

Pronunciation Exercises · Consonants

Read aloud each of the following words using correct German pronunciation.

Pay close attention to the relationship between sound and spelling.

Indicate with each word where the German pronunciation differs from the English based on the spelling.

1. Vater
2. heißen
3. Wort
4. Qualität
5. halb
6. Januar
7. windig
8. groß
9. zu
10. sieben
11. vier
12. Deutsch
13. Celsius
14. Buch
15. Abend
16. tschüß
17. Tag
18. viel
19. Stuhl
20. ja
21. ich
22. Bruder
23. schwarz
24. grau
25. Sommer
26. Bild
27. Student
28. CD-Spieler
29. Spaß
30. Sonntag
31. quitt
32. bitter
33. jawohl
34. Straße
35. schwimmen
36. zwei
37. Zug
38. spielen
39. ab
40. Wagen
41. Schule
42. fleißig
43. rot
44. spät
45. dreißig
46. Quantität
47. ob
48. Wind
49. jeder
50. Sand

Key to Consonant Pronunciation Exercises

This key gives approximate English spellings to represent only approximate German sounds. The “fake” English spellings are a crutch, and students should consult speakers of German to hear the authentic sounds. The phonetic spellings (IPA) are given in blue next to each “fake” spelling.

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| 1. FAW tuh | [ˈfaːtʌ] | 26. bilt | [bɪlt] |
| 2. HIGH sun | [ˈhaɪsʊn] | 27. schtoo DENT | [ʃtuˈdɛnt] |
| 3. VOE-ut | [vɔɪt] | 28. tsay DAY schpee luh | [tseːˈdeːʃpiːlʌ] |
| 4. kva lee TATE | [kvaliˈtɛːt] | 29. schpahss | [ʃpaːs] |
| 5. halp | [hɔlp] | 30. ZON talk | [ˈzɔntaːk] |
| 6. YAWN wah-uh | [ˈjan̩waːɪ] | 31. kvit | [kvɪt] |
| 7. VIND ikh | [ˈvɪndɪç] | 32. BIT uh | [ˈbɪtə] |
| 8. groce | [groːs] | 33. yaw VOLE | [jaːˈvoːl] |
| 9. tsoo | [tsoː] | 34. SCHTRAW suh | [ʃtʁaːsə] |
| 10. ZEE b'm | [ˈziːbm] | 35. SCHWIM un | [ˈʃvɪmən] |
| 11. FEE-uh | [fiːɪ] | 36. tsvigh | [tʃvaɪ] |
| 12. doich | [dɔɪç] | 37. tsook | [tsoːk] |
| 13. TSELL zee oose | [ˈtsɛlz̩us] | 38. SCHPEE lun | [ˈʃpiːlən] |
| 14. buukh | [buːx] | 39. awpp | [ʔap] |
| 15. AH bent | [ˈʔaːbm̩t] | 40. VAH gun | [ˈvaːɡʊn] |
| 16. cheece (rounded) | [tʃyːs] | 41. SCHOO luh | [ˈʃuːlə] |
| 17. talk | [taːk] | 42. FLY sikh | [ˈflaɪsɪç] |
| 18. feel | [fiːl] | 43. rote | [roːt] |
| 19. schtool | [ʃtuːl] | 44. schpayt | [ʃpɔːt] |
| 20. yaw | [jaː] | 45. DRY sikh | [ˈdʁaɪsɪç] |
| 21. ikh | [ɪç] | 46. kvan tee TATE | [kvantiˈtɛːt] |
| 22. BREW duh | [ˈbrʊːdʌ] | 47. opp | [ʔɔp] |
| 23. schvah-uts | [ʃvaɪtʃs] | 48. vint | [vɪnt] |
| 24. grah-oo | [ɡraʊ] | 49. YAY duh | [jeːdʌ] |
| 25. ZOM uh | [ˈzɔmʌ] | 50. zawnt | [zant] |