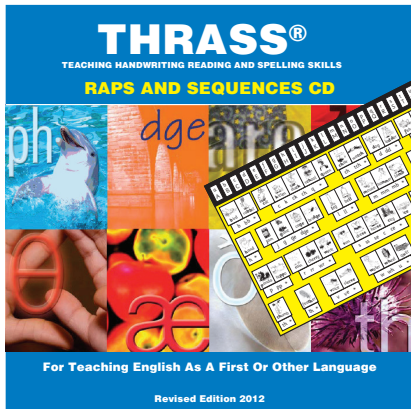


USING THE THRASS RAPS AND SEQUENCES CD

Note: Phonemes are indicated by brackets () and letter names by apostrophes, ' '. Although we recognise the importance of the IPA, where possible we have not used its symbols to denote phonemes as many people will not be familiar with these. Instead we have used common graphemes (spelling choices).



The THRASS RAPS & SEQUENCE CD (T-151), is designed to be used in conjunction with the various THRASSCHARTS. It contains the THRASS Sequences, the THRASS Phoneme-Grapheme Sequences, the THRASS Raps and THRASS Sound Effects. The CD features dual speed voice-overs for all of the THRASS Sequences - that is, there is both a slow and fast version of each track to assist with differentiation.

THE NAME, CONSONANT AND VOWEL PHONEME SEQUENCES

- ◆ Learners simultaneously point underneath the letter-boxes as they hear and name the 26 letter names.
- ◆ Learners simultaneously point underneath the phoneme-boxes as they hear and pronounce the 24 consonant phonemes.
- ◆ Learners simultaneously point underneath the phoneme-boxes as they hear and pronounce the 20 vowel phonemes.

THE THRASSWORD SEQUENCE

- ◆ Learners simultaneously point underneath the THRASSWORDS as they hear the 120 word sequence.

THE LOWER-CASE HANDWRITING SEQUENCE

- ◆ Learners listen to all or part of the Lower-case Handwriting Sequence until, in time with the voice-over, they can correctly name and overwrite the lower-case letters on the THRASS Overwrite Chart (T-106) or the Lower-case Formation Sheet and the Name and Overwrite Sheet found in the HANDWRITING SECTION of the THRASS Resource Kit (T-101).

THE CAPITAL HANDWRITING SEQUENCE

- ◆ Learners listen to all or part of the Capital Handwriting Sequence until, in time with the voice-over, they can correctly name and overwrite the capital letters on the THRASS Overwrite Chart (T-106) or the Capital Formation Sheet and the Name and Overwrite Sheet found in the HANDWRITING SECTION of the THRASS Resource Kit (T-101).

IT IS RECOMMENDED THESE ACTIVITIES ARE PRACTISED DAILY, UNTIL AUTOMATICITY OF LETTER FORMATION IS ACHIEVED AND LEARNERS CAN IDENTIFY LETTERS BY NAME.

PRONUNCIATION OF PHONEMES

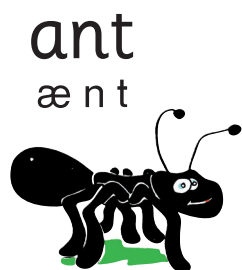
ALLOPHONES

A phoneme is the correct term for a speech sound. In English we have 44 phonemes. However, we each pronounce the 44 phonemes slightly differently depending on the shape of our mouth, lips, tongue and palate. Variation in pronunciation also occurs with some phonemes, because of the influence of the phonemes that precede or follow a particular phoneme. For example, the way we pronounce the phoneme (t) in the words tap and city, is slightly different. This different 'phonetic realisation' of a phoneme is known as an allophone. Listen to the consonant and vowel phoneme sequences on the CD. When you say these phonemes without the influence of other phonemes, they may sound slightly different to when you place them in words.

MONOPHTHONGS AND DIPHTHONGS

Listen to the vowel phoneme sequence. Pronounce the vowel phonemes in time with the voice-over. Twelve of the 20 vowel phonemes are monophthongs (mon-erf-thongs) and eight are diphthongs (dif-thongs). Monophthongs are vowel phonemes that have no appreciable change in quality during the course of the vowel. Monophthongs can be short or long (often referred to as short vowels or long vowels). Some short monophthongs can also be produced as long monophthongs by extending the production of the phoneme.

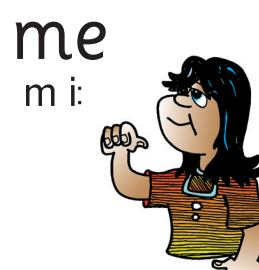
For example, the vowel phoneme in the word ant, is a short monophthong and cannot be extended. However, the vowel phoneme in the word tin, can be produced for either a short time (a short monophthong) or without changing the articulation position, can be produced for a longer period, becoming the vowel phoneme in the word me. See the example below.



Short Monophthong



Short Monophthong



Long Monophthong

The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) representation for a short monophthong is a single symbol, e.g. ɪ as in tɪn while a long monophthong is identified by a single symbol followed by a colon. e.g. i: as in mi:

Diphthongs are vowel phonemes constructed from two vowel qualities, the first being longer in duration than the second, therefore, there will be a change in production during the course of the vowel. Take a deep breath and say the diphthong in cow for as long as you can. To produce the diphthong you will have to make a change in production. The vowels in the words tray, hair, ear, fly, snow, toy, lure and cow are diphthongs.

tray

hair

ear

fly

snow

toy

lure

cow

t r eɪ

h eə

ɪə

f l aɪ

s n əʊ

t ɔɪ

l ʊə

k aʊ



The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) representation for a diphthong is composed of two symbols. e.g. aʊ as in k aʊ