

- s** always like **s** (1): **science** [sjã:s], **scène** [se:n].
- t** (1) regularly like **t** in 'time,' but with the tongue advanced as for [d] — Symbol [t]: **ta** [ta], **patte** [pat], **ton** [tõ], **tes** [te], **tante** [tã:t], **écoutier** [ekute], **lettre** [letr], **sept** [set], **huit** [quit].  
 (2) but in words whose English forms have the **sh** or **çy** sound **t** = [s]: **nation** [nasjõ], **patience** [pasjã:s], **prophétie** [prôfesi], etc.  
 Note. — **t** is always silent in **et** (conjunction).
- th** always like **t** (1): **thé** [te], **théâtre** [teatr].
- v** always like **v** in 'five,' fully voiced — Symbol [v]: **va** [va], **cave** [kav], **voilà** [vwala], **vous** [vu], **pauvre** [po:vr], **trouver** [truve].
- w** (1) like [v], in some English and German words: **wagon** [vagõ], **Wagram** [vagram], etc.  
 (2) like [w], in some English words: **tramway** [tramwe], etc.
- x** (1) usually = [ks]: **extrême** [ekstre:m], **excellent** [ekselã].  
 (2) in **ex-** followed by a vowel **x** = [gz]: **exemple** [egzã:pl or egzã:pl], **exercice** [egzersis or egzersis].  
 EXCEPTIONS: 1. **x** = [s] in six [sis], soixante [swasã:ti] and rarer words. 2. **x** = [z] in euxième [døzjem], sixième [sizjem], dixième [dizjem], **dix-huit** [diz uit], **dix-neuf** [diz nœf], etc.
- z** like **s** (2) above: **onze** [õ:z], **zone** [zo:n], **gaz** [ga:z].

### N. — Liaison

In a group of words closely connected grammatically, a final consonant sound is usually joined in pronunciation with a following word beginning with a vowel or **h** mute (*liaison* = "linking," "joining"):

1. Certain consonants change their sound in liaison, thus: **d** = **t**, **f** (in **neuf**) = **v**, **g** = **k**, **s** or **x** = **z**; moreover, the **n** of a nasal is joined, and the nasal sometimes loses its nasality.
2. The groups requiring liaison are:
  - (a) Article, noun, adjective: **un homme** [œ nõm], **les autres plumes** [le zo:tr plym], **bon ami** [bo nam].
  - (b) Adj. active, noun: **petit enfant** [pøti tãfã], **petits enfants** [pøti zãfã], **dix ans** [di zã], **sang humain** [sã kymã], **des hommes aimables** [de mõm zemabl].
  - (c) Adverb, adjective or adverb: **très âgé** [tre za:ʒe], **fort habilement** [for tabilmã].