
























The English Alphabetic Code






simple code		complex code							
phonemes and key words	graphemes and key words								
/s/ 	S snake	-ss glass	-ce palace	-se house	c ^e cents	ci city	cy bicycle	sc scissors	-st- castle
/a/ 	a apple								ps pseudonym
/t/ 	t teddy	-tt letter	-ed skipped						
/i/ 	i insect	* -y sunny	-y cymbals	* -ey monkey	* -ie movie				





<p>/p/</p> 	<p>p pan</p>	<p>-pp puppet</p>						
<p>/n/</p> 	<p>n net</p>	<p>-nn bonnet</p>	<p>kn knot</p>	<p>gn gnome</p>	<p>-ine engine</p>			
<p>/k/</p> 	<p>k kit</p>	<p>c cat</p>	<p>-ck duck</p>	<p>ch chameleon</p>	<p>qu bouquet</p>	<p>que plaque</p>		
<p>/e/</p> 	<p>e egg</p>	<p>ea head</p>	<p>ai said again</p>					
<p>/h/</p> 	<p>h hat</p>							






<p>/r/</p> 	<p>r</p> <p>rat</p>	<p>-rr</p> <p>arrow</p>	<p>wr</p> <p>write</p>	<p>rh</p> <p>rhinoceros</p>				
<p>/m/</p> 	<p>m</p> <p>map</p>	<p>mm</p> <p>hammer</p>	<p>-mb</p> <p>thumb</p>	<p>-mn</p> <p>columns</p>	<p>-me</p> <p>welcome</p>			
<p>/d/</p> 	<p>d</p> <p>dig</p>	<p>-dd</p> <p>puddle</p>	<p>-ed</p> <p>rained</p>					
<p>/g/</p> 	<p>g</p> <p>girl</p>	<p>-gg</p> <p>juggle</p>	<p>gu</p> <p>guitar</p>	<p>gh</p> <p>ghost</p>	<p>gue</p> <p>catalogue</p>			
<p>/o/</p> 	<p>o</p> <p>orange</p>	<p>wa</p> <p>watch</p>	<p>qua</p> <p>qualify</p>	<p>alt</p> <p>salt</p>				

<p>/u/</p> 	<p>u umbrella</p>	<p>o son</p>	<p>-ou touch</p>	<p>-ough thoroughfare</p>				
<p>/l/</p> 	<p>l ladder</p>	<p>-ll shell</p>						
<p>/ul/ schwa</p> 		<p>-le kettle</p>	<p>-il pencil</p>	<p>-al hospital</p>	<p>-el camel</p>			
<p>/f/</p> 	<p>f feathers</p>	<p>-ff cliff</p>	<p>ph photo</p>	<p>-gh laugh</p>				
<p>/b/</p> 	<p>b bat</p>	<p>-bb rabbit</p>	<p>bu building</p>					




	<p>/j/</p> <p>j</p> <p>jug</p>	<p>-ge</p> <p>cabbage</p>	<p>g^e</p> <p>gerbil</p>	<p>gi</p> <p>giraffe</p>	<p>gy</p> <p>gymnast</p>	<p>dge</p> <p>fridge</p>		
	<p>/y/</p> <p>y</p> <p>yawn</p>							
	<p>/ai/</p> <p>ai</p> <p>aid</p>	<p>ay</p> <p>tray</p>	<p>a</p> <p>table</p>	<p>ae</p> <p>sundae</p>	<p>a-e</p> <p>cakes</p>	<p>-ey</p> <p>prey</p>	<p>eigh</p> <p>eight</p>	<p>-ea</p> <p>break</p>
	<p>/w/</p> <p>w</p> <p>web</p>	<p>wh</p> <p>wheel</p>						
	<p>/oa/</p> <p>oa</p> <p>oak</p>	<p>ow</p> <p>bow</p>	<p>o</p> <p>yoyo</p>	<p>oe</p> <p>oboe</p>	<p>o-e</p> <p>rope</p>	<p>-ough</p> <p>dough</p>	<p>eau</p> <p>plateau</p>	

<p>/igh/</p> 	<p>-igh night</p>	<p>-ie tie</p>	<p>i behind</p>	<p>-y shy</p>	<p>i-e bike</p>	<p>ei eider</p>		
<p>/ee/</p> 	<p>ee eel</p>	<p>ea eat</p>	<p>e emu</p>	<p>* -y rainy</p>	<p>e-e concrete</p>	<p>-ey key * monkey</p>	<p>-ie chief * movie</p>	<p>-ine sardines</p>
<p>/or/</p> 	<p>or fork</p>	<p>aw dawn</p>	<p>au sauce</p>	<p>al chalk</p>	<p>oar oars</p>	<p>oor door</p>	<p>ore snore</p>	<p>our four</p>
<p>/z/</p> 	<p>z zebra</p>	<p>-zz jazz</p>	<p>-s fries</p>	<p>-se cheese</p>	<p>-ze breeze</p>		<p>/or/ ↙ ↓ ↘</p>	<p>war wardrobe</p>
<p>/ng/</p> 	<p>-ng gong</p>	<p>-n jungle</p>				<p>augh caught</p>	<p>ough thought</p>	<p>quar quarter</p>

<p>/ŋk/</p> 	<p>-nk</p> <p>ink</p>							
<p>/v/</p> 	<p>v</p> <p>violin</p>	<p>-ve</p> <p>dove</p>						
<p>/oo/</p> 	<p>oo</p> <p>book</p>	<p>oul</p> <p>should</p>						
<p>/oo/</p> 	<p>oo</p> <p>moon</p>	<p>-ue</p> <p>blue</p>	<p>u-e</p> <p>flute</p>	<p>-ew</p> <p>crew</p>	<p>-ui</p> <p>fruit</p>	<p>-ou</p> <p>soup</p>	<p>-o</p> <p>move</p>	<p>ough</p> <p>through</p>
<p>/ks/</p> 	<p>-x</p> <p>fox</p>	<p>-ks</p> <p>books</p>	<p>-cks</p> <p>ducks</p>	<p>-kes</p> <p>cakes</p>			<p>/gz/</p> <p>exam</p>	<p>-x</p> <p>exact</p>

<p>/ch/</p> 	<p>ch</p> <p>chairs</p>	<p>-tch</p> <p>patch</p>					<p>/chu/</p> <p>picture</p>	<p>ture</p> <p>vulture</p>
<p>/sh/</p> 	<p>sh</p> <p>sheep</p>	<p>ch</p> <p>chef</p>	<p>-ti</p> <p>station</p>	<p>-ci</p> <p>magician</p>	<p>-ssi</p> <p>mission</p>			
<p>/th/</p> 	<p>th</p> <p>thistle</p>							
<p>/th/</p> 	<p>th</p> <p>there</p>							
<p>/kw/</p> 	<p>qu</p> <p>queen</p>							

<p>/ou/</p> 	<p>ou ouch</p>	<p>ow owl</p>	<p>-ough plough</p>						
<p>/oi/</p> 	<p>oi ointment</p>	<p>oy toy</p>							
<p>/yoo/</p> 	<p>-ue statue</p>	<p>u unicorn</p>	<p>u-e tube</p>	<p>ew new</p>	<p>eu deuce</p>				
<p>/er/</p> 	<p>er mermaid</p>	<p>ir birthday</p>	<p>ur nurse</p>	<p>ear earth</p>	<p>wor world</p>	<p>/er/ schwa mixer</p>	<p>-our humour</p>	<p>-re theatre</p>	
<p>/ar/</p> 	<p>ar artist</p>	<p>a father</p>	<p>alm palm</p>	<p>alf half</p>	<p>alv calves</p>				

 /air/	air hair	are hare	ear bear	ere where				
 /eer/	eer deer	ear ears	ere adhere	ier cashier				
 /zh/	-si television	-s treasure	-z azure	-g courgette	-ge collage			

*-y, *-ey, *-ie are often pronounced between /i/ and /ee/ when these graphemes are word-endings. In this chart they appear in both the /i/ and /ee/ rows.

The complexities of the English Alphabetic Code include:

1. one sound (phoneme) can be represented by one, two, three or four letters: e.g. k, sh, ng, igh, eigh
2. one sound can be represented by different spellings (graphemes): e.g. /oa/ is represented by: o, oa, ow, oe, o-e, eau, ough
3. one spelling can represent multiple sounds: e.g. 'ough': /oa/ though, /or/ thought, /oo/ through, /ou/ plough, /u/ thorough

Key to the 12 units of Debbie Hepplewhite's Phonics International online synthetic phonics programme:

units 1-5	Mainly simple code with options to extend	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	grey = units 1 - 5
6-12	/air/, /eer/, /zh/, split digraphs, complex code	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th 12th

Debbie's programme introduces a simple code of at least one letter/s-sound correspondence for each of the 44+ sounds of speech of the English language. The programme then expands to teach further spelling and pronunciation variations of the complex Alphabetic Code.