

English-Spanish Comparison



The English language has about 44 unique sounds that fall into two categories: consonants and vowels. The sounds you see on this page are 24 consonant sounds. The vowel sounds are listed on the next page. Which English consonant sounds are (un)familiar to Spanish speakers?



- ✔ This sound is familiar to Spanish speakers! (The way the sound is written might be different)
- ! This sound is unfamiliar to Spanish speakers.

	IPA	Graphemes	Examples	In Spanish?
1	b	b, bb	bug, bubble	✔
2	d	d, dd, ed	dad, add, played	✔
3	f	f, ff, ph, gh, lf, ft	fat, cliff, phone, enough, half, often	✔
4	g	g, gg, gh, gu, gue	gun, egg, ghost, guest, league	✔
5	h	h, wh	hop, who	✔
6	dʒ	j, ge, g, dge, di, gg	jam, wage, giraffe, edge, soldier, exaggerate	!
7	k	k, c, ch, cc, lk, qu, q(u), ck, x	kit, cat, Chris, accent, folk, bouquet, queen, rack, box	✔
8	l	l, ll	live, well	✔
9	m	m, mm, mb, mn, lm	man, summer, comb, column, palm	✔
10	n	n, nn, kn, gn, pn, mn	net, funny, know, gnat, pneumatic, mnemonic	✔
11	p	p, pp	pin, puppy	✔
12	r	r, rr, wr, rh	run, carrot, wrench, rhyme	!
13	s	s, ss, c, sc, ps, st, ce, se	sit, less, circle, scene, psycho, listen, pace, course	✔
14	t	t, tt, th, ed	tip, matter, Thomas, ripped	✔
15	v	v, f, ph, ve	vine, of, Stephen, five	!
16	w	w, wh, u, o	wit, why, quick, choir	✔
17	z	z, zz, s, ss, x, ze, se	zoo, buzz, his, scissors, xylophone, craze	!
18	ʒ	s, si, z	treasure, division, azure	!
19	tʃ	ch, tch, tu, te	chip, watch, future, righteous	✔
20	ʃ	sh, ce, ci, si, ch, sci, ti	ship, ocean, special, tension, machine, conscience, station	!
21	θ	th	thin	!
22	ð	th	leather	!
23	ŋ	ng, n, ngue	ring, pink, tongue	!
24	j	y, i, j	you, onion, hallelujah	✔

English-Spanish Comparison



Below are 20 English vowel sounds. Which English sounds are (un)familiar to Spanish speakers?

-  This sound is familiar to Spanish speakers! (The way the sound is written might be different)
-  This sound is unfamiliar to Spanish speakers.

	IPA	Graphemes	Examples	In Spanish?
25	æ	a, ai, au	cat, plaid, laugh	
26	eɪ	a, ai, eigh, aigh, ay, er, et, ei, au, a_e, ea, ey	bacon, maid, weigh, straight, pay, foyer, filet, veil, gauge, mate, break, they	
27	e	e, ea, u, ie, ai, a, eo, ei, ae	end, bread, bury, friend, said, many, leopard, heifer, aesthetic	
28	i:	e, ee, ea, y, ey, oe, ie, i, ei, eo, ay	be, bee, meat, lady, key, phoenix, grief, ski, deceive, people, quay	
29	ɪ	i, e, o, u, ui, y, ie	it, England, women, busy, build, gym, sieve	
30	aɪ	i, y, igh, ie, uy, ye, ai, is, eigh, i_e	spider, sky, night, pie, guy, stye, aisle, island, height, kite	
31	ɒ	a, ho, au, aw, ough	swan, honest, maul, slaw, fought	
32	oʊ	o, oa, o_e, oe, ow, ough, eau, oo, ew	open, moat, bone, toe, sow, dough, beau, brooch, sew	
33	ʊ	o, oo, u,ou	wolf, look, bush, would	
34	ʌ	u, o, oo, ou	lug, monkey, blood, double	
35	u:	o, oo, ew, ue, u_e, oe, ough, ui, oew, ou	who, loon, dew, blue, flute, shoe, through, fruit, manoeuver, group	
36	ɔɪ	oi, oy, uoy	join, boy, buoy	
37	aʊ	ow, ou, ough	now, shout, bough	
38	ju	eau, eu, ew, u	beauty, feud, few, human	
39	eəʳ	air, are, ear, ere, eir, ayer	chair, dare, pear, where, their, prayer	
40	ɑ:	a	arm	
41	ɜ:ʳ	ir, er, ur, ear, or, our	bird, term, burn, pearl, word, journey	
42	ɔ:	or, oar, oor, our	horse, board, door, four	
43	ɪəʳ	ear, eer, ere, ier	ear, steer, here, tier	
44	ʊəʳ	ure, our	lure, tourist	

English-Chinese Comparison

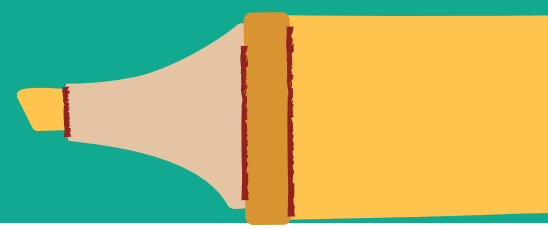


The English language has about 44 unique sounds that fall into two categories: consonants and vowels. The sounds you see on this page are 24 consonant sounds. The vowel sounds are listed on the next page. Which English consonant sounds are (un)familiar to Chinese speakers?

- ✓ This sound is familiar to Chinese speakers!
- ! This sound is unfamiliar to Chinese speakers.

	IPA	Graphemes	Examples	In Chinese?
1	b	b, bb	bug, bubble	✓
2	d	d, dd, ed	dad, add, played	✓
3	f	f, ff, ph, gh, lf, ft	fat, cliff, phone, enough, half, often	✓
4	g	g, gg, gh, gu, gue	gun, egg, ghost, guest, league	✓
5	h	h, wh	hop, who	✓
6	dʒ	j, ge, g, dge, di, gg	jam, wage, giraffe, edge, soldier, exaggerate	!
7	k	k, c, ch, cc, lk, qu, q(u), ck, x	kit, cat, Chris, accent, folk, bouquet, queen, rack, box	✓
8	l	l, ll	live, well	!
9	m	m, mm, mb, mn, lm	man, summer, comb, column, palm	✓
10	n	n, nn, kn, gn, pn, mn	net, funny, know, gnat, pneumatic, mnemonic	✓
11	p	p, pp	pin, puppy	✓
12	r	r, rr, wr, rh	run, carrot, wrench, rhyme	✓
13	s	s, ss, c, sc, ps, st, ce, se	sit, less, circle, scene, psycho, listen, pace, course	✓
14	t	t, tt, th, ed	tip, matter, Thomas, ripped	✓
15	v	v, f, ph, ve	vine, of, Stephen, five	!
16	w	w, wh, u, o	wit, why, quick, choir	✓
17	z	z, zz, s, ss, x, ze, se	zoo, buzz, his, scissors, xylophone, craze	✓
18	ʒ	s, si, z	treasure, division, azure	!
19	tʃ	ch, tch, tu, te	chip, watch, future, righteous	✓
20	ʃ	sh, ce, ci, si, ch, sci, ti	ship, ocean, special, tension, machine, conscience, station	✓
21	θ	th	thin	!
22	ð	th	leather	!
23	ŋ	ng, n, ngue	ring, pink, tongue	✓
24	j	y, i, j	you, onion, hallelujah	✓

English-Chinese Comparison



Below are 20 English vowel sounds. Which English sounds are (un)familiar to Chinese speakers?

- ✔ This sound is familiar to Chinese speakers!
- ! This sound is unfamiliar to Chinese speakers.

	IPA	Graphemes	Examples	In Chinese?
25	æ	a, ai, au	cat, plaid, laugh	✔
26	eɪ	a, ai, eigh, aigh, ay, er, et, ei, au, a_e, ea, ey	bacon, maid, weigh, straight, pay, foyer, filet, veil, gauge, mate, break, they	✔
27	e	e, ea, u, ie, ai, a, eo, ei, ae	end, bread, bury, friend, said, many, leopard, heifer, aesthetic	✔
28	i:	e, ee, ea, y, ey, oe, ie, i, ei, eo, ay	be, bee, meat, lady, key, phoenix, grief, ski, deceive, people, quay	✔
29	ɪ	i, e, o, u, ui, y, ie	it, England, women, busy, build, gym, sieve	✔
30	aɪ	i, y, igh, ie, uy, ye, ai, is, eigh, i_e	spider, sky, night, pie, guy, stye, aisle, island, height, kite	✔
31	ɒ	a, ho, au, aw, ough	swan, honest, maul, slaw, fought	✔
32	oʊ	o, oa, o_e, oe, ow, ough, eau, oo, ew	open, moat, bone, toe, sow, dough, beau, brooch, sew	✔
33	ʊ	o, oo, u,ou	wolf, look, bush, would	✔
34	ʌ	u, o, oo, ou	lug, monkey, blood, double	✔
35	u:	o, oo, ew, ue, u_e, oe, ough, ui, oew, ou	who, loon, dew, blue, flute, shoe, through, fruit, manoeuver, group	✔
36	ɔɪ	oi, oy, uoy	join, boy, buoy	!
37	aʊ	ow, ou, ough	now, shout, bough	!
38	ju	eau, eu, ew, u	beauty, feud, few, human	✔
39	eəʳ	air, are, ear, ere, eir, ayer	chair, dare, pear, where, their, prayer	!
40	ɑ:	a	arm	!
41	ɜ:ʳ	ir, er, ur, ear, or, our	bird, term, burn, pearl, word, journey	!
42	ɔ:	or, oar, oor, our	horse, board, door, four	!
43	ɪəʳ	ear, eer, ere, ier	ear, steer, here, tier	!
44	ʊəʳ	ure, our	lure, tourist	!

English-Arabic Comparison

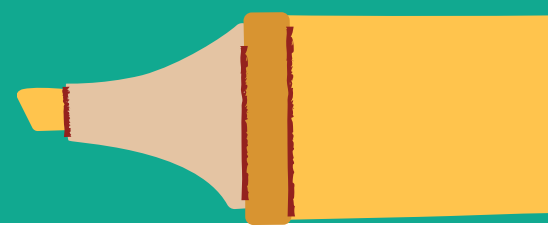


The English language has about 44 unique sounds that fall into two categories: consonants and vowels. The sounds you see on this page are 24 consonant sounds. The vowel sounds are listed on the next page. Which English consonant sounds are (un)familiar to Arabic speakers?

- ✓ This sound is familiar to Arabic speakers!
- ! This sound is unfamiliar to Arabic speakers.

	IPA	Graphemes	Examples	In Arabic?
1	b	b, bb	bug, bubble	✓
2	d	d, dd, ed	dad, add, played	✓
3	f	f, ff, ph, gh, lf, ft	fat, cliff, phone, enough, half, often	✓
4	g	g, gg, gh, gu, gue	gun, egg, ghost, guest, league	!
5	h	h, wh	hop, who	✓
6	dʒ	j, ge, g, dge, di, gg	jam, wage, giraffe, edge, soldier, exaggerate	!
7	k	k, c, ch, cc, lk, qu, q(u), ck, x	kit, cat, Chris, accent, folk, bouquet, queen, rack, box	✓
8	l	l, ll	live, well	!
9	m	m, mm, mb, mn, lm	man, summer, comb, column, palm	✓
10	n	n, nn, kn, gn, pn, mn	net, funny, know, gnat, pneumatic, mnemonic	✓
11	p	p, pp	pin, puppy	!
12	r	r, rr, wr, rh	run, carrot, wrench, rhyme	✓
13	s	s, ss, c, sc, ps, st, ce, se	sit, less, circle, scene, psycho, listen, pace, course	✓
14	t	t, tt, th, ed	tip, matter, Thomas, ripped	✓
15	v	v, f, ph, ve	vine, of, Stephen, five	!
16	w	w, wh, u, o	wit, why, quick, choir	✓
17	z	z, zz, s, ss, x, ze, se	zoo, buzz, his, scissors, xylophone, craze	✓
18	ʒ	s, si, z	treasure, division, azure	!
19	tʃ	ch, tch, tu, te	chip, watch, future, righteous	!
20	ʃ	sh, ce, ci, si, ch, sci, ti	ship, ocean, special, tension, machine, conscience, station	✓
21	θ	th	thin	✓
22	ð	th	leather	✓
23	ŋ	ng, n, ngue	ring, pink, tongue	!
24	j	y, i, j	you, onion, hallelujah	✓

English-Arabic Comparison



Below are 20 English vowel sounds. Which English sounds are (un)familiar to Arabic speakers?

- ✔ This sound is familiar to Arabic speakers!
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	IPA	Graphemes	Examples	In Arabic?
25	æ	a, ai, au	cat, plaid, laugh	✔
26	eɪ	a, ai, eigh, aigh, ay, er, et, ei, au, a_e, ea, ey	bacon, maid, weigh, straight, pay, foyer, filet, veil, gauge, mate, break, they	✔
27	e	e, ea, u, ie, ai, a, eo, ei, ae	end, bread, bury, friend, said, many, leopard, heifer, aesthetic	!
28	i:	e, ee, ea, y, ey, oe, ie, i, ei, eo, ay	be, bee, meat, lady, key, phoenix, grief, ski, deceive, people, quay	✔
29	ɪ	i, e, o, u, ui, y, ie	it, England, women, busy, build, gym, sieve	!
30	aɪ	i, y, igh, ie, uy, ye, ai, is, eigh, i_e	spider, sky, night, pie, guy, stye, aisle, island, height, kite	!
31	ɒ	a, ho, au, aw, ough	swan, honest, maul, slaw, fought	✔
32	oʊ	o, oa, o_e, oe, ow, ough, eau, oo, ew	open, moat, bone, toe, sow, dough, beau, brooch, sew	!
33	ʊ	o, oo, u,ou	wolf, look, bush, would	✔
34	ʌ	u, o, oo, ou	lug, monkey, blood, double	✔
35	u:	o, oo, ew, ue, u_e, oe, ough, ui, oew, ou	who, loon, dew, blue, flute, shoe, through, fruit, manoeuver, group	✔
36	ɔɪ	oi, oy, uoy	join, boy, buoy	!
37	aʊ	ow, ou, ough	now, shout, bough	!
38	ju	eau, eu, ew, u	beauty, feud, few, human	!
39	eəʳ	air, are, ear, ere, eir, ayer	chair, dare, pear, where, their, prayer	!
40	ɑ:	a	arm	!
41	ɜ:ʳ	ir, er, ur, ear, or, our	bird, term, burn, pearl, word, journey	!
42	ɔ:	or, oar, oor, our	horse, board, door, four	!
43	ɪəʳ	ear, eer, ere, ier	ear, steer, here, tier	!
44	ʊəʳ	ure, our	lure, tourist	!