

TRABAJOS PRÁCTICOS: CLASS 2

You are expected to work on all the tasks in this TP **BEFORE** the practical class

Part one: Consonants: difficult sounds: /b/ vs /v/



1. Why is the contrast between these two sounds /v/ vs /b/ difficult for some Spanish speakers? Follow the link and find the answer:



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ghb6qapA_gM

2. Now it's your time to distinguish between /b/ and /v/.

Listen to the words in bold. Then, read them aloud. It is a good idea to use the front camera of your phone (or a mirror!) to look at the position of the lips as you read the words.

	Sound 1 /b/	Sound 2 /v/	
	bet They're good bets .	vet They're good vets .	
	best He wore his best .	vest He wore his vest .	
	ban Can they lift that ban ?	van Can they lift that van ?	
	bolt We need more bolts .	volt We need more volts .	
	boat Jones won the boat .	vote Jones won the vote .	
	berry It's a berry red colour.	very It's a very red colour.	

3. Now listen to the minimal pair sentences. Then, read them aloud. It is a good idea to use the front camera of your phone (or a mirror!) to look at the position of the lips as you read the words.



Part two: Silent letters

Letters and sounds are not to be confused. While it is conventional to use **letters** in writing, phonetic transcriptions use internationally agreed **symbols** (IPA).

One principle governing the use of these phonetic symbols is that there should ONLY be one symbol for every sound; regardless of the number of letters. In that way, it sometimes takes several letters to “spell” a sound, as it’s the case in *taxi* /tæksi/, *swimming* /swɪmɪŋ/ or *food* /fu:d/. Similarly, other letters are “silent” (they have no corresponding sound), such as the “w” in *write* /raɪt/.

In addition, because symbols are **not** letters, you cannot ‘personalize’ them and create your own version of them. Symbols must be drawn as they appear in the pronunciation dictionary. Words may be in capitals, symbols CAN’T.

1- Read the following words and write them in ordinary spelling. Watch out!

They all contain “silent” letters.

1. /θʌm/

10. /ʃʊd/

2. /det/

11. /dæm/

3. /si:n/

12. /saɪkəʊ/

4. /sænwɪdʒ/

13. /aɪl/

5. /fɒrən/

14. /kɑ:sl/

6. /eərəs/

15. /rɒŋ/

7. /naɪf/

16. /sɔ:d/

8. /pɑ:m/

9. /wɔ:k/

2 – Now, compare the spelling and the transcription. Can you infer the rules for silent letters? Read on and find out if you were right.

1. thumb

2. debt

b	Final mb	<i>bomb</i> /bɒm/, <i>climb</i> , <i>comb</i> /kəʊm/, <i>crumb</i> , <i>dumb</i> , <i>lamb</i> , <i>limb</i> , <i>tomb</i> /tu:m/, <i>numb</i> , <i>plumb</i> , <i>thumb</i> , <i>succumb</i> , <i>aplomb</i> . Also derived forms, e.g. <i>bomber</i> , <i>dumber</i> , <i>dumbest</i> , <i>plumbing</i> . Otherwise medial mb is pronounced in full, e.g. <i>limbo</i> , <i>lumber</i> , <i>timber</i> .
	Final bt	<i>debt</i> , <i>doubt</i> (and derived forms, e.g. <i>debtor</i> , <i>doubtful</i>). Note also medial <i>subtle</i> .

3. scene/seen

c	Mainly in sc	<i>scene</i> , <i>scenario</i> , <i>obscene</i> , <i>scent</i> , <i>science</i> , <i>scissors</i> , <i>ascend</i> , <i>descend</i> , <i>crescent</i> /'krezənt/, <i>corpuscle</i> /'kɔ:pəsəl/, <i>muscle</i> . But c = /k/ in <i>muscular</i> , <i>corpuscular</i> . Note also <i>indict</i> /ɪn'daɪt/.
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4. sandwich

d	Medial sequences	<i>Wednesday</i> ^g /'wenzdeɪ/, <i>sandwich</i> ^g , <i>grandfather</i> ^g , <i>handsome</i>
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5. foreign

g	Initial and final gn	<i>gnash</i> , <i>gnarled</i> , <i>gnat</i> , <i>gnome</i> , <i>align</i> /ə'lam/, <i>sign</i> /saɪn/, <i>foreign</i> /'fɔ:rən/, <i>reign</i> /reɪn/. But note <i>signal</i> with sounded /g/, /'sɪgnəl/
	Final gm	Only in <i>paradigm</i> , <i>phlegm</i> , <i>diaphragm</i> (note that g returns in derived forms, <i>phlegmatic</i> , <i>paradigmatic</i> , <i>diaphragmatic</i>)

6. heiress

h	ch	<i>ache</i> /eɪk/, <i>chaos</i> /'keɪɔs/, <i>character</i> , <i>chasm</i> /'kæzəm/, <i>chemist</i> , <i>chord</i> , <i>choir</i> /kwaɪə/, <i>anchor</i> , <i>monarch</i> /'mɒnək/, <i>stomach</i> /'stʌmək/. Note <i>yacht</i> /jɒt/, where c is also silent. Also in derived forms <i>aching</i> , <i>chaotic</i> , etc.
	In gh	<i>ghastly</i> , <i>ghost</i> , <i>sigh</i> , <i>right</i> , <i>weigh</i> , <i>though</i>
	Medial ph	<i>shepherd</i> and some place names e.g. <i>Bispham</i> , <i>Clapham</i> , <i>Felpham</i> , <i>Meopham</i> /'meɪəm/
	Initial rh	<i>rhapsody</i> , <i>rhinoceros</i> , <i>rhotic</i> , <i>rhyme</i> , <i>rhythm</i>
	Initial wh . See p. 51.	<i>what</i> [❏] , <i>which</i> [❏] , <i>white</i> [❏] , <i>whether</i> [❏]
	Initially in a few common words	<i>heir</i> , <i>honest</i> , <i>honour</i> , <i>hour</i> (and derived forms, e.g. <i>heiress</i> , <i>honesty</i> , etc.)
	Medial h (1) after ex- (2) intervocalic	<i>exhaust</i> , <i>exhibit</i> , <i>exhilarate</i> , <i>exhort</i> , <i>exhume</i> ; <i>annihilate</i> , <i>vehicle</i> , <i>vehement</i>

7. knife

k	Initial kn	<i>knack</i> , <i>kneel</i> , <i>knife</i> , <i>know</i>
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8. palm

9. walk

10. should

l	al = /ɑː/	<i>calf</i> , <i>half</i> , <i>almond</i> [❏] , <i>alms</i> , <i>calm</i> , <i>palm</i> . Note also: <i>salmon</i> /'sæmən/; <i>halfpenny</i> /'heɪpni/ (old coin).
	al = /ɔː/	<i>chalk</i> , <i>stalk</i> , <i>talk</i> , <i>walk</i> . Also <i>baulk</i>
	ol = /əʊ/	<i>folk</i> , <i>yolk</i> . In place names, final <i>-folk</i> = /fək/, e.g. <i>Norfolk</i> , <i>Suffolk</i> . Note: <i>colonel</i> /'kɜːnəl/
	ould = /ʊd/	Only in <i>should</i> , <i>could</i> , <i>would</i>

11. damn

n	Final mn	<i>autumn</i> , <i>condemn</i> , <i>column</i> , <i>damn</i> , <i>hymn</i> , <i>solemn</i> . Note that n returns in derived forms: e.g. <i>autumnal</i> , <i>condemnation</i> , <i>columnist</i> , <i>solemnify</i> , etc.
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12. psycho

p	Initial pn, ps	<i>pneumatic, pneumonia, psychologist, psychiatrist, pseudo-</i>
	In a few exceptional words	<i>coup /kuː/, corps /kɔː/, cupboard /'kʌbəd/, raspberry /'rɑːzbrɪ/, receipt /rɪ'siːt/</i>

13. aisle/isle

s	In a few exceptional words	<i>aisle /aɪl/, isle /aɪl/, island, /'aɪlənd/, viscount /'vaɪkaʊnt/</i>
	In recent loans from French	<i>chassis /'ʃæsi/, debris /'deɪ(ɪ)brɪː/, precis /'preɪsiː/, corps /kɔː/, rendezvous /'rɒnd(e)ɪvuː/</i>

14. castle

t	In ending -stle, sten	<i>castle, nestle, trestle, bristle, whistle, fasten, glisten, listen, moisten</i>
	In three common words	<i>Christmas, soften, often</i> ²⁸
	In recent loans from French	<i>bouquet /buː'keɪ/, ballet /'bæleɪ/, buffet /'bʊfeɪ/, cachet /'kæʃeɪ/, chalet /'ʃæleɪ/, crochet /'krəʊʃeɪ/, depot /'depəʊ/, mortgage /'mɔːgɪdʒ/, sachet /'sæʃeɪ/, ragout /'ræɡuː/</i>

15. wrong

16. sword

w	Initial wh	<i>who, whom, whose, whole, whore</i>
	Initial wr	<i>wrath /rɒθ/, write, wrench, wriggle, wry</i>
	Exceptional words and place names	<i>answer, sword, two; Greenwich, Norwich, Berwick, Warwick</i>

3 – Just for fun!



TRABAJOS PRÁCTICOS: ASSIGNMENT 2

Now you are ready to complete ASSIGNMENT 2  on Campus