both simpler and still less far away from the two extremes. Thus, we decided to show first the *International accent*, fully phonetically transcribed, immediately followed by the American and British differences only (generally, instead of repeating each example completely, in order to draw special attention directly to the differences, and to avoid missing to note them, if distracted by longer and similar stretches of symbols).

They are followed by the diaphonemic transcription and, finally, by their orthographic version.

This is done on purpose, in order to show first the phonetic structures, then the phonemic one, for the necessary comparisons; only at the very end, the corresponding written examples are given, so that the ‘mysterious’ current spelling does not baffle foreigners.

The meaning of ‘International English’

o.4. There are two opposed meanings of this phrase (and at least three more, in intermediate –though less well defined– positions).

The *best* possible meaning refers to what is *superior* and *free* from local peculiarities, and is good for anybody. Thus an *International Pronunciation of English* must be different from any localizable and easily recognizable kind of accent, especially from the many stigmatized ones. Of course, it has to be more similar to the American and British neutral accents, than to any other lesser-known accents.

Furthermore, it must also avoid what is too clearly American or British: *hot*, *so* [ˈhɒt, ˈsɔʊ] are better than [ˈhɑt] (American) and [ˈsɜːo] (British), as *marry* /ˈmæ.ɪ/ is much better than /ˈmɛ.ɪ/, which is more suitable for *merry*, and even for *Mary* (British /ˈmɛə.ɪ/). As a matter of fact, the opposition between /ɛ.ɪ/ and /ɛə.ɪ/ is quite secondary, and more a problem than an advantage.

o.5. In addition, it should adhere more to the current English spelling, especially as far as *r* is concerned: it is a good thing that *saw* /sɔː/ is different from *sore* /sɔː.ɪ/. However, it is no use –actually– that *hurry* /ˈhɜː.ɪ/ be different from *furry* /ˈfɜː.ɪ/.

Arguably, we do not mean to favor spelling pronunciations at all. Although, when a word has more than one pronunciation allowed and recognized, the simpler one has to be preferred, which generally means the one that is less different from spelling: *nephew* /ˈnɛf.ju/ rather than /ˈnɛv.ju/.

The second –extreme and far-fetched– meaning of *International English*, is an unfortunate and quite inappropriate lexical choice for what –more reasonably– should be called ‘*multinational*’ or ‘*intercultural*’ English, or –combining them– *multicultural* English. This is quite logical, as we will see below.

o.6. ¶ 13 of the book *Gimson’s Pronunciation of English* (2008⁷) –ie *Teaching and Learning the Pronunciation of English as an Additional Language*– introduces some targets for teaching and learning the pronunciation of English for foreigners. Besides Native-Speaker Targets, the new ‘Amalgam English’ and an ‘International English’ are presented.

Unfortunately, the meaning of the latter –‘International English’– is the exact opposite of our own (and many others’) *International English*. In fact, our conception of it is highly evaluative: the International accent is even higher than actual native neutral American or British accents. It is the ‘purification’ of both: it chooses the best of them both, reducing the single peculiarities of each of them. It avoids both what is too American and too British, fusing them into one simplified, but still natural, system with the best of them.

o.7. Certainly, it is nothing ‘artificial’, because many singers and actors use it, more or less coherently, but systematically, as many CNN newsreaders do.

On the contrary, the ‘International English’ of that chapter is presented as an extremely simplified kind of English, to be used mostly by non-native speakers,

which ‘produces what might still be an intelligible form of English, given that communication using it will be in contexts where the language used has a fair degree of predictability’. Practically, the lowest possible ‘thing’ that, euphemistically, we could still call *English* (*pace* Kachru and Jenkins).

Nor is any better the intermediate kind of English pronunciation, presented as ‘Amalgam English’, which only seeks for an ‘easy intelligibility by native speakers’ rather than trying to sound like a native speaker. This one is very far even from our own simplified kind of International English, which has a reduced number of symbols, but is still more precise than current descriptions, articulatory figures, and transcriptions, that we can find in most books, even recent ones.

o.8. Thus, we do not want to kid ourselves about learning and teaching. Those who do not have a feel for the pronunciation of a language (*ie* for *Natural Phonetics*) will not get better results if they try to study the phonetics of that language, even in a simplified form. The world is full of people who –somehow– do communicate in English, even without studying any phonetics, and with at least some words pronounced better than this ‘amalgamatic’ limitation would allow. But those who understand that it is important to pronounce a language well, must aim at our kind of International English pronunciation, at least in its simplified form, or in its native-like form, which uses a few more precise symbols and diagrams (*cf* especially \mathfrak{G} 3-4).

Sociophonics

o.9. Although, especially in speech and conversation, we can happen to talk about sociolinguistics, we do prefer to use the term *sociophonics* (*ie* socio-phonetics and socio-phonemics, including intonation, and parophonics, or ‘sound paralinguistics’).

As a matter of facts, ‘sociolinguistics’, as it is nowadays, seems to be something more like an occasion to gossip about the pretended linguistic behavior of some speakers, depending mainly on their ‘social classes’. In doing this, several –rare or peculiar, too– realizations are often listed, which can be about 1%, or 5% (or, as we may happen sometimes to read, something like 0.21%, or 47.03%, &c). But, even a 20% of occurrences may be nothing interesting, or actually determining, when speaking of pronunciation.

The different social classes, age ranges, living and housing standards, educational levels, and roles and genders are not free from curious surprises, when it comes to draw some conclusions about speech and *pronunciation*, in particular.

As a matter of fact, we prefer to consider actual and unbiased criteria, grounded on shared degrees of standardization of levels of pronunciation characteristics, such as those that we can call: *typical*, *broad(er)*, *light(er)*, *old(er)*, *young(er)*, *urban*, *rural*, *refined*, *uneducated*, *hypercorrect*, and also *possible*, *occasional*, *rare*, *frequent*, &c.

Of course, they are related to *neutral pronunciation* (although this is actually used by about 3% of the total speakers of any language), which, directly or indirectly (ie consciously or unconsciously), certainly influences so many sound choices. Thus, besides the typical (and unmarked) occurrences, we will use one or more *upward* (↑) or *downward* (↓) *arrows*, depending on their respective acceptability and recommendability.

0.10. In addition to neutral pronunciation, two further forms are likely to influence the choices of few, or many, individual speakers. The first is *mediatic pronunciation*, which (somewhat too generously) someone considers as if it were the newer ‘standard’ of pronunciation, since it is thought to be less élitist, more widespread, and almost regionless and classless.

The other factor which can influence one’s choices is *local pronunciation*, even if it can generally coincide with the broadest local pronunciation, but it is shared by well-educated people. This can be a choice that differentiates from other places—even if they correspond to neutral choices—just to keep a bit of local flavor, as something typical.

We will mark both these choices (ie mediatic or local) with a *double arrow* (↕), to mean that their subjective prestige (indicated by the upward part of the arrow) is not connected with real neutral pronunciation; thus, being something more like (↓), in relation to neutral choices.

Wells’ ‘standard lexical sets’ for vowels

0.11. With *Accents of English* (1982), Wells introduced his ‘standard lexical sets’ to describe the stressed vowels of different accents of the English language. They consist in 24 words (KIT, DRESS, TRAP, LOT, STRUT, FOOT, BATH, CLOTH, NURSE, FLEECE, FACE, PALM, THOUGHT, GOAT, GOOSE, PRICE, CHOICE, MOUTH, NEAR, SQUARE, START, NORTH, FORCE, CURE) chosen to represent groups of words which are thought to present the same phoneme, but referred to different accents and represented by different traditional sets of symbols. Often there were uselessly different symbols, while some other times one same symbol was used for different phonetic realities, as /e, ε/ for ‘DRESS-words’, but /ʌ/ for ‘STRUT-words’, and so on.

It is apparent that ‘BATH-words’ may go with ‘TRAP-words’ for some speakers, but with ‘PALM-words’ for others, according to their own accents. The same is true for ‘CLOTH-words’ that may go with ‘LOT-words’ or with ‘THOUGHT-words’. Of course, a completely coherent native speaker would have no problems. But most native speakers are at a loss if they have to group ‘NORTH-words’ and ‘FORCE-words’, because they already have them merged, completely. The same is true for many other words belonging to some of the other groups.

0.12. Soon enough, however, another problem arose, because some other speakers distinguish further phonemes, in comparison with those posited by Wells.

It is clear that his words (and groups) are not sufficient to cover all phonemic occurrences in all accents, with further problems about doubts and uncertainties. In fact, many authors had to add other groups, for further accents, or just for completeness even of some of Wells' accents.

Also unstressed vowels and relevant categories of consonants received, at times, their specific words to refer to some particular phonemes or contexts. But, even for native speakers, this method soon proved not to be the best or surest one. As a matter of fact, some words that should represent some minor categories, with different usage by different people, were misleading. Besides, many people (again, even native speakers) did not know how to group a considerable number of words. This caused mistakes and further misunderstandings.

The Natural Phonetics approach and the Diaphoneme

o.13. In our *Natural Phonetics (& Tonetics) approach* to the different accents of English (and, indeed, of other languages), we start from the *phonemes*, to build up phonemic categories, but we add, of course, the necessary *diaphonemes* (which are primary or secondary).

Our *phonemes* and *diaphonemes* are chosen according to *interphonemic* criteria. They must be as 'natural' as possible, which means less arbitrary, and closer to general usage. For instance, today, the symbol /e/ is no longer suitable for English (except, in case, for Australian, New-Zealand and South-African accents, if dealt with in isolation, by themselves). Of course, /ɛ/ is a bit better, if we want to remain within the scanty official IPA inventory (or *offIPA* – which, actually, is nothing more than a *phonemic* alphabet, in spite of its official name: 'International PHONETIC Alphabet'). On the other hand, for certain accents (such as those of Scotland or California), the symbol /ɛ/ would be closer to reality.

However, a better symbol would certainly be /ɛ̃/, which (in our *canIPA* alphabet) lies exactly between /e/ and /ɛ/. As a matter of fact, to be actually useful, we have to start from the *international accent*, or at least from the two more widely known, American and British, *neutral accents*. And the three of them do have /ɛ̃/!

o.14. The inventory of our phonemic symbols for International English, then, must include: /i, ɪ, ɛ, æ, ɐ, a, ɑ, ɒ, σ, ω, u, ə/, for the vowels, and /m, n, ŋ; p, b, ɸ, d, k, g, tʃ, dʒ; f, v, θ, ð, s, z, ʃ, ʒ; j, w, h, ɹ, l, ɹ̥/, for the consonants (it is quite clear, nowadays, that the symbols /tʃ, dʒ/ are no longer fit for accurate transcriptions). The vocalic symbols, however, usefully combine to form the diphthongs: /ii, ɛɪ, aɛ, σɛ, aσ, σω, uu; ɪə, ɛə, ɒə/. We could avoid /a/, but this would be just a meager saving, to the detriment of precision, should we have to write /aɛ, aσ/. The same is true for /ɹ, l, ɹ̥/, should we think to simply use /r, l/. But Natural Phonetics (& Tonetics) cannot stoop to compromises.

In addition to these (basic) *phonemes*, there are the primary *diaphonemes*, which are necessary to identify the most typical American and British peculiarities, to

- /ɑ:/ ' /ɑ:, ɑ; ɜ:/ *spa* /'spɑ:/ [ˈspɑ:], *starry* /'stɑ:ri/ *i*/'stɑ:ri] *b*['stɑ:ri]
 /ɔ:/ ' /ɔ:, ɔ; ɒ:/ *law* /'lɔ:/ *i*'b[lɔ:] *a*['lɔ:], *story* /'stɔ:ri/ *i*/'stɔ:ri] *b*['stɔ:ri]
- /ii/ ' /i:, i/ *see* /'si:/ *i*['si:ri] *a*'b[ˈsɪri]
 /Eɪ/ ' /eɪ; ei, e/ *day* /'deɪ/ *i*['deɪ] *a*'b[ˈdeɪ]
 /aɛ/ ' /aɪ, ʌɪ; ai/ *fly* /'flaɛ/ *i*['fla:ɛ] *a*'b[ˈflaə]
 /σɛ/ ' /ɔɪ; ɔi, oi/ *boy* /'bɔɛ/ *i*['bɔ:ɛ] *a*'b[ˈbɔə]
 /aσ/ ' /aʊ, ɔʊ; au/ *cow* /'kaσ/ *i*['kha:σ] *a*'b[ˈkhaʊ]
 /σɔ/ ' /əʊ, ɒʊ; ou, əu, o/ *go* /'ɡσɔ/ *i*/'a[ˈɡσɔ] *b*['ɡɜ:ɔ]
 /uu/ ' /u:, u/ *who* /'huu/ *i*['hu:u] *a*['hʊ:u] *b*['hɜ:u]
- /æ/ ' /æ, ɛ/... *last* /'læst/ *i*/'a[læst] *b*['lɑ:st]
 /ɑ:/ ' /ɑ:, æ/... *pasta* /'pɑ:stə/ *i*['phɑ:stə] *a*['phɑ:stɹ] *b*['phæstə]
 /ɒ/ ' /ɒ, ɑ, ɔ:/... *song* /'sɒŋ/ *i*'b[ˈsɒŋ] *a*['sɔ:ŋ], *sorry* /'sɒri/ *i*['sɒri] *a*['sɔ:ri; 'sɑ:ri] *b*['sɒri]
 /ɔ:/ ' /ɔ:, ɒ/... *false* /'fɔ:ʃs/ *i*['fɔ:ʃs] *a*['fɔ:ʃs] *b*['fɔ:ʃs, 'fɒʃs]
 /ə:/ ' /ɛr, ɜr, ɜr, ər, ə/ *hurry* /'hə:ri/ *i*['hə:ri] *a*['hɜ:ri] *b*['he:ri]
 /ə:/ ' /ɜr, ər, ər, ɜ:/ *furry* /'fə:ri/ *i*['fə:ri] *a*['fɜ:ri] *b*['fɜ:ri]
- /ə:/ ' /ɜ:, ə, ɜr, ər, ɜ:/ *fur(s)* /'fə:ɹ(z)/ *i*['fə:ɹ(z)] *a*['fɜ:ɹ(z)] *b*['fɜ:ɹ(z)]
 /ɑ:/ ' /ɑ:, ɑr, ɑr; ɑ:, ɑr/ *car(s)* /'kɑ:ɹ(z)/ *i*['kha:ɹ(z)] *a*['kha:ɹ(z)] *b*['kha:ɹ(z)]
 /σ:/ ' /ɔ:, ɔr, ɔr; ɔ:, ɔr/ *door(s)* /'dɔ:ɹ(z)/ *i*['dɔ:ɹ(z)] *a*['dɔ:ɹ(z)] *b*['dɔ:ɹ(z)]
 /ə:/ ' /ər, ər, ər, ər, ə/ *wonder(s)* /'wɒndəɹ(z)/ *i*['wɒndəɹ(z)] *a*['wɒndəɹ(z)] *b*['wɒndə, -dɜz]
- /iə:/ ' /iə, iə, iər, iər, iər, iər, iər, iər/ *happier* /'hæpiə:/ *i*['hæpiə] *a*['hæpi:ɹ] *b*['hæpiə]
 /iə:/ ' /iə, iər, iɹ, iər, iər, iə; iə/ *beer(s)* /'biə:ɹ(z)/ *i*['bi:əɹ(z)] *a*['bi:ɹ(z)] *b*['bi:ə, 'bi:ɜz]
 /Eə:/ ' /eə, ɛr, ɛr, ɛr, eər, eər, ɛə; ɛə/ *care(s)* /'keə:ɹ(z)/ *i*['khe:əɹ(z)] *a*['khe:ɹ(z)] *b*['khe:ɜz(z)]
- /oə:/ ' /ʊə, ʊər, ʊr, ʊər, ʊər, ʊər; uə/ *moor(s)* /'mɔə:ɹ(z)/ *i*['mɔ:əɹ(z)] *a*['mʊ:ɹ(z)] *b*['mɔ:ə, 'mɔ:ɜz] (with further pronunciations)
 /uə:/ ' /ʊə, ʊə, uər, ʊər, uə, uər, ʊər, uə/ *rescuer(s)* /'reskjʊə:ɹ(z)/ *i*['reskjʊəɹ(z)] *a*[-ɹ(z)] *b*[-ɹ(z)]
- /iiə:/ ' /i:ə, i:ər, i:ə, i:ər, i:ər, i:ər/ *seer* /'si:ə:/ *i*['si:ə] *a*['si:ɹ] *b*['si:ə]
 /Eɪə:/ ' /eɪə, eɪər, eɪər, eɪər, eɪər, eɪər/ *player* /'pleɪə:/ *i*['phleɪə] *a*['phleɪ:ɹ] *b*['phleɪə]
 /aEə:/ ' /aɪə, ʌɪə, aɪər, aɪər, aɪər, aɪər; aiə/ *liar* /'laɛə:/ *i*['laɛə] *a*['laə:ɹ] *b*['laəə]
 /σEə:/ ' /ɔɪə, ɔɪər, ɔɪər, ɔɪər, ɔɪər; ɔiə, oiə/ *employer* /ʊm'plɔɛə:/ *i*['ʊm'phlɔɛə] *a*[-σəɹ] *b*[-σəə]
- /aσə:/ ' /aʊə, aʊər, aʊər, aʊər, aʊər, aʊ-; auə/ *tower* /'taσə:/ *i*['tʰaσə] *a*['tʰaɔ:ɹ] *b*['tʰaɔə]
- /σɔə:/ ' /əʊə, ɒʊər, ɒʊər, ɒʊər; ɒʊə, əʊə/ *slower* /'slɔə:ɹ/ *i*['slɔ:əɹ] *a*['slɔ:ɹ] *b*['slɜ:ə]
 /uuə:/ ' /u:ə, u:ər, u:ə, u:ər, u:ər/ *doer* /'dʊuə:/ *i*['dʊuə] *a*['dʊu:ɹ] *b*['dʊuə]
- /ə/ ' /ɪ, ə, ɪ, ɪ/ *wishes* /'wɪʃəz/ *i*/'a[ˈwɪʃəz] *b*['wɪʃz]
 /ə:/ ' /ər, ər, ər, ə/ *wondering* /'wɒndəɹɪŋ/ *i*['wɒndəɹɪŋ, -ɪŋ] *a*['wɒndəɹɪŋ, -ɪŋ] *b*['wɒndəɹɪŋ, -ɪŋ]
- /iə:/ ' /iər, iər, iɹ; iər/ *hearing* /'hiəɹɪŋ/ *i*/'a[ˈhi:ɹɪŋ] *b*['hi:əɹɪŋ]
 /Eə:/ ' /eər, eər, ɛər, ɛɹ/ *caring* /'keəɹɪŋ/ *i*/'a[ˈkhe:ɹɪŋ] *b*['khe:ɹɪŋ]

/ɔəɪ/ ‘/ʊər, ʊər, ʊr; uər/’ *curing* /ˈkjʊəɪŋ/ ⁱa[ˈkʰjʊəɪŋ] ^b[ˈkʰjʊəɪŋ] (with further pronunciations)

/jə/ ‘/jʊ, jə, jʊ, jʊ; ju/’ *regular* /ˈɪegjələɪ/ ⁱ[ˈɪegjələɪ] ^a[-ɪ] ^b[ˈɪegjələɪ, -gjə-]

/ɛ/ ‘/ə, e, ɛ/’ *dictionary* /ˈdɪkʃənəri/ ⁱ[ˈdɪkʃənəri] ^a[ˈdɪkʃənəri] ^b[ˈdɪkʃəri]

/eɪ/ ‘/eɪ, ə/’ *maintain* /meɪnˈteɪn/ ⁱ[meɪnˈtʰeɪn, mən-] ^a^b[meɪnˈtʰeɪn, mən-]

/eɪ/ ‘/eɪ, e/ & ʔ/’ *maintain* /meɪnˈteɪn/ ⁱ[meɪn-, mən-] ^a^b[meɪn-, mən-]

/aɪ/ ‘/aɪ, ə/’ *missile* /ˈmɪsəl/ ⁱ[ˈmɪsɪ] ^a[ˈmɪsɪ] ^b[ˈmɪsəl, -sɪ]

/ɔ/ ‘/ə, ɔ:/’ *repertory* /ˈɪepərəˈtɔəri/ ⁱ[ˈɪepərəˈtɔəri, -tɔəri] ^a[ˈɪepərəˈtɔəri] ^b[ˈɪepərəˈtɔəri]

/ɔ/ ‘/ə, ɔ:/’ *ceremony* /ˈserɪməˈntɔəri/ ⁱ[ˈserɪməˈntɔəri] ^a[-ɪ, məntɔəri] ^b[ˈserɪmənt-].

0.18. Consonants

/m/ ‘/m/’ *some* /səm/ ⁱ^b[ˈsəm:] ^a[ˈsəm:]

/n/ ‘/n/’ *sun* /sen/ ⁱ^b[ˈsɛn:] ^a[ˈsɛn:]

/ŋ/ ‘/ŋ/’ *sung* /sɛŋ/ ⁱ^b[ˈsɛŋ:] ^a[ˈsɛŋ:]

/m/ ‘/əm, əm, m/’ *rhythm* /ˈɪðm/ ⁱ^a[ˈɪðm] ^b[ɪ-]

/ŋ/ ‘/ən, ən, n/’ *cotton* /ˈkɒtŋ/ ⁱ^b[ˈkʰɒtŋ] ^a[ˈkʰɒ-]

/p/ ‘/p/’ *pack* /pæk/ [ˈphæk]

/b/ ‘/b/’ *back* /bæk/ [ˈbæk]

/t/ ‘/t/’ *two* /tu/ ⁱ[ˈtʰu] ^a[ˈtʰu] ^b[ˈtʰu]

/d/ ‘/d/’ *do* /du/ ⁱ[ˈdʰu] ^a[ˈdʰu] ^b[ˈdʰu]

/k/ ‘/k/’ *came* /keɪm/ ⁱ[ˈkʰeɪm] ^a^b[ˈkʰeɪm]

/g/ ‘/g; ʒ/’ *game* /geɪm/ ⁱ[ˈgʰeɪm] ^a^b[ˈgʰeɪm]

/tʃ/ ‘/tʃ/’ *try* /tʃaɪ/ ⁱ[ˈtʃʰaɪ] ^a[ˈtʃʰaɪ] ^b[ˈtʃʰaɪ]

/dʒ/ ‘/dʒ/’ *dry* /dʒaɪ/ ⁱ[ˈdʒʰaɪ] ^a[ˈdʒʰaɪ] ^b[ˈdʒʰaɪ]

/tʃ/ ‘/tʃ/’ *chain* /tʃeɪn/ ⁱ[ˈtʃʰeɪn] ^a^b[ˈtʃʰeɪn]

/dʒ/ ‘/dʒ/’ *Jane* /dʒeɪn/ ⁱ[ˈdʒʰeɪn] ^a^b[ˈdʒʰeɪn]

/f/ ‘/f/’ *few* /fju/ ⁱ[ˈfʰju] ^a^b[ˈfʰju]

/v/ ‘/v/’ *view* /vju/ ⁱ[ˈvʰju] ^a^b[ˈvʰju]

/θ/ ‘/θ/’ *wreath* /ˈɪiθ/ ⁱ[ˈɪiθ] ^a[ˈɪiθ] ^b[ˈɪiθ]

/ð/ ‘/ð/’ *wreath* /ˈɪið/ ⁱ[ˈɪið] ^a[ˈɪið] ^b[ˈɪið]

/s/ ‘/s/’ *ice* /aɪs/ ⁱ[ˈaɪs] ^a^b[ˈaɪs]

/z/ ‘/z/’ *eyes* /aɪz/ ⁱ[ˈaɪz] ^a^b[ˈaɪz]

/ʃ/ ‘/ʃ/’ *dilution* /dɪˈluʃ(ə)n/(& /dæ-/) ⁱ[dɪˈluʃən] ^a[dɪˈluʃən] ^b[dɪˈluʃən]

/z/ ‘/z/’ *delusion* /dɪˈluʒ(ə)n/ ⁱ[dɪˈluʒən] ^a[dɪˈluʒən] ^b[dɪˈluʒən]

/ɪ/ ‘/ɪ/’ *rate* /reɪt/ ⁱ[ˈɪeɪt] ^a[ˈɪeɪt] ^b[ˈɪeɪt]

/j/ ‘/j/’ *yate* /jeɪt/ ⁱ[ˈjeɪt] ^a^b[ˈjeɪt]

/w/ ‘/w/’ *wait* /weɪt/ ⁱ[ˈweɪt] ^a^b[ˈweɪt]

/h/ ‘/h/’ *hate* /heɪt/ ⁱ[ˈheɪt] ^a^b[ˈheɪt]

/l/ ‘/l/’ *late* /leɪt/ ⁱ[ˈleɪt] ^a^b[ˈleɪt]

/t̪/ ‘|’ *hull* /'hɛt̪/ i['hɛt̪] a['hɛt̪] b['hɛt̪]
 /t̪/ ‘|, l, l̪’ *apple* /'æpt̪/ i['æpt̪] a['æpt̪] b['æpt̪]
 /t̪/ ‘|, t̪, t̪’ *city* /'sɪt̪i/ i['sɪt̪i, 'sɪi] a['sɪi] b['sɪt̪i]
 /ɹ̪/ ‘|, r̪’ *car* /'kɑ:ɹ̪/ i['kɰɑ:ɹ̪] a['kɰɑ:ɹ̪] b['kɰɑ:ɹ̪]
 /j̪/ ‘|, j̪, -|’ *new* /'njuu/ i['njuɹu] a['nɹu] b['njuɹu]
 /w̪/ ‘|hw, w|’ *when* /'wɛn/ i['wɛn] a'b['wɛn; 'hwɛn; 'hɛn].

o.19. Many friends should be expressly thanked for their kind help. We mention, at least: Marco Cerini, Giacomo Ferrieri, Péter Manninger, Paolo Rossetto, Emanuele Saiu.

Our WEBSITE (<http://venus.unive.it/canipa>, for *canIPA*) is dedicated to *Natural Phonetics*. It is also meant for updates, integrations, modifications, corrections, reflections, anticipations, and to spread the importance of *articulatory*, *auditory*, and *functional* phonetics, that is *natural phonotonetics* – the only one that allows people feel that they are actually doing something useful and worthwhile, not just mere ‘phonanism’.

Of course, by surfing the Web, one can simply search for *canipa*, because, sooner or later, *venus.unive* will be changed.

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 Department of Speech Sciences
 Phonetics and Phonology
 2010/1/19

The contoidal ograms & their *canIPA* symbols

[© Luciano Canepari, 2010, Venice University, Italy]

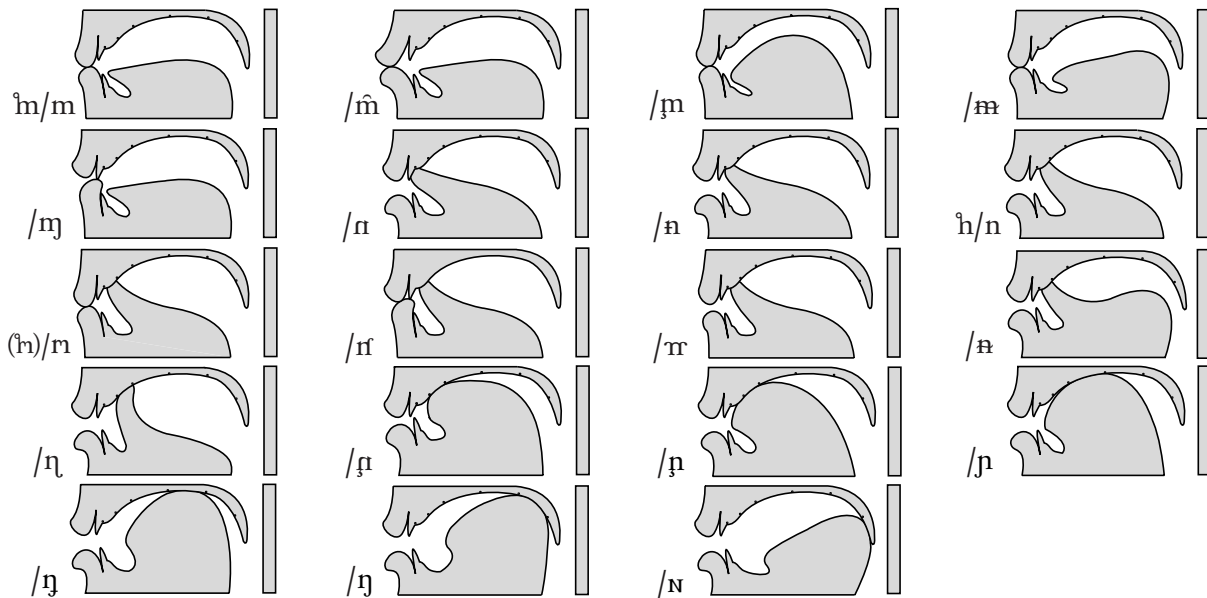
Here are the ograms of the contoids found in the book on *English PronunciationS*. They are presented in groups, according to manners of articulation.

We start from *nasals* and *semi-nasals*; then, *stops*; (slit & grooved) *stop-strictives* & *constrictives*, *semi-constrictives*; *approximants* & *semi-approximants* (including lateralized ones).

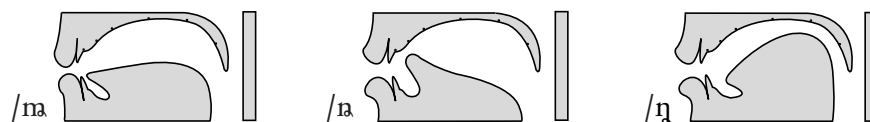
In addition: *trills*, *taps* & *flaps*; *laterals*, *semi-laterals*, a *uni-lateral*, a *constrictive uni-lateral*, two *tapped laterals*.

To end with, and just to illustrate their mechanisms: an *ejective* and *injective bilabial stop*, and a *prenasalized bilabial stop*; and a *nasalized tap* and two *nasalized laterals*.

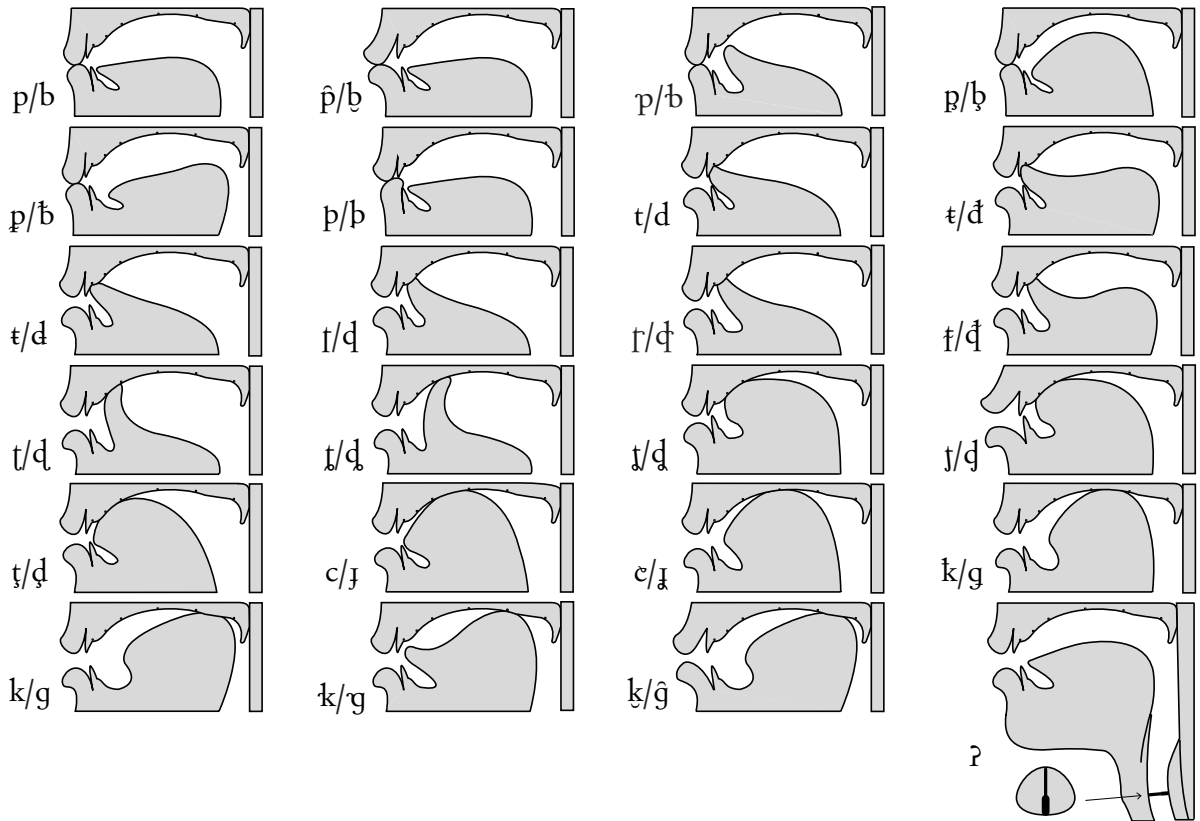
Nasals



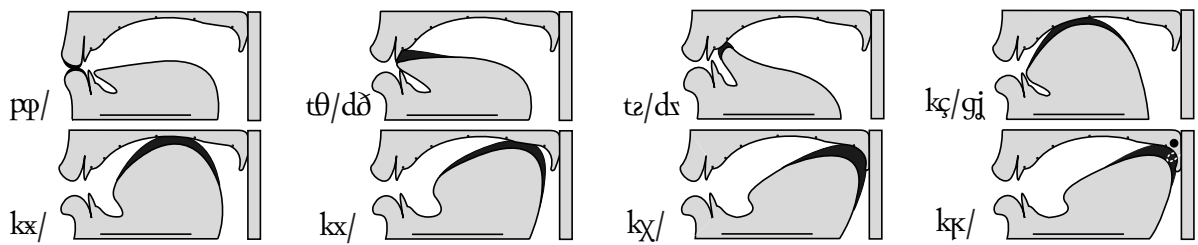
Semi-nasals



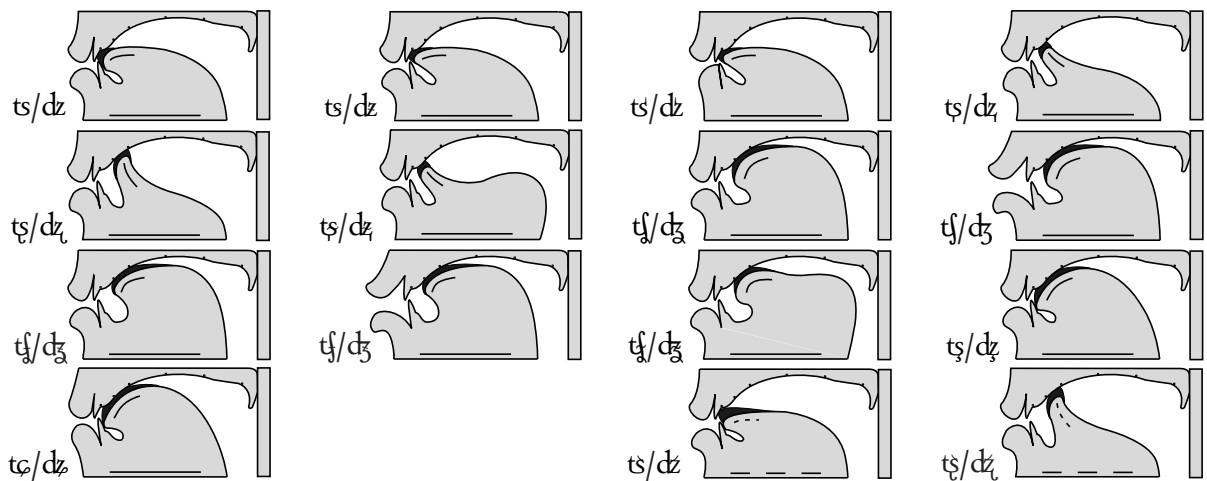
Stops



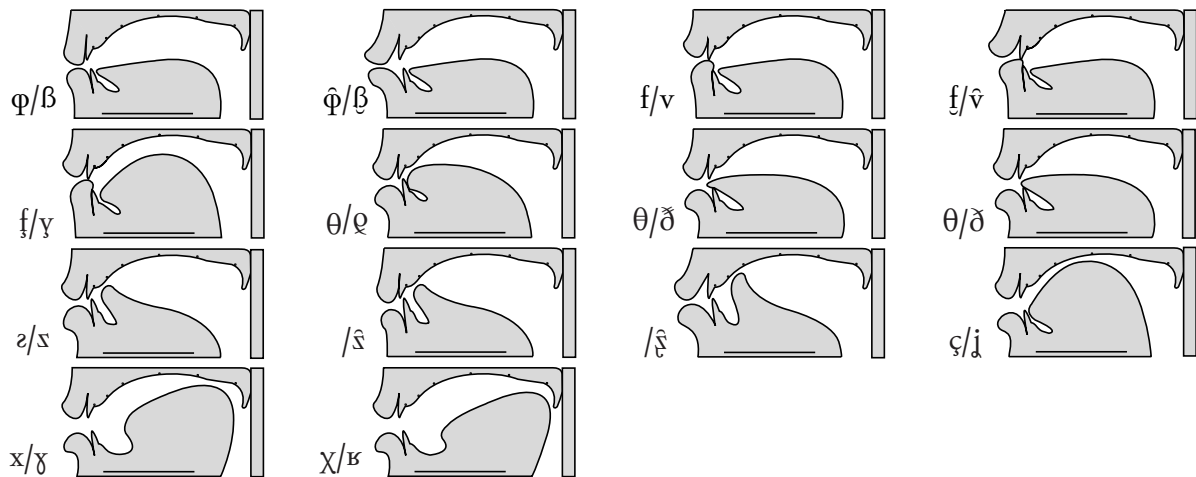
Slit stop-strictives



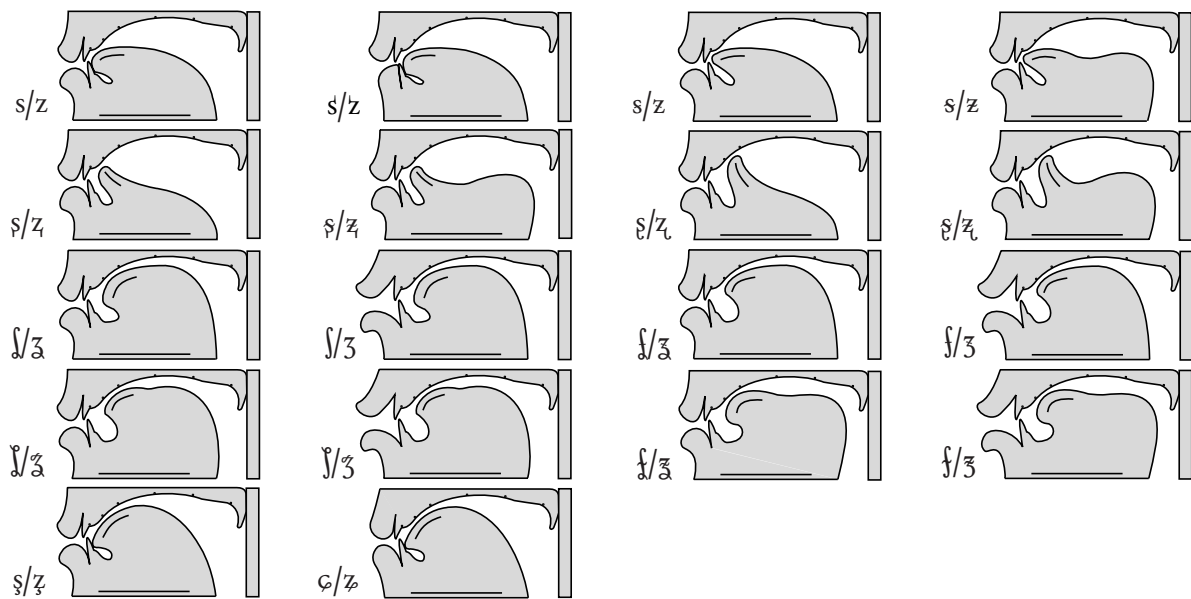
Grooved stop-strictives



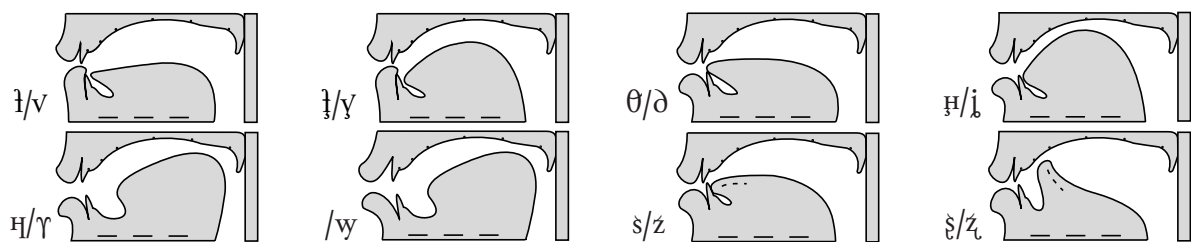
Slit constrictives



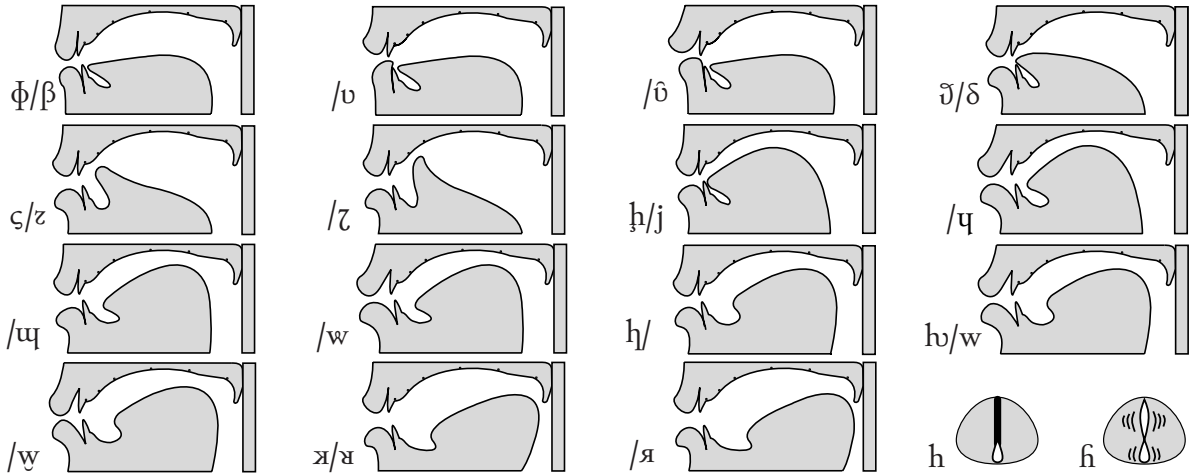
Grooved constrictives.



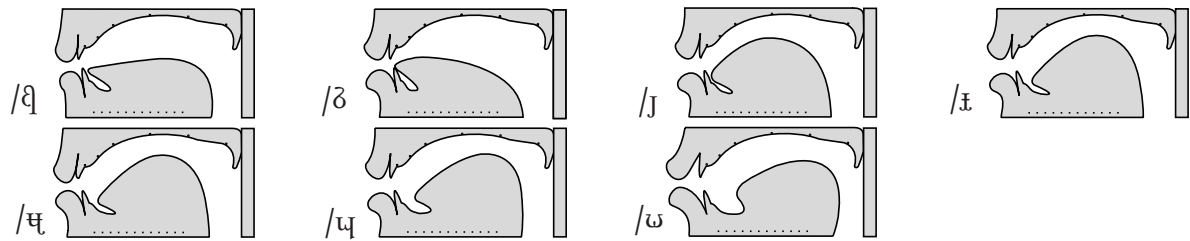
Grooved and slit semi-constrictives



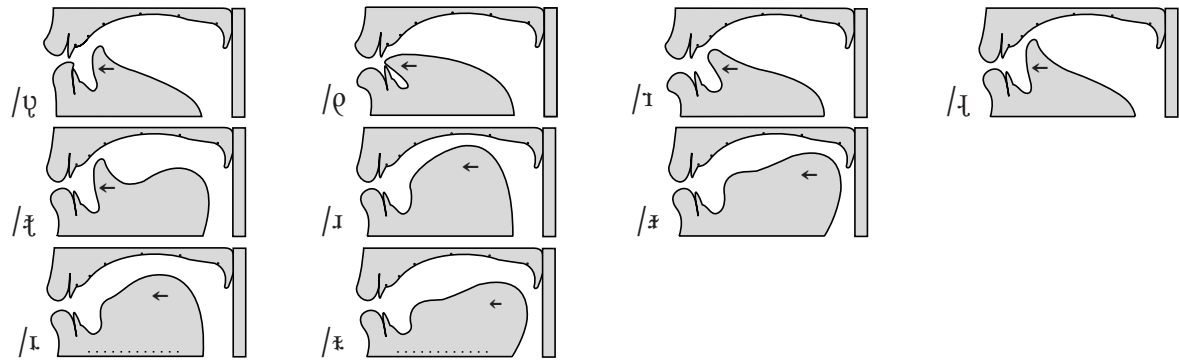
Approximants



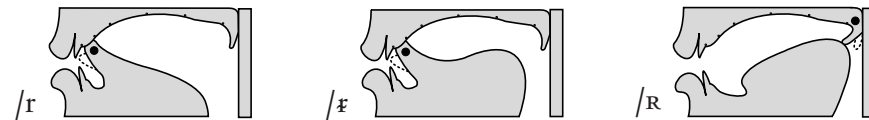
Semi-approximants



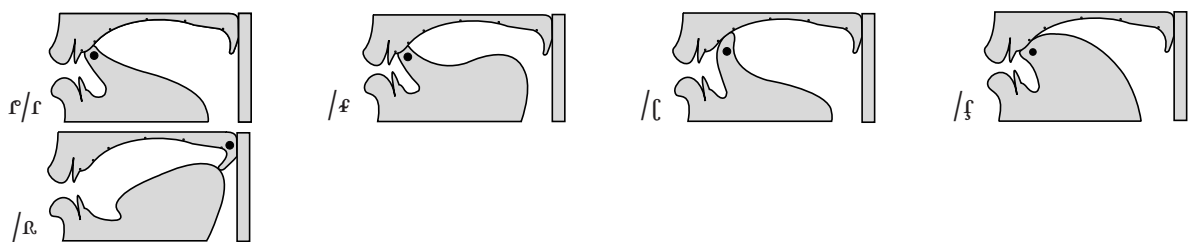
Lateralized approximants (and two semi-approximants)



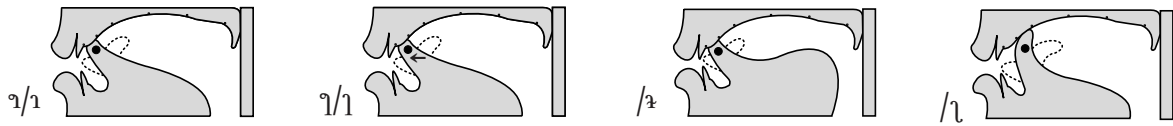
Trills



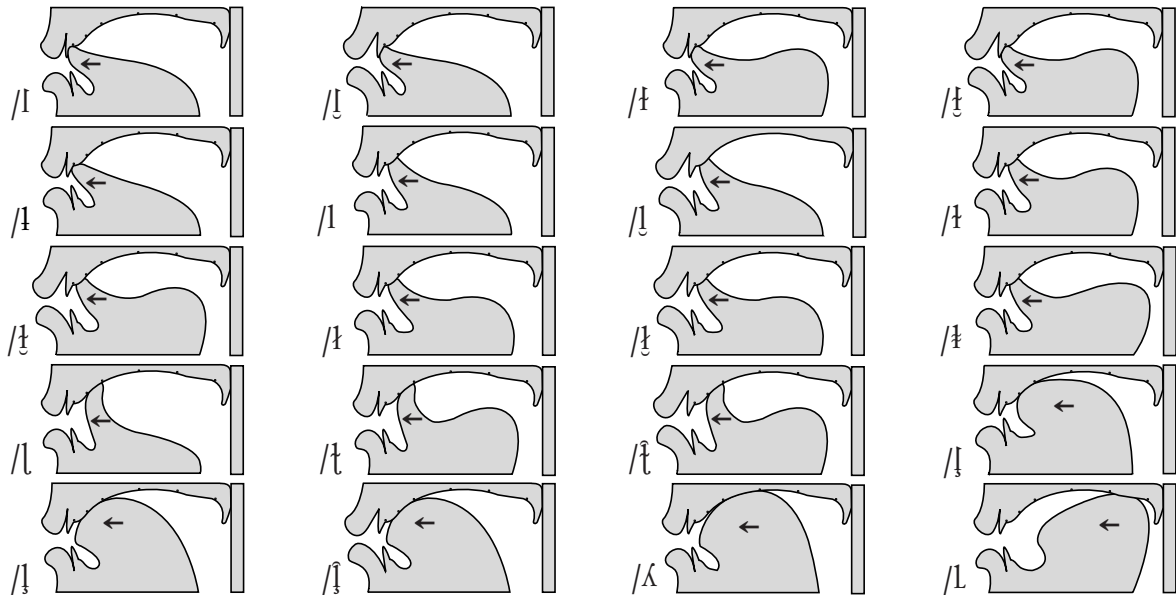
Taps



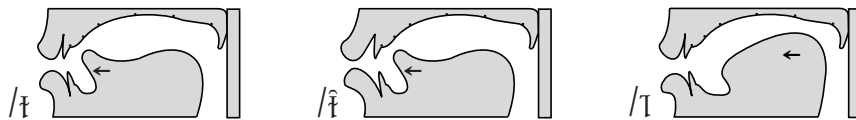
Flaps



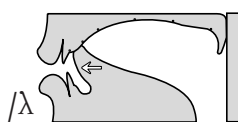
Laterals (those with added rounding, [ɭ], are not shown in the following table, for lack of space)



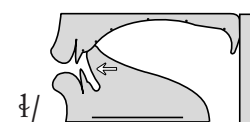
Semi-laterals



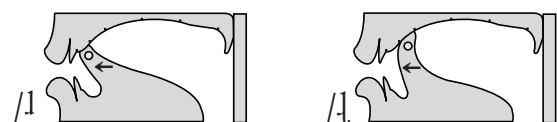
Uni-lateral



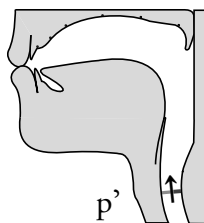
Constrictive uni-lateral



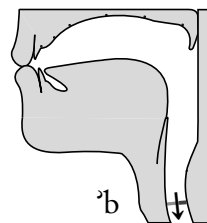
Tapped laterals



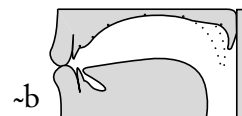
Ejective [b]



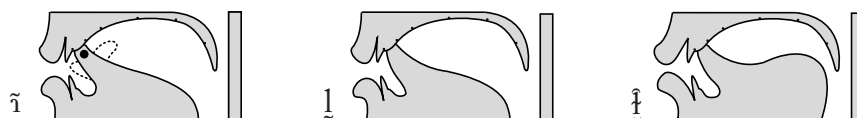
Injective [b]



Prenasalized [b]



Nasalized [ɹ, ɻ, ɻ]



Generic symbols

Here we give the complete list of our generic symbols for phonic categories, although they are not all used in this work. For further details, the readers are referred to our book *Natural Phonetics & Tonetics*.

V	vocoid/vowel	Λ	lateral \%_{or} trill/tap C
Ṽ	reduced V (in duration: \equiv Ṽ)	ᵇ	intense ('syllabic') lateral \%_{or} trill/tap C
ṽ	shortened V	ᵇ̥	voiceless lateral \%_{or} trill/tap C
Ṽ̃	nasalized V	N	nasal C
V̥	devoiced V	N̥	intense ('syllabic') nasal C
V̥̥	voiced lenis V	N̥̥	voiceless nasal C
V̥̥̥	voiceless lenis V	ɲ	sonant (or sonorant) C
Ṽ̥̥̥	half-nasalized V	ɲ̥	intense ('syllabic') sonant C
Ṽ̥̥̥̃	rounded V	ɲ̥̥	voiceless sonant C
Ṽ̥̥̥̃̃	unrounded V	R	trill (or trill & tap) C
Ṽ̥̥̥̃̃̃	advanced V	ʀ	voiceless trill (or trill & tap) C
Ṽ̥̥̥̃̃̃̃	retracted V	ʀ̥	constrictive trill C
Ṽ̥̥̥̃̃̃̃̃	lowered V	ɹ	tap C
Ṽ̥̥̥̃̃̃̃̃̃	raised V	ɹ̥	lateralized tap C
Ṽ̥̥̥̃̃̃̃̃̃̃	normal V – or under other conventions	ɹ̥̥	flap C
Ṽ̥̥̥̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃	creaky V (or laryngealized)	ɹ̥̥̥	lateralized flap C
Ĉ	contoid/consonant	Ω	median approximant C
Ċ	reduced C (in duration: \equiv Ċ)	J	approximant C
Ċ̥	shortened C	J̥	semi-approximant C
Ċ̥̥	glottalized voiceless C, with simultaneous [ʔ]	ɭ	lateralized approximant C
Ċ̥̥̥	intense ('syllabic') C	ɭ̥	lateralized semiapproximant C
Ċ̥̥̥̃	devoiced C	Φ	peripheral approximant C
Ċ̥̥̥̃̃	voiceless lenis C – or under other conventions, especially diaphonemic	Γ	obstruent (K, K̥, Σ) C, in diphonic pairs
Ċ̥̥̥̃̃̃	voiced lenis C	H	laryngeal approximant C
Ċ̥̥̥̃̃̃̃	voiceless C	H̥	laryngeal constrictive C
Ċ̥̥̥̃̃̃̃̃	voiced C	K	stop C
Ċ̥̥̥̃̃̃̃̃̃	rounded C	K̥	semi-stop C
Ċ̥̥̥̃̃̃̃̃̃̃	unrounded C	X	(slit) constrictive C
Ċ̥̥̥̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃	palatalized C	x	(slit) semi-constrictive C
Ċ̥̥̥̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃	velarized/uvularized C	S	grooved constrictive C
Ċ̥̥̥̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃	advanced C	s	grooved semi-constrictive C
Ċ̥̥̥̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃	retracted C	Σ	(generic) constrictive C
Ċ̥̥̥̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃	tenser/closer C	Σ̥	(generic) semi-constrictive C
Ċ̥̥̥̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃	less tense/close C	KX	(slit) stop-strictive C
Ċ̥̥̥̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃̃	creaky/laryngealized voiced C	KX̥	(slit) stop-semi-strictive C
L	lateral C	KX̥̥	(slit) semi-stop-strictive C
ɬ	constrictive lateral C	KS	grooved stop-strictive C
ɭ	voiceless lateral C	KS̥	grooved stop-semi-strictive C
ɺ	lateral tap C	KS̥̥	grooved semi-stop-strictive C
ɻ	unilateral C	KΣ	(generic) stop-strictive C
ɻ̥	semilateral C	KΣ̥	(generic) stop-semi-strictive C
		KΣ̥̥	(generic) semi-stop-strictive C
		Kɬ	lateral stop-strictive C

- KR trill(ed)/tap(ped) stop-strictive C
 Π lexeme
 π grammeme
 Ψ rhythm group
 ψ reduced rhythm group
 \$ phono-syllable
 \$ reduced phono-syllable
 \$ <light> syllable
 \$ <heavy> syllable
 ∅ <zero> phone/phoneme
^v indicates proximity to V – ^vC, ^vC^v, C^v
^c indicates proximity to C – ^cV, ^cV^c, V^c
 C* C with audible explosion
 C[†] C with inaudible explosion
 C^h = /C_h/ ≠ /C_h/
 C^h = /C_h/ ≠ /C_h/
 C' ejective C
^ʼC injective C
^ʼC dejective/click C
 ʒC prenasalized dejective C
 ~C prenasalized C
^ˈV stressed V (with strong/primary stress)
^ˌV half-stressed V (with mid/medium/secondary/half-strong stress)
^ˋV unstressed V (with weak stress)
^ˊV destressed V (with reduced stress, up to weak; starting from ^ˈV)
^{ˊˊ}V over-stressed V (with extrastrong stress)
 V: long V
 V· half-long V
 V: less than long V
 V. less than half-long V
 V| utterance-final V
 |V after a pause or silence V
 V# word-final V
 #V word-initial V
 V# syllable-final V
 -V- V within a word, word-internal V
 | pause
 : potential pause
 || longer pause
 () (low) parenthesis
 () (mid) parenthesis
 [] quotation
 . *emic* conclusive intoneme
 ? *emic* interrogative intoneme
 ; *emic* suspensive intoneme
 , *emic* continuative intoneme
 normal preintoneme (*no sign*)
- ː interrogative preintoneme
 ˑ imperative preintoneme
 ˑ emphatic preintoneme
 ˑ supplementary interrogative preintoneme (in French)
 - (ˑ ˑ ˑ) tone with strong stress
 ˑ (ˑ ˑ) tone with mid stress
 ˑ (ˑ ˑ) tone with weak stress
 = (ˑ ˑ ˑ) tone with extrastrong stress
 ˑ (ˑ ˑ ˑ) falling tone
 ˑ (ˑ ˑ ˑ) rising tone
 ˑ Japanese *akusento* (distinctive pitch lowering)
 ˑ (ˑ ˑ ˑ ˑ ˑ ˑ) shift diacritic
 < > paraphonic element, or grapheme
 [] phonetic transcription
 / / phonemic transcription
 [] *hyper*phonetic transcription
 // // *hyper*phonemic transcription
 () symbol/phon(em)e which can fall (or be lacking)
 (()) potential symbol/phon(em)e, which can be used.

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Settings

Others, without figures, are to be found in \mathfrak{C} 49, *Other paraphonic elements*, and –generally– at the end of pertinent final sections of chapters on *Territorial accents*, while \mathfrak{C} 48, *Paraphonic use of pitch*, shows a tonetic figure.

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Selected annotated bibliography (for both parts)

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Instead of indicating hundreds and hundreds of books and articles, or even a whole thousand of works (which are perhaps difficult to obtain and often hardly useful), we have preferred to list only what is thought to be really useful and recommendable to expand one's own experience and knowledge on the subject. Therefore, practical books are preferred, especially when recordings are available too, more than theories, which are often too abstract and consequently quite useless.

Furthermore, many more or less recent books do not appear here, since –unfortunately– they do not have much to offer. Too often, they just keep on repeating the same old things found in other books, without checking them or correcting them. Instead of making progress, they are wholly useless, and –indeed– guiltily and dishonestly harmful. It is fundamental to avoid such useless and penile books as, for instance, *The Sound Structure of English. An Introduction* (2009), whose author is so ‘clever a scholar’ as to say that *phonos* = ‘sound’. But, actually, as everybody knows, *phōnē* = ‘sound’, while *phonos* = ‘murder’ (of course, the murder of Phonetics, no doubt, committed by that luminary, who might try to ‘correct’ his ‘pearls of wisdom’ into ‘*phonē* = sound’, with the same result, since the root *φον-* means ‘murder’, while ‘sound’ is *φων-*).

Thus, much more can be done, by carefully reading few selected works (and, sometimes, skipping certain –more or less extended– parts in them), and by *listening* extensively –and in the right way, according to the *Natural Phonetics Method*– to the sounds of English.

Certain phonetics treatises have the same ‘clarity’ and ‘effectiveness’ of pictorial and chromatic disquisitions performed... on the radio (with no color booklets)! Therefore, it would be better to read something different, but more useful and interesting, even if the subject might not seem to be related with phonetics. For instance, it is highly recommendable to read (and carefully observe the figures) something on *typography*, in these days when even traditional publishers are seriously lazy and tragically lax, because they make a limited and partial use of the possibilities provided by electronic publishing, in particular, as far as the use and –mostly– the elaboration of *fonts*, ie printing characters, are concerned. There are very good programs for anyone willing to produce splendid –and inoffensive– fonts! It seems incredible that publishers like Cambridge University Press, when dealing with phonetics, or with plain non-ASCII symbols or with simple letters with

diacritics, actually produce absurd typographical mixtures, by combining together different –clearly unmatching– fonts and dimensions, and by slanting characters instead of using actual italic shapes, when needed. Still, they are the publishers of both *The Handbook of the International Phonetic Association* and *The Journal of the International Phonetic Association*!

The French project *Phonology of Contemporary English* (ie ‘Phonologie de l’Anglais Contemporain’) is meant to deal with the variation of English from as many different locations as possible in the English-speaking world, by collecting various recorded samples. We do hope that finally those samples will be useful and copious, because the available works so far produced are not at all promising, since they do not differ much from anything produced before. They are still just glottosophic or glottometric things (and with extremely generic symbols), certainly not glottographic, as they should. And we do not yet know anything about the actual areas they will be collected from, nor about how intonation will be included.

On the contrary, the unabridged *Webster’s Third New International Dictionary of the English Language* is a rich mine of (lexical and) phonetic information, with many interesting variants, including non-neutral ones, in spite of its complicated non-IPA symbolization and its publication date (which explains why it does not contain such words as *Internet* or *emoticon*).

Those who are interested in *Natural Phonetics* descriptions, which means practical and realistic, can safely reject (from other bibliographies and catalogs) books and articles from recent last decades, which explicitly mention *phonology*, especially when it is specified that it is *generative*, *autosegmental*, *metrical*, and many other definitions (probably abandoned just after the publication of few articles). Recently, the *optimality theory* is rampant... These phonic studies are all *glottosophic* (ie abstract and theoretical), not *glottographic* (ie concrete and practical). Equally, *glottometric* studies (ie acoustic and quantitative) can safely be rejected, unless their numerical facts can be changed into actual concrete realities; they are easily recognized, with practice, from some words in their titles, or from the kind of journals in which they are published.

Therefore, the (relatively) few titles which appear here are not only ‘impertinacious’, but surely provide useful information and notions for acquisition and personal reflections, which go beyond too many readings, if real *natural phonetics* is what we are looking for (ie glottographic –not glottosophic, or glottometric– phonetics). Even less useful are *glottemic* books and articles, by journalist-like ‘linguists’, who just repeat what people may seem to like, without changing anything in order not to strain their minds with ‘unwelcome’ innovations, however important they may be.

All our examples are taken from the very many *recordings* of spontaneous speech and special questionnaires we used to collect our samples. The examples are transcribed using *canIPA* symbols to provide very precise notations and descriptions by means of our vocograms and orograms (and tonograms as well), which might be compared to color pictures against black and white ones, whose nuances are very

different, and hardly comparable. Therefore, we do not feel the need to mention those *authors* who may have given similar descriptions and/or transcriptions, which are not as precise as ours. Frankly, it would have been impossible to conciliate the descriptions and transcriptions which can be found in the literature; so we had to decide to ground our transcriptions principally on the various (selected) *recordings* which we used for our descriptions. Of course, should we happen to mention some particular information and/or (retranscribed) examples from given authors, we will give full references.

We have adopted this strategy because, otherwise, we would feel the necessity –too often and repeatedly– to criticize the terms and symbols used by the majority of phoneticians (to say nothing about general linguists, least of all about generative –or ‘degenerative’– linguists, rather ‘glottosophers’, as we know), since we consider such terms and symbols to be too generic and less scientific.

The few books we indicate in our bibliography can be used as general introductions or for general information about less phonetic/linguistic –ie marginal– matters. On the contrary, of course, the *dictionaries* listed (and generally commented) are the most useful books, which all readers should use actively, together with good recordings which they should collect by themselves. Following our taxophonic indications, the readers can safely change the phonemic transcriptions which they find in the dictionaries into our own *canIPA* phonotonic transcriptions.

The *recordings* indicated in this bibliography are mere examples of some accents, just to have a taste of them. Certainly, they are not sufficient for a complete analysis of any accents: they are very partial both for the phonemes and especially for the taxophones. Often just one token is provided, but for a limited number of contexts; to say nothing about intonation, which is completely ignored. Even the informants are not always the best possible ones; but this is an actual problem for the recordings, in these studies.

No information is provided here –on purpose– for those CD’s which may be available for some books but run just on Windows operating systems (which is not fair, indeed).

ARNOLD, G. F. & TOOLEY, O. M. (1972) *Say It with Rhythm, 3: An Advanced Phonetic Reader*. London: Longman. Useful in spite of its old-fashioned –‘pre-Beatles’– IPA. *Australian Learners Dictionary* (1997) Sydney: National Centre for English Language Teaching and Research. Gives selected distributions of Australian pronunciation; IPA.

BBC Pronouncing Dictionary of British Names (1983², 1971¹) Oxford: OUP. British pronunciation; IPA and modified spelling with markers above vowels and under consonants.

BRONSTEIN, A. J. (1960) *The Pronunciation of American English*. New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts. Introductory book; IPA (although fifty years ago it seemed to us far better than it actually is).

Canadian Oxford Dictionary, The (2001) Oxford University Press: Don Mills, Ontario. Gives Canadian pronunciation, with some variants; IPA.

- CANEPARI, L. (1983) *Phonetic Notation*. Venice: Cafoscarina. With 2 enclosed audiocassettes; almost *canIPA*.
- (2000 [amended & modified edition]) *Dizionario di pronuncia italiana* [A Dictionary of Italian Pronunciation]. Bologna: Zanichelli. 60,000 forms with transcription and pronunciation variants, which correspond at least to 180,000 actual words; pronunciations given: *modern neutral*, *traditional neutral*, *acceptable*, *tolerated*, *slovenly*, *intentional* and *lofty*; *canIPA* (a cheap paperback –but sewn and integral– edition appeared in 2009).
- (2004 [amended & modified version of the second edition]) *Manuale di pronuncia italiana* [A Handbook of Italian Pronunciation]. Bologna: Zanichelli. With 2 enclosed audiocassettes [a digital version of the recordings is downloadable from the author's website]; the current Handbook on Italian Pronunciation, introducing *modern neutral* pronunciation, in addition to the *traditional* one, besides other types (indicated in the preceding title), including the 22 Italian regional koinés, with 53 phonic maps; *canIPA*.
- (2005) *A Handbook of Phonetics: 'Natural' phonetics – articulatory, auditory, and functional*. München: Lincom Europa; see next title; *canIPA*.
- (2007) *Natural Phonetics & Tonetics. Articulatory, auditory, and functional*. München: Lincom Europa. Updated edition of previous title; in the first part, gives a complete presentation of the *canIPA* method and symbolization; while, in the second part, it provides accurate phonosyntheses of 241 living languages and 71 dead ones (in our website, the latter are 81, freely downloadable).
- (2007²) *A Handbook of Pronunciation. English, Italian, French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, Arabic, Hindi, Chinese, Japanese, Esperanto*. München: Lincom Europa; accurate *canIPA* transcriptions, as in this book.
- (2009²) *Pronuncia inglese per italiani*. Rome (Italy): Aracne. International English pronunciation, with American & British differences; *canIPA*.
- (2010) *English PronunciationS. 1: International, American & British neutral Accents*, and 2: *Territorial Accents*. Rome (Italy): Aracne. Inexpensive paperback (but sewn) edition of the present book, in two volumes; *canIPA*.
- CATFORD, J. C. (1977) *Fundamental Problems in Phonetics*. Edinburgh: EUP (IPA) (chapters 6-11).
- (1988) *A Practical Introduction to Phonetics*. Oxford: OUP. Guided drills to develop phonetic kinesthesia, to be performed accurately, step by step; however, the 2001 edition should be avoided because of too many technical problems during its unsuccessful updating; *IPA*.
- COLLINS, B. & MEES, I. M. (2008²) *Practical Phonetics and Phonology*. London: Routledge. A simple textbook but with an audio CD containing short and quick unscripted samples of 25 accents, in current orthography; *IPA*.
- DAUER, R. M. (1993) *Accurate English*. Englewood Cliffs: Regents/Prentice Hall. American pronunciation; with 4 enclosed audiocassettes; almost *IPA*.
- Dictionary of South African English on Historical Principles, A* (1996) Oxford: Oxford Univ. Press in association with the Dictionary Unit for South African English. Includes words from Afrikaans and South-African languages; *IPA*.

- FOULKES, P. & DOCHERTY, G. J. (1999 ed) *Urban Voices*. London: Arnold. Different-quality contributions, with a non-enclosed audiocassette; *IPA*.
- Gage Canadian Dictionary* (2000) Gage Educational Publishing Company: Vancouver. Gives Canadian pronunciation, with variants; *IPA*.
- GIMSON, A. C. (1975) *A Practical Course of English Pronunciation*. London: Arnold. British English; with a non-enclosed audiotape, with pronunciation well corresponding to those years; *IPA*.
- & RAMSARAN, S.M. (1982) *An English Pronunciation Companion*. Oxford: OUP. British English; with a non-enclosed audiocassette; *IPA*.
- Gimson's Pronunciation of English* (2008⁷) London: Hodder. Edited by A. CRUTTENDEN; originally: GIMSON, A. C. [1962¹, 1989⁴] *An Introduction to the Pronunciation of English*. London: Arnold; once the most recommendable textbook for neutral British pronunciation, although it has not reached the declared –and hoped for– updating of symbols and conceptions; British English with some regional characteristics occasionally indicated and some general variants treated concisely; *IPA*.
- HICKEY, R. (2004) *A Sound Atlas of Irish English*. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter. With an enclosed CD, not too thrilling, however, especially because the same things are repeated in so many other publications, but with frequent unwanted and unintentional changes in the symbols used, and with not too reliable descriptions (even though this ‘characteristic’ is shared with so many other native phoneticians, followed by too many non-native ones); the recordings are certainly not impeccable and quite unfit for intonation; *IPA*.
- HUGHES, A. & TRUDGILL, P. & WATT, D. (2005) *English Accents and Dialects: An Introduction to the Social and Regional Varieties of English in the British Isles*. London: Arnold. There had been three previous editions by the first two authors, with the same title and a non-enclosed audiocassette, starting from 1979¹; has an enclosed audio-CD with some new recordings; the diphthongs are shown in a curious way, at first rather confusing, as a line ending in a big dot, instead of as an arrow as before, but again missing the opportunity of hinting at lip shapes; simple descriptions and transcriptions, with no intonation; *IPA*.
- JONES, D. (1956⁴, 1909¹) *The Pronunciation of English*. Cambridge: CUP. British pronunciation; meanwhile, pronunciation has changed and symbols have been improved, but it is still worthwhile reading, rather than so many more recent books; ‘pre-Beatles’ *IPA*.
- (1960⁹, 1918¹) *An Outline of English Phonetics*. Cambridge: Heffer. British pronunciation; meanwhile, pronunciation has changed and symbols have been improved, but it is still worthwhile reading, rather than many more recent books; ‘pre-Beatles’ *IPA*.
- (1967³, 1950¹) *The Phoneme: its Nature and Use*. Cambridge: Heffer. Somehow still more useful than many recent books; *IPA*.
- (2006¹⁷, 1917¹) *Cambridge English Pronouncing Dictionary*. Cambridge: CUP. Edited by P. Roach & J. Hartman & J. Setter, in addition to British pronunciation, gives the American one, which however is not always neutral but simply

- mediatic; besides, it has lost much of the original spirit, by standardizing the transcriptions [cf Jones & Gimson & Ramsaran]; together with Wells 2008³ it provides a reliable survey, especially for British English; unfortunately, it does not take any advantage of the use of diaphonemes and interphonemes; *IPA*.
- & GIMSON, A. C. & RAMSARAN, S. (1988) *English Pronouncing Dictionary*. London: Dent. British; although the pronunciation has now changed a bit, it is still worthwhile consulting evenly, to have a taste of all the nuances indicated and to be able to enter the spirit of the language, lost in the more recent editions; *IPA*.
- KENYON, J. S. (1950¹⁰, 1924¹) *American Pronunciation*. George Wahr: Ann Arbor. American English; although the pronunciation has now changed a bit, it is still worthwhile seeing; there is also an ‘augmented’ edition by others, mostly for some acoustic data, 1994¹²; *IPA*.
- & KNOTT, T. A. (1953) *A Pronouncing Dictionary of American English*. Springfield, MASS: Merriam. American pronunciation; although the pronunciation has now changed a bit, it is still worthwhile consulting; *IPA* (while, incredibly –in the 3rd millennium– mostly in America, non-*IPA* dictionaries are still being published!).
- KING, G. (2005) *Colloquial English*. London/New York: Routledge. A language course with a one-page list of ‘mixed’ *IPA* symbols, and 2 CD’s with pronunciations including occasional instances of ‘newer’ mediatic-like British realizations, such as /ii, i[#]/ [i], /eɪ/ [aɪ], /æ/ [ɑ], /œ/ [o], /uu/ [ɥ], /σɔ/ [ʒə], /aσ/ [Aσ], /æ/ [A], /ɒ/ [ɔ], /σ:/ [oσ], /eə/ [əz], /iiɪ/ [iɪ], including (n)either as /'(n)iiðəɪ/ and some [ʔC] occurrences for /'V/ + /p, t, k, tʃ/; and also some ‘soft’ regional pronunciations, such as /æ/ [læf] in *laugh*, or /ɐ/ as [bɜs, wɔn] in *bus, one*; the intonation used is generally ‘mediatic’, including /?/ [·'··] and /;/ [·˘··], and sufficiently spontaneous-like.
- KINGDON, R. (1958a) *English Intonation Practice*. London: Longman. Orthography with intonation strokes.
- (1958b) *The Groundwork of English Intonation*. London: Longman. Orthography with intonation strokes and diagrams.
- KORTMANN, B. & SCHNEIDER, E. &c (2005 ed) *A Handbook of Varieties of English: 1 Phonology*. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter. In a book of 1168 pages, people interested in *accents* of the English language would expect to find more on native varieties of English and, perhaps, a little less on traditional dialects, pidgins, and creoles [although interesting in a general way, while Puerto Rico and southern Florida, for instance, are missing]; but especially greater precision would be appreciated, in particular for the presentation and representation of the vowels; simple descriptions and transcriptions, with vague official-*IPA* symbols, with no vocograms, orograms and intonation. In its demo version in the publishers’ website [in spite of some discouraging technical problems], the accompanying CD-ROM seemed to be more promising than it actually is; *IPA*.
- KURATH, H. & MCDAVID, R. I. (1961) *The Pronunciation of English in the Atlantic States*. Ann Arbor: The Univ. of Michigan Press. The vowels and some consonants, no intonation; almost *IPA*.

LABOV, W. & ASH, S. & BOBERG, C. (2006) *The Atlas of North American English*. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter. A fairer and more appropriate title would be *The Atlas of North-American English Stressed Vowels*, seeing that –practically– it only deals with these (ANAESV, rather than ANAE), in a word: *Labovowels*.

Unfortunately, this eagerly awaited (and rather expensive) *Atlas* is rather disappointing, and certainly not driving people into the best of tempers, since it gives far less than promised. In fact, its approach and method suffer too heavily from a cartoon-like and special-effect policy –or, rather, obsession– which has made it widely known, in spite of its evident limits. In fact, it continues to largely ignore such important data as precise *directions* and *extensions* of both phonemic and phonetic *diphthongs*. Instead of clearly and accurately showing these real movements, it gets bogged down in a series of presumed shifts, which are hardly ever real or actual changes, but only something that –at last– is fully recognized. The *Atlas* is explicitly and expressly devoted to the description of the vowel systems of regional ‘dialects’; but, generally, it only deals with some stressed vowels, not with whole systems; while consonants are completely ignored, not to speak of intonation, as if they were not an integral part of their pronunciation. Reading the chapters of this *Atlas*, it seems as if the authors were three astonished small children, moving to new places, who marvel at people pronouncing words differently from what they are used to. Actually, what is wrong with this approach is that they persevere with seeing ‘changes in progress’ and ‘chain shifts’ everywhere. Their view is as if –by magic– we happened to start from a kind of ‘phonic paradise’, where everybody used to speak neutral American English, but suddenly felt the wicked need to change things, as the only aim in their life, just to create peculiar chain shifts, in order to produce ‘Labovowels’.

At the time of the Beatles, we were in favor of Sociolinguistics. At last, its *glottometric* way (especially when it treated a whole system of variables with precise phonetic values for any variants in a concrete *glottographic* way) was actually countering the ethereal unreality and unconcreteness of the *glottosophic* generative trend, which seems to consider actual reality just as an unpleasant accident. But now, most of current Sociolinguistics has changed into a continual chase after fake scoops. In fact, we are not faced with presumed ‘linguistic changes’, but with *linguistic-usage changes*, as C. H. Grangent and J. S. Kenyon clearly attested at least as early as 1890-1920 (followed and complemented by C. K. Thomas, especially 1930-1960). There exist even precious recordings that date back to the third (and second) part of the 1800’s. Certain sociolinguists want to use them to hint at these blessed ‘changes in progress’ and ‘shift chains’; instead, those recordings clearly demonstrate that these ‘discoveries’ have been already there for a long time! We are firmly convinced that the only really satisfactory solution has to be found in the frame of *Natural Phonetics* (& *Tonetics*), which –to be true– is always based on the objective reality of the pronunciation of actual people, although, of course, in relation to neutral pronunciation.

With an enclosed CD, whose sound files are very far from high-quality, very incomplete and too noisy; no intonation; non-IPA.

- Macmillan English Dictionary for Advanced Learners* (2002) Oxford: Macmillan Education. Strangely, this dictionary 'created in Britain and the USA' only gives British pronunciation and with only tiny detail; however, it can be useful for the –British– *stressing of lexical collocations*; IPA.
- Macquarie Dictionary, The* (1997³) Sydney: The Macquarie Library. Encyclopedic, gives Australian pronunciation, with variants; IPA.
- Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary* (2003¹¹) Springfield, Mass.: Merriam-Webster. American pronunciation; interesting for its frequent *phonic variants*, although it shows absurd 'secondary stresses', since they are absurdly marked for almost every non-attenuated V; with 2 useful appendices on [about 14,000] *biographical* and *geographical* Names; unfortunately still non-IPA, in spite of the great Kenyon & Knott's *Dictionary* example.
- MILROY, J. (1981) *Regional accents of English: Belfast*. Belfast: Blackstaff; IPA.
- NBC Handbook of Pronunciation* (1964³) New York: Crowell. American pronunciation; an unsparing three-column *dictionary* where more than 60% of each page is wasted for respelling too, but with the addition of IPA.
- O'CONNOR, J. D. (1973) *Phonetics*. Harmondsworth: Penguin. In spite of some quite strangely collocations of regional vowels and diphthongs in the quadrilaterals; IPA.
- Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English* (2005⁷) Oxford: OUP. British pronunciation with only major American differences; it shows cases of 'marked' stresses for certain lexical collocations, with a CD; IPA.
- Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English – Encyclopedic Edition* (1992) Oxford: OUP. British pronunciation with only major American differences; it shows cases of 'marked' stresses for certain lexical collocations; IPA.
- Oxford BBC Guide to Pronunciation* (2006) Oxford: OUP. Actually an A-Z dictionary of controversial cases, with a journalese subtitle like 'the Essential Handbook of the Spoken Word'; British pronunciation through respelling, excessively abundant in *h*'s [as in 'Botham **bohth**-uhm /'bəʊθəm/'], with IPA only added after it, but not in the very many notes, because –even in the 3rd millennium– its editors 'do not expect programme makers to be able to use' IPA; happily giving at least '/ɛ/' instead of '/e/' for /ɛ/, but questionably also '/a, i:, u:, ɛ:, ʌ/' for /æ, ii, uu, ɛə, aɛ/, according to the debatable OUP fashion in recent years; furthermore, not always reliable and, so to say, quite a little bit 'hysterical'.
- Oxford Dictionary of Pronunciation for Current English, The* (2001). Oxford: OUP. Although it is the latest to be projected, it lags behind its predecessors. In addition, it is exactly the opposite to the very convenient diaphonemic and interphonemic transcriptions – as a matter of fact, besides uselessly repeating also 'identical' forms, in addition to those with slightly different phonetic renderings, for every variant given it repeats the whole transcription [and not continuing the line, but starting a new paragraph], instead of indicating –more clearly– the sole differences [failing then to give the fundamental immediacy]. Besides, it uses different criteria and symbols for the two accents [ie British and American], leading the reader to think there are differences even where actually none is there, as

- for instance also for secondary-stress markings after primary stresses, which are indicated in the American but not in the British pronunciation, for forms which are instead absolutely identical such as ‘teacake BR *ˈtiːkeɪk*, AM *ˈtiːkeɪk*’ (3 lines), instead of ‘teacake *ˈtiːkeɪk*’. Therefore, considering the great amount of blank space and its many useless transcriptions, it uses twice the number of pages actually needed: for instance, for the article *a*, it uses 10 lines [ten!] to give –in substance– ‘*a* */ɛɪ, ə/*’, although it is very deficient in variants of reduced forms; besides, it mixes up neutral pronunciations and others which are not (yet) neutral, eg *dune* with a British variant identical to *June*, ‘*/dʒuːn/*’, or *latter* shown, in the American pronunciation, exactly like *ladder*, ‘*/lædə/*’, not even as a variant; ‘mixed’ IPA.
- PALMER, H. E. & BLANFORD, F. G. & KINGDON, R. (1969) *A Grammar of Spoken English*. Cambridge: Heffer. British; every example is not in current spelling, but in phonemic and tonemic IPA transcription, though a simplified one.
- QUAGGIATO, M. E. (1998) *Fonetica inglese neutra e del Sud*. Univ. of Venice, unpublished graduation thesis guided by L. Canepari; *canIPA*.
- Random House Dictionary of the English Language – Unabridged, The* (1987²) New York: Random House. American; reliable for secondary stresses; but non-IPA.
- Random House Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary* (1997²) New York: Random House. American; reliable for secondary stresses; but non-IPA.
- ROACH, P. (2000³) *English Phonetics and Phonology*. Cambridge: CUP. British pronunciation; with 2 non-enclosed audiocassettes; IPA.
- SANTIPOLO, M. (1998) *A Socio-phonetic Description of Some Varieties of South-eastern British English*. Univ. of Venice, unpublished graduation thesis guided by L. Canepari; *canIPA*.
- THOMAS, C. K. (1958²) *An Introduction to the Phonetics of American English*. New York: The Ronald Press Company. Simple descriptions and transcriptions, with no intonation; one of our favorite readings at twelve years of age, although insufficient now; IPA.
- TRUDGILL, P. (1984 ed) *Language in the British Isles*. Cambridge: CUP; IPA.
- (1999²) *The Dialects of England*. Oxford: Blackwell. Simple descriptions and transcriptions, with no intonation; IPA.
- & HANNAH, J. (2008⁵, 1982¹) *International English: A Guide to Varieties of Standard English*. London: Arnold. The first three editions had a non-enclosed audiocassette; for this edition, the sound files are downloadable from the publisher’s website; simple descriptions and transcriptions, with no intonation; IPA.
- TURRIN, N. (1997) *The Accents of Northern England*. Univ. of Venice, unpublished graduation thesis guided by L. Canepari; *canIPA*.
- Webster’s New Biographical Dictionary* (1988) Springfield, Mass.: Merriam Company. American pronunciation; non-IPA.
- Webster’s New Encyclopedic Dictionary* (1993) New York: Black Dog & Leventhal. American pronunciation; it shows destressable monosyllables by means of ‘zero’ stress marks; non-IPA.
- Webster’s New Geographical Dictionary* (1988) Springfield, Mass.: Merriam Company. American pronunciation; non-IPA.

- Webster's New World Dictionary. Third College Edition* (1988) Cleveland & New York: Webster's New World. American; shows graphic syllabification distinguishing between 'normal' and just 'possible', less recommended, hyphenation; non-IPA.
- Webster's Third New International Dictionary of the English Language – Unabridged* (1967) Springfield, Mass.: Merriam Company. American pronunciation; gives several variant pronunciations, including mediatic and non-neutral ones, somehow explained in its long introduction to pronunciation; today it is available thanks to the meritorious, inexpensive, and easier to handle reprint –[though] slightly reduced in size– published in Germany by Könnemann, a few years ago; unfortunately, it uses too complicated stress notation and symbol representation, not always quite clear; non-IPA.
- WELLS, J. C. (1982) *Accents of English*. Cambridge: CUP. 3 vols; extensive survey mainly based on available written sources at the time, rather dated now; simple descriptions and transcriptions, with vague official-IPA symbols, with no vocograms, orograms or tonograms; IPA.
- (2006) *English Intonation. An Introduction*. Cambridge: CUP. British pronunciations; still using the 'British' approach to intonation [but with notational limitations 'suggested' by current computer signs, in comparison with those used by Kingdon]. It is better than most others, although not the best one today, with its excessive $\bar{\downarrow}$ and $\bar{\uparrow}$ and combinations, too; with an audio CD, where the modern neutral pronunciation *sometimes* alternates with its older version –such as /ɛəɪ/ [ɛɜ], older [ɛɐ], /i/ [i], older [ɪ]– or with *some* of its mediatic variants, including *a few* in-between realizations –such as /σɔ/ [ɜɜ], /σɔ:/ [oo], /σɔ:ɪ/ [σɐɪ], /ɒ/ [ɔ, ↓ɒ, ↓↓σ], /ɑ:/ [ɑ:], /æ/ [A, a], /ɐ/ [Λ], /uu/ [ʰu, iμ], /ʰɪŋ, ɔŋ/ [ɪŋ, ↓ɪŋ], /ɪəɪ/ [ɜ:, əɜ], /oəɪ/ [o:], /aɛ/ [Λɪ], half-stressed *so* /σɔ/ [ɜɔ] as [ɜə], and *worry* with regular /ɐ/ [ɐ], but also with [ɜ:], and even [ɔ], /t/ [ɹ], /tʰ/ [tʰ], /ɹ/ [v, ʊ, ɹ], /[#]bɹ/ [b], one case of intrusive *r* and of non-linking *r*; unfortunately, both /,/ and /?/ are still indicated as ' ', and there are some 'mixed' occurrences of /,/ and /;/, the latter is riskily rendered –especially before vowels– as 'v', which is too similar to 'v', while accompanied by a more rare –but actually unambiguous– mostly, though not always, unconnected ' ^ ' ; with finer distinctions in the final chapters, but with paraphonics still mixed with linguistic intonation.
- (2008³) *Longman Pronunciation Dictionary*. Harlow: Longman. British & American pronunciations; together with 'Jones¹⁷' it provides a reliable survey, especially for British English; for American English, '/ɒ:/' has been removed from the first edition [1990], although it could be more useful than '/æɹ/' , which is still there; whereas '/oɹɹ/' has become '/oʊɹ/' , which is more 'economical', but far less appropriate; too many non-neutral mediatic variants are given; unfortunately, it does not take any advantage of the use of diaphonemes and interphonemes; IPA.
- WINDSOR LEWIS, J. (1972) *A Concise Pronouncing Dictionary of British and American English*. London: OUP. Despite ' /o/ ' for /ɒ/; IPA.
- (1977) *People Speaking: Phonetic Readings in Current English*. Oxford: OUP. With a non-enclosed audiocassette giving selected texts in three kinds of tran-

scription: phonemes & stress, orthography & intonation strokes, phones & intonation strokes; despite ‘/o/’ for /ɒ/, *IPA*.

WISE, C. M. (1957) *Applied Phonetics*. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall. With native and foreign English accents, but no intonation: one of our first ‘special’ and fascinating readings at 12 (as the transcriptions in *Le Maître Phonétique* certainly were), up to 20 of age; but soon after they clearly turned out to be too simple, approximate and merely segmental, including Wise’s ‘standardized’ quadrilaterals, unfortunately not fully exploited, as even in too many books and –especially– websites, today; *IPA*.