The International Phonetic Alphabet

The following are those symbols of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) that we will make use of in phonetic transcription of English.

1. Consonants

1.1 The Stops

- [p] voiceless oral bilabial stop ‘pat’
- [b] voiced oral bilabial stop ‘bat’
- [m] voiced nasal bilabial stop ‘mat’
- [t] voiceless oral alveolar stop ‘tot’
- [d] voiced oral alveolar stop ‘dot’
- [n] voiced nasal alveolar stop ‘not’
- [k] voiceless oral velar stop ‘kap’
- [g] voiced oral velar stop ‘gap’
- [ŋ] voiced nasal velar stop ‘bang’
- [ʔ] voiceless oral glottal stop ‘uh–oh’

1.2 The Fricatives

- [f] voiceless oral labio-dental fricative ‘fat’
- [v] voiced oral labio-dental fricative ‘vat’
- [θ] voiceless oral dental fricative ‘thin’
- [ð] voiced oral dental fricative ‘then’
- [s] voiceless oral alveolar fricative ‘sap’
- [z] voiced oral alveolar fricative ‘zap’
- [ʃ] voiceless oral alveopalatal fricative ‘rush’
- [ʒ] voiced oral alveopalatal fricative ‘rouge’
- [h] voiceless glottal fricative ‘hat’

1.3 The Affricates

- [tʃ] voiceless oral alveopalatal affricate ‘chump’
- [dʒ] voiced oral alveopalatal affricate ‘jump’

1.4 The Approximants (Semi-Vowels)

- [j] voiced oral palatal approximant ‘Yale’
- [w] voiced oral bilabial approximant ‘wail’
- [ʍ] voiceless oral bilabial approximant ‘whale’
- [l] voiced oral lateral approximant ‘lre’
- [ɹ] voiced oral retroflex approximant ‘ræ’
2. Vowels

2.1 Pure Vowels

2.1.1 Tense Vowels

- [i] high front unrounded tense  
  - 'heat'
- [e] mid front unrounded tense  
  - 'hate’ (in non-American English)
- [u] high back rounded tense  
  - 'hoot'
- [o] mid back rounded tense  
  - 'hope’ (in non-American English)
- [ɑ] low back unrounded tense  
  - 'hot'

2.2.2 Lax Vowels

- [i] high front unrounded lax  
  - 'hit'
- [e] mid front unrounded lax  
  - 'sell'
- [æ] low front unrounded lax  
  - 'hat'
- [ɪ] high central unrounded lax  
  - 'roses'
- [ɔ] mid central unrounded lax  
  - 'Canada'
- [ʌ] low central unrounded lax  
  - 'cut'
- [ʊ] high back rounded lax  
  - 'put'
- [o] mid back rounded lax  
  - 'caught'

2.2 Diphthongs

2.2.1 Major Diphthongs

- [aj]  
  - lie, buy, sky, etc.
- [aw]  
  - now, how, loud, etc.
- [oʊ]  
  - boy, toy, joy, Freud, etc.

2.2.2 Minor Diphthongs

- [eɪ]  
  - hate, lay, say, sale (in American English)
- [əʊ]  
  - hope, boat, low, know (in American English)