

Phoneme:

A phoneme is the smallest unit of sound in a language. Phonemes are used to distinguish words from one another. They are the building blocks of spoken language and play a crucial role in the pronunciation and comprehension of words.

Phonemes in English:

There are approximately 44 phonemes in English. These include vowel sounds, consonant sounds, and diphthongs.

Examples of Phonemes

Vowel Sounds	Example
<i>/i/</i>	(as in "beet")
<i>/ɪ/</i>	(as in "bit")
<i>/e/</i>	(as in "bait")
<i>/æ/</i>	(as in "bat")
<i>/ɑ/</i>	(as in "bought")
<i>/ɔ/</i>	(as in "caught")
<i>/ʊ/</i>	(as in "put")
<i>/u/</i>	(as in "boot")
<i>/ə/</i>	(schwa, as in "sofa")
<i>/p/</i>	(as in "pat")

Consonant Sounds	Example
/b/	(as in "beet")
/t/	(as in "bit")
/d/	(as in "bait")
/k/	(as in "bat")
/g/	(as in "bought")
/f/	(as in "caught")
/v/	(as in "put")
/s/	(as in "boot")
/z/	(schwa, as in "sofa")
/ʃ/	(as in "pat")