

n regularly like **n** in 'none,' fully voiced, and with the tongue advanced as for [d] — Symbol [n]: non [nɔ̃], ni [ni], lunettes [lynɛt], bonne [bɔ̃n], donner [dɔ̃ne].

EXCEPTION: **n** is silent in the 3d plural of verbs: ils parlent [parl], ils vendaient [vɔ̃de].

p regularly like **p** in 'pat,' 'rap' — Symbol [p]: patte [pat], atrape [atrap], père [pɛ:r], papier [papje], plume [plym], apporter [apɔ̃te].

EXCEPTIONS: **p** is silent in some words: sept [set], compter [kɔ̃te], sculpter [skyite], etc.

ph always like **f** — Symbol [f]: philosophe [filɔzɔf], Sophie [sɔfi].

q, qu the letter **q** always and **qu** regularly = [k]: cinq [sɛ̃k], coq [kɔk], qui [ki], que [kə], quand [kɑ̃].

r the sound of **r** has no English counterpart; it is formed by trilling the tip of the tongue against the upper gums, or even against the upper front teeth. The tongue must, of course, be well advanced, and never retracted or turned upward. The sound may be best practised at first in combinations with **d**, e.g. dry, drip, drop (as in Scotch or Irish dialect) and afterwards in combinations in which it is less easily pronounced — Symbol [r]: drap [dra], très [trɛ], prêt [prɛ], rare [ra:r], frère [frɛ:r], sœur [sœ:r], sur [syr], encre [ɛ̃:kr], erreur [ɛrœ:r]; **r** is doubled in the irregular future and conditional of certain verbs: je courrai [kurre], il mourrait [murre].

NOTE. — The above **r** is called "lingual" **r** (*r lingual*). Another **r** sound (called in French *r uvulaire* = "uvular" **r**), used especially in Paris and in other large cities and towns of France, is formed by drawing the tongue backward and elevating its root so as to cause a trilling of the uvula, but this **r** is usually more difficult for English-speaking people to acquire.

s (1) like **s** in 'see,' but with the tongue advanced; sometimes the tip of the tongue is thrust against the lower teeth — Symbol [s]. Pronounce **s** thus when it begins a word (or a word in a compound) and in general when not between vowels; **ss** always: si [si], pense [pɑ̃:s], son [sɔ̃], sœur [sœ:r], vraisemblable [vʁɛsɑ̃blabl], classe [kla:s], laisser [lɛse], mars [mars], ours [urs], fils [fis].

(2) like **z** in 'zone,' **s** in 'rose' with the tongue as for **s** (1), fully voiced — Symbol [z]. Pronounce **s** thus regularly between vowels: rose [ro:z], chaise [ʃɛ:z], maison [mezɔ̃], cousin [kuzɛ̃], amuser [amyze].