

~:: ñm̄j̄ȳí: íτ̄p̄ȳíτ̄ ñm̄m̄í τ̄j̄ȳíp̄m̄ḡ ::~

≈ ñ! τ̄ȫȳí τ̄h̄m̄n τ̄ḡ ß̄j̄ȳm̄m̄.

eȳm̄m̄ j̄m̄j̄p̄m̄ é ȳj̄m̄m̄ íτ̄ȳm̄!

eȳm̄m̄ é τ̄h̄ó éτ̄m̄ ím̄j̄m̄m̄m̄

m̄ íȳm̄ȳ τ̄ḡm̄ȳm̄j̄ȳm̄

íj̄m̄m̄m̄ p̄τ̄. éȳ p̄τ̄m̄m̄

m̄ τ̄h̄m̄ éíȳm̄j̄p̄m̄: τ̄h̄m̄í τ̄ȳm̄

j̄m̄ȳ ñ̄ȳp̄j̄ȳτ̄m̄m̄:

ß̄j̄ m̄m̄ í éτ̄m̄ ñm̄m̄ íτ̄h̄m̄m̄ß̄

ím̄ ß̄j̄ p̄h̄m̄τ̄ éȳ ñíτ̄ḡí

é h̄m̄m̄ m̄j̄ȳp̄ íτ̄h̄m̄j̄ȳ íj̄p̄m̄

ím̄ íτ̄ p̄m̄m̄ íj̄m̄τ̄j̄m̄

ím̄ ḡp̄m̄m̄j̄ȳíτ̄ éñ̄p̄

í h̄τ̄m̄τ̄m̄m̄ íp̄m̄ m̄p̄.

ím̄ ñj̄ḡí íh̄m̄j̄p̄ éτ̄éȳ m̄j̄ȳ ñíτ̄:

ß̄j̄ ém̄m̄ ñj̄. ñj̄m̄τ̄ ém̄m̄. éτ̄m̄m̄!

ñm̄j̄ȳí! ñm̄ ñ̄ȳéτ̄ éτ̄m̄m̄!

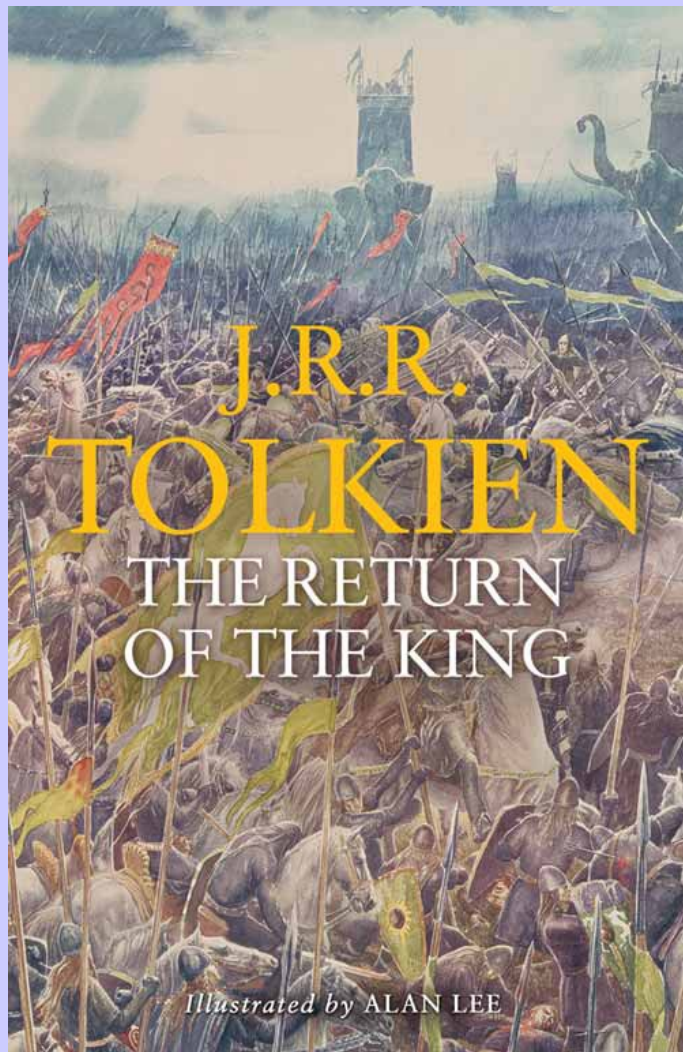
ñm̄ íτ̄ ñ̄ȳm̄! ñm̄j̄ȳí! ≈

An Introduction to Phonetics with Elvish Writing

Will Monroe
Stanford Splash!
April 9-10, 2016

A Disclaimer

The *Tengwar*



Appendix E

WRITING AND SPELLING

I

A PRONUNCIATION OF WORDS AND NAMES

The Westron or Common Speech has been entirely translated into English equivalents. All Hobbit names and special words are intended to be pronounced accordingly: for example, *Bolger* has *g* as in *bulge*, and *mathom* rhymes with *fathom*.

In transcribing the ancient scripts I have tried to represent the original sounds (so far as they can be determined) with fair accuracy, and at the same time to produce words and names that do not look uncouth in modern letters. The High-elven Quenya has been spelt as much like Latin as its sounds allowed. For this reason *c* has been preferred to *k* in both Eldarin languages.

The following points may be observed by those who are interested in such details.

CONSONANTS

- C has always the value of *k* even before *e* and *i*: *celeb* 'silver' should be pronounced as *keleb*.
- CH is only used to represent the sound heard in *bach* (in German or Welsh), not that in English *church*. Except at the end of words and before *t* this sound was weakened to *h* in the speech of Gondor, and that change has been recognized in a few names, such as *Rohan*, *Rohirrim*. (*Imrahil* is a Númenorean name.)
- DH represents the voiced (soft) *th* of English *these clothes*. It is usually related to *d*, as in S. *galadh* 'tree' compared with Q. *alda*; but is sometimes derived from *n + r*, as in *Caradhras* 'Redhorn' from *caran-rass*.
- F represents *f*, except at the end of words, where it is used to represent the sound of *v* (as in English *of*): *Nindalf*, *Fladrif*.

How *Tengwar* Are Written



- Each of the main consonants has two parts: a **stem** and a **bow**.
- The stem can be **short**, extend **above** the bow, or extend **below** the bow.
- The bow can be single or **doubled**, face **up** or **down**, and be **open** or **closed**.
- Every main letter is a consonant; vowels are added as small marks (**tehtar**) above (or below) the letters.

Letters and Sounds of *Tengwar*

| | dental | labial | palatal | velar | |
|--------------|----------|--------|---------|--------|--------|
| plosives | unvoiced | ᠎ t | ᠎ p | ᠎ ch | ᠎ k |
| | voiced | ᠎ d | ᠎ b | ᠎ j | ᠎ g |
| fricatives | unvoiced | ᠎ th | ᠎ f | ᠎ sh | ᠎ (kh) |
| | voiced | ᠎ dh | ᠎ v | ᠎ zh | ᠎ (gh) |
| nasals | ᠎ n | ᠎ m | ᠎ (ny) | ᠎ ng | |
| approximants | ᠎ r | ᠎ w | ᠎ y | ᠎ (lh) | |

But Wait: There's More!

ʁ ^r

ɹ ^l

ʃ ^s ʒ

ʒ ^z ʃ

λ ^h

ɰ ^{wh}

Dn't frgt bt th vwls...

at
r

it
r


ut
r

et
r

ot
r

Dn't frgt bt th vwls...

ăt ět ĭt ǒt ǒot ů/ət



aa=ä ii=ē uu=ōō



ay=ī ey=ā ow=ō yuu=ū



A Few More Miscellaneous Rules...

 ^{nt}


 ^{mp}


 ^{nk}


 nd


 ^{mb}


 ^{ng-}


 ^{ts}

 ^{x (ks)}

 "the"

 "of"

 "of the"

 "and"

Break time!

The Phonology of English Consonants

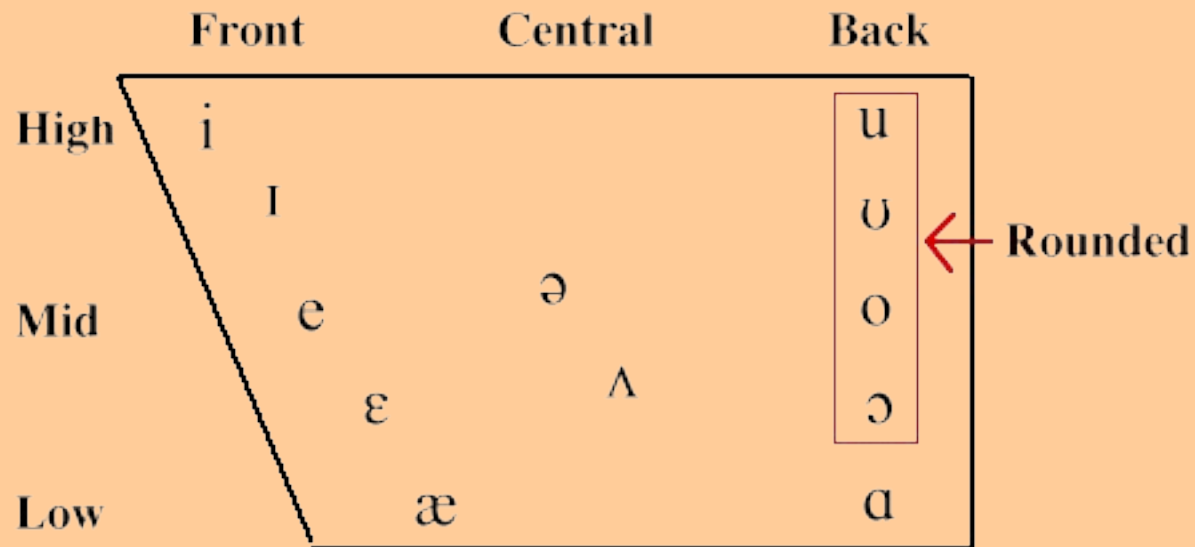
| | | bilabial | labio-dental | dental | alveolar | post-alveolar | palatal | velar | glottal |
|-------------|-----------|----------|--------------|----------|----------|---------------|----------|----------|----------|
| nasal | | m | | | n | | | ŋ | |
| plosive | voiceless | p | | | t | | | k | |
| | voiced | b | | | d | | | g | |
| affricate | voiceless | | | | | tʃ | | | |
| | voiced | | | | | dʒ | | | |
| fricative | voiceless | | f | θ | s | ʃ | | | h |
| | voiced | | v | ð | z | ʒ | | | |
| approximant | | | | | | r | j | w | |
| lateral | | | | | l | | | | |

IPA in All Its Glory

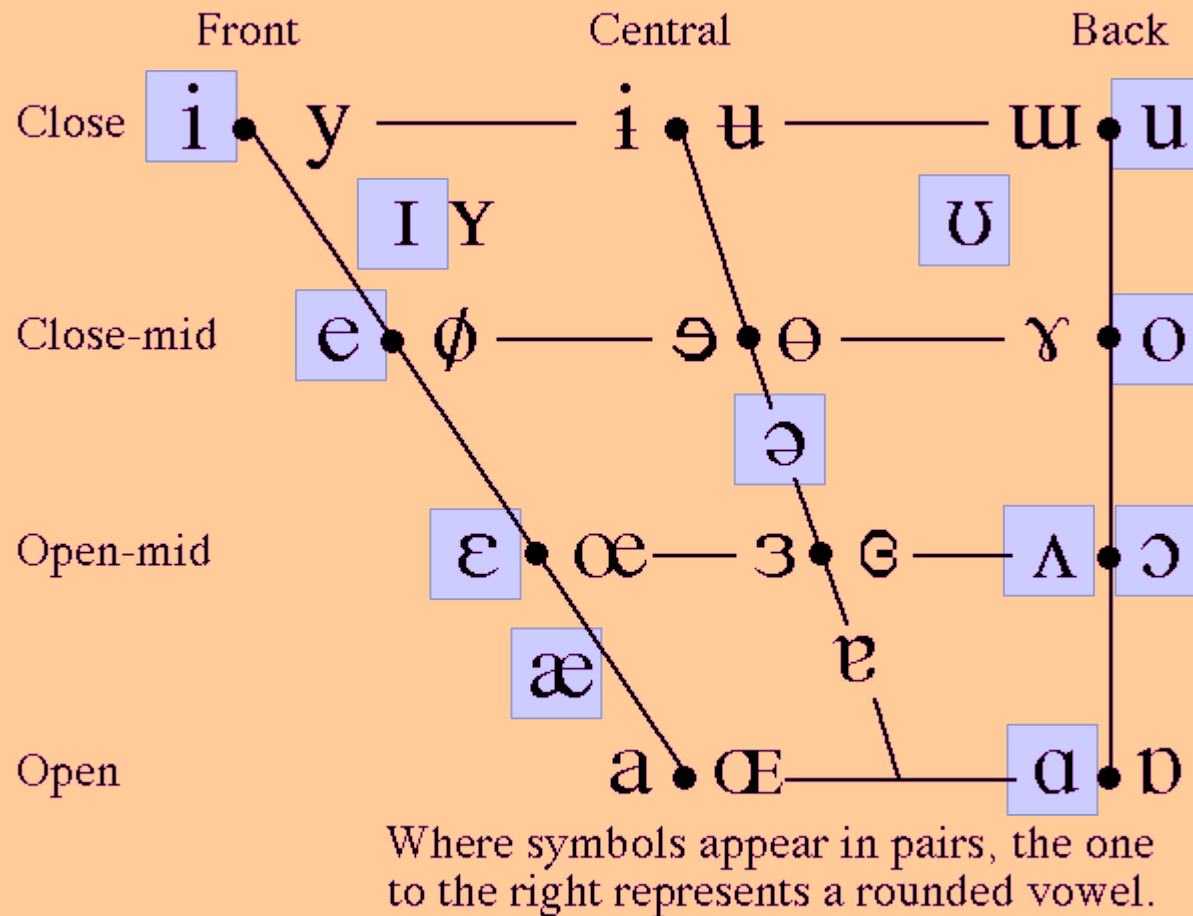
Don't worry, this won't be on the test.

| | | bilab. | lab.- dent. | dent. | alv. | post- alv. | retro- flex | pal. | velar | uvul. | phar. | glot. |
|----------------------|-----------|----------|----------------|----------|----------|---------------|----------------|----------|----------|-------|-------|----------|
| plosive | voiceless | p | | t | | | ʈ | c | k | q | | ʔ |
| | voiced | b | | d | | | ɖ | ɟ | g | ɢ | | |
| nasal | | m | ɱ | n | | | ɳ | ɲ | ŋ | ɴ | | |
| trill | | ʙ | | r | | | | | | ʀ | | |
| tap | | | | ɾ | | | ɽ | | | | | |
| fricative | voiceless | ɸ | f | θ | s | ʃ | ʂ | ç | x | χ | ħ | h |
| | voiced | β | v | ð | z | ʒ | ʐ | ʝ | ɣ | ʁ | ʕ | ɦ |
| lateral fricative | voiceless | | | ɬ | | | | | | | | |
| | voiced | | | ɮ | | | | | | | | |
| approximant | | w | ʋ | ɹ | | | ɻ | j | ɰ | | | |
| lateral | | | | l | | | ɭ | ʎ | ʟ | | | |

The Phonology of English Vowels



Vowels of the World



Is That It?

- Consonants

- Other places of articulation
- Gemination
- Airstream
 - clicks and pops
 - ejectives
 - implosives
- ...

- Vowels

- Diphthongs
- Length
- Nasals
- Voicing
- Tone
- ...

