**BASIC IPA FOR AMERICAN ENGLISH**

**Vowel Sounds**



**Consonant Sounds**

**Consonant Pairs**
The mouth position for each pair of consonant sounds below is the same, but one sound is unvoiced while the other sound is voiced.

Unvoiced = only air comes out of your mouth
Voiced = your vocal cords produce a sound



**More Consonant Sounds (Unpaired)**



**The American R Sounds**

Here’s where things get confusing. This is the symbol for the American R consonant sound:


However, in most dictionaries, books and on websites, this is the symbol commonly used for the American R consonant sound



One of the main differences between British and American pronunciation is that Americans pronounce the R after a vowel, and the British don’t. The American vowel R sound (like at the -er end of brother) is written a few different ways.

When the American vowel R sound occurs in a one-syllable word or a stressed syllable, you will see it written these ways:

When the American vowel R sound occurs in an unstressed syllable, you will see it written these ways:

