

New Zealand English Speech Sounds – Phonemes

| Consonants – continuants voiceless | | Consonants – continuants voiced | |
|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|-----|
| /f/ | | /v/ | |
| /th/ | | / <u>th</u> / | |
| /s/ | | /z/ | |
| /sh/ | | /zh/ treasure | |
| /h/ | | /m/ | /w/ |
| | | /n/ | /r/ |
| | | /ng/ | /l/ |
| | | | /y/ |

| Consonants – stops voiceless | | Consonants – stops voiced | |
|---------------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| /p/ | | /b/ | |
| /t/ | | /d/ | |
| /k/ | | /g/ | |
| /ch/ | | /j/ | |

| Vowels – short | | Vowels – long | |
|----------------|-----|---------------|-------|
| /ă/ | pat | /ā/ | day |
| /ĕ/ | pet | /ē/ | eat |
| /ĭ/ | pit | /ī/ | night |
| /ŏ/ | pot | /ō/ | oat |
| /ŭ/ | pup | /ū/ | bloom |

| Vowels – r-controlled | | Vowels – other vowels | |
|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|---|
| /ar/ | sh <u>ar</u> k | /oy/ | co <u>in</u> |
| /er/ | bi <u>er</u> d | /ow/ | co <u>ow</u> |
| /or/ | fo <u>or</u> k | /oo/ | loo <u>o</u> |
| /air/ | pa <u>ir</u> | schwa /ə/ | to <u>ma</u> to, ro <u>cke</u> t, le <u>mo</u> n |
| /eer/ | hea <u>er</u> | | |
| /ure/ | to <u>ur</u> | | |

Consonants & Vowels

- A **consonant sound** (phoneme) is produced when the lips, teeth and tongue partly or completely restrict the airflow. The voice is either turned on (**voiced**) or off (**voiceless**). **Continuant** sounds can be stretched out – you can hold onto them, like /mmmmm/; **stop** sounds can't be stretched out, like /p/. It's important to say individual sounds clearly, without adding 'uh' after them: say "mmm" not "muh", and "t" not "tuh".
- **Vowel sounds** (phonemes) have free airflow – they are shaped by the tongue and lips and different levels of mouth opening. All vowels are voiced and stretchy.