

GPC chart
4.3

These charts show the phonemes of English represented by the International Phonetic Alphabet together with their common grapheme representations. All Phase 5 GPCs are included together with other less common grapheme choices needed in Year 2 and above. The correspondences in the table are based on Received Pronunciation and could be significantly different in other accents. One example word is provided for each phoneme to support teachers unfamiliar with IPA. Other examples can be found in Appendix 1 of the National Curriculum.

Consonant GPCs

/b/ bat	/d/ dog	/ð/ mother	/dʒ/ jug	/f/ fish	/g/ goat	/h/ hand	/j/ yawn	/k/ cat	/l/ and /ə/ lamp, bottle	/m/ mouse	/n/ nail
b bb	d dd	th	j g ge dge	f ff ph	g gg	h	y	c k ck ch q	l ll le el al il	m mm mb	n nn kn gn pn mn

/ŋ/ wing	/θ/ thumb	/p/ pin	/r/ rain	/s/ sun	/ʃ/ shi n	/t/ tap	/tʃ/ chick	/v/ van	/w/ watch	/z/ zip
ng n(k)	th	p	r rr wr	s ss se c ce	sh ch ti ci ss(ion, ure) s(ion, ure)	t tt	ch tch t	v ve	w wh u	z zz ze s se x

Note: The letter x in English frequently represents 2 adjacent consonant phonemes /k/ and /s/, for example in the word **box**.

Vowel GPCs

/ɑ:/ arm	/ɒ/ hot	/æ/ cat	/aɪ/ pie	/aʊ/ cow	/ɛ/ hen	/eɪ/ day	/ɛə/ pair	/əʊ/ boat	/ɪ/ pin
ar a	o a	a	igh i-e ie i y	ow ou	e ea	ai ay a-e a ei eigh ey	air are ear	ow oa oe o-e o	i y e

/ɪə/ cheer	/i:/ bean	/ɔ:/ fork	/ɔɪ/ boy	/ʊ/ book	/ʊə/ cure	/u:/ blue	/ʌ/ cup	/ɜ:/ girl
ear eer ere	ea ee e-e ie y ey e ei eo	or oor ore aw au our a al ar	oy oi	oo u oul	ure our	oo u-e ue ew ui ou ough	u o	er ir ur or ear

Note: The symbol /ə/, known as “schwa” represents the unstressed phoneme in many English words. It can be spelt in many different ways, for example **er** as in farmer.