

h need never be heard when initial. But in some words it prevents the dropping of an end-vowel, or the sounding of an end-consonant, in a preceding word, which are characteristic of the *h* "mute." [The words in which this *h* "aspirate" occurs must be learned by observation]. *h* "mute" in *l(h)omme* [lɔm], *l(h)ôpital* [lɔpital], *les (h)omme(s)* [lézɔm]. *h* "aspirate" in *la (h)âte* [la ât], *la (h)alte* [la alt], *la (h)ouille* [la ouy], *le (H)avre*, *la (H)ollande*, *la (H)ongrie*, *les (h)éros* [lé éro], *en haut* [ã ô].

j = *s* in *pleasure* :—*jour* [zhour], *Joffre* [zhɔfr], *Jacque(s)* [zhâk].

ll, il, ille. These combinations often have the sound of English *y* in "yet" :—*fille* [fiy], *bille(t)*; *travail* [travay], *soleil* [solèy], *fauteuil* [fôteuy], *œil* [euy]; *bataille* [batây], *bouteille* [boutèy], *feuille* [feuy], *patrouille* [patrouy]. But *ll* has the ordinary sound of French *l* (not quite English) in *mille* [mil], *ville*, *village*, and often in *milliard* [milyar], *million* [milyɔ].

p is sounded before *n* :—*pneumatique*, *pneumonie*; and before *s* in *psychologie*.

q, qu = *k* usually, *cinq* [sɛ̃k], *qui* [ki], *quar(t)* [kar], *quan(d)* [kã], *queue* [keu].

r must always be strongly trilled in either front or back of mouth.

s = *z* between two vowels :—*maison* [mézɔ̃], *Cosaque*, also in *Alsace*, *obus*. Final *s* is sounded as *s* in *Reims*, *Arras*, *Mons*, *Sens*, *Senlis*, *Calvados*, *os*, *bis*, *fil(s)* [fis], *vis*.

t when followed by *i* is always *s* in *ation*, *ition*, *otion*, *ution*, (except in verbs), and often in *atie*, *etie*, *itie*, *utie*. Also in *patience*, *patien(t)*, *Egyptien*. But *amitié* [amityé], *moitié* [mwytyé], and the suffix—*gestion* [zhèstyɔ̃].

th = *t*, *t(h)é*, *t(h)éâtre*.

x = *ks* before consonant, and *gz* before vowel, *extrême* [ks], *exercice* [égzèrsis]. But *x* = *s* in *six*, *dix*, *soixante*, *Bruzelle(s)*, *Aix-la-Chapelle* [ès-la-shapèl], and = *z* when it is carried over to the next word, *aux arme(s)* [ôz arm].