

## L'alphabet phonétique - French

Phoneme (written)	Allophone(s)	Examples
/b/	b	[b] bébé
/s/	ce, ci, sci, sce, s, ç, x ti+v (except -tière, -tième)	[s] salle [sal], science [sjãs] Français [frã.se], six [sis] essential [ε sã sjɛl]
/ʃ/	ch, sch, sh	[ʃ]
/d/	d	[d]
/f/	f, ph	[f]
/g/	g, gg + a, o ,u [g] gu+ e, i	
/ʒ/	j, gi, gy, ge	[ʒ] je, jambe, Gigi, Égypte, âge
/j/	ille (after a vowel) i/y+ vowel- diphthong, first position	[j] faille [faj] social [sɔ.sjal]

/k/	c o cc +a,o,u k, ck qu, cqu (many exceptions: aquarium [kw], aquarelle,etc.)	[k]	scandale [skã.dal] kilo, Patrick quand, qui, que
	cc + i, e initial x	[ks]	Occident xénophobe
/l/	l, ll	[l]	lent, appelle, famille
/m/	m, mm	[m]	matte, somme
/n/	n, nn	[n]	panne
/ŋ/	-ing	[ŋ]*	parking, jogging (loan words only)*
/ɲ/	gn Exception: ignition, agnostique, gnomo, stagnant, diagnostic [ig ni sjɔ̃] etc.	[ɲ]	champagne, ensei <b>gn</b> ement
/o/	o	[o]	
/p/	p	[p]	
/ʁ/	final r	[ʁ]	mer
/ʁ/	r, rr, rh	[ʁ]	terre, rhume
/ʁ/	cluster	[ʁ]	trame
/t/	t, th	[t]	ton, thon

/ɥ/	u+vowel (glide)	[ɥ]	tuant [tɥɑ̃]
/v/	v	[v]	
/w/	ou+vowel	[w]	ouest [wɛst]
/z/	s (V_V), z	[z]	visite [vi.zit], zèbre [zɛ.br]
	VxV	[gz]	examen [ɛg.za.mɛ̃]
	gu	[gw]	iguane
	Trans-		transaplin [trɑ̃.zal.pɛ̃]
	(VsV)exceptions: after prefix		antisocial [ɑ̃.ti.sɔ.sjal]

To hear French consonants:

<http://www.languageguide.org/francais/grammar/pronunciation/consonants.html>

## French vowels:

Nasal Vowels: All of which are followed by an “n” (assimilation)

[ã] sang = a or e followed by a nasal

[õ] bon = o followed by a nasal

[œ̃] brun = u followed by a nasal

[ɛ̃] bien = e or i followed by a nasal

[i] i, î, y

[e] ai, é, ée, ei (CV sequence...final phonetic vowel)

[ɛ] ê, è, e, ai, ay, ei

VC sequence: ie /e/ followed by a final phonetic consonant (**open**) (**près** =

[prɛ])

[ɑ] â, a+z, a+s(mute), -roi

[Ø] œu, eu and ends with an open syllable: veux = [vØ]

[œ] œu, cue, gue, eu and ends with a closed syllable: veulent = [vœl]

[u] mou, ôû

[y] connu, û

[o] o, ô, eau, au, au (CV sequence)

[ɔ] -um, o fosse = [fɔs]

To hear French vowels: <http://www.languageguide.org/francais/grammar/pronunciation/>

For more explanation & practice: Check out

*Savoir Dire: Cours de phonétique et de prononciation* ([PC2135 .D34 1990](#))