

Phonetics:

1. **study of speech sounds:** the scientific study of speech sounds and how they are produced
2. **sound system of language:** the system or pattern of speech sounds used in a language

phonetic alphabet(phonetic symbols)

symbols showing pronunciation: a set of letters and symbols used to represent the sounds of human speech in writing.

Phonetic symbols ku waa calaamado iyo xarfo ku tusaya dhawaaqa. waxa loo qaybiyaa saddex:

1. Consonants
2. Vowels
3. Diphthongs

This is the standard set of phonemic symbols for English(IPA).

Consonants

symbol	example	Xarafka Somali ee u dhigma/u dhow	Phonetic symbols	Dhawaaqa Somaliga/u dhow
b	book	b	b ʊk	buk
d	day	dh	d eɪ	dhey
g	give	g	g ɪv	giv
v	very	ف	v eri	veri
ð	they	d	ð eɪ	dey
z	zoo	ز	z uː	zuu
ʒ	vision	sh (u dhow)	v ɪʒən	Vishan (u dhow)
dʒ	jump	j	dʒ ʌmp	jamp
l	look	L	l ʊk	luk
r	run	r	r ʌn	ran
j	yes	y	j es	yes

p	pen	P (ma jiro)	pen	pen
t	town	t	taʊn	tawn
k	cat	k	kæt	kat
f	fish	f	fɪʃ	fish
θ	think	ث	θɪŋk	ثɪŋk
s	say	s	seɪ	sey
h	house	h	haʊs	haws
ʃ	she	sh	ʃɪ	shi
tʃ	cheese	j (u dhow)	tʃi:z	jiiz
w	we	W	wɪ	wi
m	moon	M	mu:n	muun
n	name	n	neɪm	neym
ŋ	sing	n sida nuun la qunaynayo	Sɪŋ	Sɪŋ

Vowels

Short	ex	xaraf	symbols	somali	Remarks
ɪ	ship	i	ʃɪp	ship	
æ	hat	a	hæt	hat	Carrabka dacalkiisa ku xeji ilkaha hore ee hoose
ʊ	foot	u	fʊt	fut	
ɒ	sock	o	sɒk	sok	
ʌ	cup	a	kʌp	kap	
e	head	e	hed	hedh	
ə	above	a	ə'baʊ	a'bav	

Long vowel	example	Corresponding Somali letter	Phonetic symbols	somali	Remarks
a:	farm	aa	f a:m	faam	
ɜ:	bird	ee	b ɜ:d	beedh	
i:	sheep	ii	ʃ i:p	shiip	
ɔ:	horse	oo	h ɔ:s	hoos	
u:	soup	uu	s u:p	suup	

Diphthongs (idqaam laba shaqal)

Diphthong	example	Corresponding Somali letter	Phonetic symbols	somali	Remarks
eɪ	day	ey	deɪ	dhey	
aɪ	eye	ay	aɪ	ay	
ɔɪ	boy	oy	bɔɪ	boy	
aʊ	mouth	aw	maʊθ	maw ^ث	
əʊ	nose	ow	nəʊz	nowz	Sometimes this (oʊ) is used
ɪə	ear	iya	ɪə	iya	(Hear and here) both = (hɪə) hiya
eə	hair	ea	heə	hea	
ʊə	pure	uwa	pjʊə	pyuwa	

These words are pronounced in this way:

Word	Phonetic symbols	Right /somali	wrong
purpose	pɜ:p əs	peepas	paarpows
famous	feɪm əs	feymas	faamows
work	wɜ:k	week	woork
walk	wɔ:k	wook	wolk
service	sɜ:vis / sɜ:vəs	Seevis/seevas	seervays
surface	sɜ:fis / sɜ:fəs	Seefis/seefas	sarfays

foreign	fɔrən/ fɔrɪn	Foran /forin	fooryan
caught	kɔ:t	koot	Kawj /kawt
bought	bɔ:t	boot	bowt
world	wɜ:ld	weeld	woold
war	wɔ:	woo	waar
tree	tri:	trii	
three	θri:	ث rii	tirii
thank	θæŋk	ثاŋk	tank
tank	tæŋk	taŋk	
Journey	dʒɜ:nɪ	jeeni	joorni
journalist	dʒɜ:nəlist	jeenalist	joornaaliist
Plough	plau	plaw	plaf
Trough	trɒf	trof	
Sew (tolis)	səʊ	sow	siyuu
Sow (verb) shiniyeyn	səʊ (dofar = saʊ)	Sow	soo
So	səʊ	sow	soo
horizon	hə'r aɪzən	Ha'rayzan	Horisan /horeysan
perhaps	pə'hæps / præps	Pa'haps / praps	Perhapis
southern	sʌðən	sadan	sowtan
turkey	tɜ:kɪ	teeki	turki
worm	wɜ:m	weem	woom
debt	det	det	debt
feather	feðə	fedā	feedar
bear	beə	bea	biyar

CHEERIO (Time)

Contact

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