

INSTRUCTOR'S MANUAL

Phonetic Readings for Lyric Diction

An enunciation and transcription workbook that employs frequently occurring words from English, Italian, German, French, and Latin lyrics

Cheri Montgomery

THIRD EDITION

S.T.M. Publishers
Nashville, TN

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Exploring Art Song Lyrics by Jonathan Retzlaff with IPA transcriptions by Cheri Montgomery, published by Oxford University Press (<https://global.oup.com>)

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PREFACE

Phonetic Readings for Lyric Diction is tailored to suit the current needs of the lyric diction course. It functions easily as an introduction to an in-depth study of the lyric languages or as an all-in-one workbook for programs that offer diction in a single semester. The *IPA Handbook for Singers* is a companion text. Together, these publications provide a thorough study of English, Italian, German, French, and Latin enunciation uniquely merged in a complementary study of transcription as it applies to English lyric diction.

Mastering English transcription is a vital part of this approach. A method designed to help students become familiar with the distinctive qualities of their own language will prepare them to observe how those qualities compare or contrast with those of other lyric languages. As students study English spellings and learn how those spellings guide them toward an eloquent pronunciation of the language, they grow to appreciate the elegance and beauty of proper pronunciation as it relates to lyric diction. Each chapter begins with an introduction to the sounds of the European lyric languages. Classical Italian, German, French, and Latin lyric words are ideal for highlighting a pronunciation of the English language that is most favorable for singing.

There are several advantages to having all languages represented in one text:

- Continuity is served. The method of transcription and use of phonetic symbols are consistent throughout the languages so that contrasts and comparisons can readily be made.
- The topics are refined. Concise rules accompany the phonetic exercises (in the IPA Handbook) allowing students to easily and thoroughly explore the sounds of the lyric languages.
- Convenience is provided. *Phonetic Readings for Lyric Diction* is a complementary approach to the transcription method offered in the *Lyric Diction Workbook Series*.
- Accuracy, consistency, and reliability are insured. Transcription rules followed in the *Lyric Diction Workbook Series* are the basis for the scholarly research applied in *Phonetic Readings for Lyric Diction* and *Exploring Art Song Lyrics*. EASL is published by Oxford University Press and contains more than 750 Italian, German, and French art songs with pronunciation and IPA provided by the same author. A panel of Oxford reviewers and editors rigorously critiqued and approved the method of transcription and choice of phonetic symbols.

The *IPA Handbook for Singers* is a companion text sold separately. It offers a dictionary of phonetic symbols with enunciation instructions that define the IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet) for each language. It serves as an aid to the course and a continuing guide for singers as they seek accurate pronunciation for phonetically prepared texts.

A listening lab is available on the listening page at www.stmpublishers.com.

The organization of this workbook challenges students to become involved in the learning process by offering individually designed homework assignments in an easily accessible format. Chapters progress in a graded and cumulative order and cover topics ranging from articulatory phonetics and enunciation, to transcription rules and exercises for English lyric diction. The following resources were newly created for this workbook:

- Italian, German, French, and Latin reading lists that introduce the phonetic sounds in incremental steps
- Transcribed Italian, German, and French art songs and sacred Latin texts that contain a frequent occurrence of the highlighted sounds
- English transcription rules and exercises
- English enunciation exercises
- A summary of English transcription rules
- Transcribed English art songs and selections from classical literature

The *Lyric Diction Workbook Series* was created to make the lyric languages accessible to singers. Familiarity is gained as numerous words are encountered. The worksheet format makes grading easier for instructors. Each student is to receive a homework number 1-12 at the beginning of the course. Accurate pronunciation and transcription is assessed through in class enunciation of individually assigned word and phrase lists.

New with this publication: the lists are arranged by columns and rows. The lists function vertically to provide cumulative testing and horizontally to provide a focused study of the particular sound. A discussion of the workbooks and how they function in the classroom is available in the article: *The Dynamic Diction Classroom*, published in the *Journal of Singing*, Sept./Oct. 2011 issue.

Cheri Montgomery

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GERMAN CHAPTER 5

GERMAN DIPHTHONGS

ICH-LAUT AND ACH-LAUT

Fold here

Answer key for page 63

1. [bouθ]	[ði]	['wiðəd]	['θɔtfəl]	7. [ðam]	[sauθ]	['ʔeniθɪŋ]	['ɪðəm]
2. ['hɛðə]	['sɪŋəθ]	[θɔ:n]	[ðou]	8. ['ɪɛɪnəθ]	['faðə]	[wið]	[stiɛŋθ]
3. [ðai]	['fɛðəd]	['θiðə]	[mauθ]	9. [wɛlθ]	[ðiz]	['hiðə]	['tɛikəθ]
4. ['ʔɛvɪθɪŋ]	[θif]	[ðɛm]	['nɔ:ðən]	10. ['suðɪŋ]	['bɪɛθləs]	[θim]	[ðau]
5. ['lɛðə]	[ðouz]	[tiθ]	['θauzənd]	11. [ðɛn]	['kloʊðɪŋ]	['juθfəl]	[θɪn]
6. [fɔ:θ]	['θɪŋkɪŋ]	['wɛðə]	[ðɛɪ]	12. ['fɛɪθfəl]	[hɛlθ]	[ðɪs]	['bɪiðɪŋ]

LISTENING ASSIGNMENT: Art song with a frequent occurrence of diphthongs, [ç] and [χ]

Richard Strauss (1864–1949)

Breit' über mein Haupt, op. 19 no. 2

Adolf Friedrich, Graf von Schack (1815–1894)

Spread over my head your black hair,

Breit' über mein Haupt dein schwarzes Haar,

[braet 'ʔy:bək maen hʌopt daen 'ʃvartsəs ha:r]

bend your face to me,

neig' zu mir dein Angesicht,

[naek tsu: mi:ɐ daen 'ʔangəziçt]

there pours into my soul so bright and clear

da strömt in die Seele so hell und klar

[da: ʃtrø:mt ʔim di: 'ze:lə zo: hell ʔunt kla:r]

the light of your eyes.

mir deiner Augen Licht.

[mi:ɐ 'daenəɐ 'ʔaogən liçt]

I desire not the sun's glory from above,

Ich will nicht droben der Sonne Pracht,

[ʔiç vill niçt 'dro:bən de:ɐ 'zønnə praçt]

nor the stars' gleaming crown,

noch der Sterne leuchtenden Kranz,

[nɔχ de:ɐ 'ʃtɛrnə 'lœçtəndən krants]

I want only your locks at night

ich will nur deiner Locken Nacht

[ʔiç vill nu:r 'daenəɐ 'lɔkkən naçt]

and your radiant glance.

und deiner Blicke Glanz.

[ʔunt 'daenəɐ 'blikkə glants]

Robert Alexander Schumann (1810–1856)

Dichterliebe, Song Cycle, op. 48

Heinrich Heine (1797–1856)

7. Ich grolle nicht*I do not complain, though my heart breaks,*

Ich grolle nicht, und wenn das Herz auch bricht,

[ʔiç 'gröllə niçt ʔunt venn das hɛrts ʔaɔχ briçt]

forever lost love! I do not complain.

Ewig verlornes Lieb! Ich grolle nicht.

['ʔe:viç fɛɐ'lo:rənəs li:p ʔiç 'gröllə niçt]

Although you shine as the diamond's magnificence,

Wie du auch strahlst in Diamantenpracht,

[vi: du: ʔaɔχ ʃtra:lst ʔim dia'mantənpraçt]

no ray pierces the darkness of your heart.

Es fällt kein Strahl in deines Herzens Nacht.

[ʔes fellt kaen ʃtra:l ʔim 'daenəs 'hɛrtsəns naçt]

That I knew long ago.

Das weiß ich längst.

[das vaess ʔiç læŋst]

I do not complain, though my heart breaks,

Ich grolle nicht, und wenn das Herz auch bricht.

[ʔiç 'gröllə niçt ʔunt venn das hɛrts ʔaɔχ briçt]

I saw you in a dream,

Ich sah dich ja im Traume,

[ʔiç za: diç ja: ʔim 'traʊmə]

and I saw the night in your heart's room [soul],

Und sah die Nacht in deines Herzens Raume,

[ʔunt za: di: naçt ʔim 'daenəs 'hɛrtsəns 'raʊmə]

and saw the snake that devours your heart,

Und sah die Schlang', die dir am Herzen frißt,

[ʔunt za: di: ʃlaŋ di: di:ɐ(r) ʔam 'hɛrtsən frisst]

I saw, my love, how wretched you are.

Ich sah, mein Lieb, wie sehr du elend bist.

[ʔiç za: maen li:p vi: ze:r du: 'ʔe:lent bist]

GERMAN PHONETIC CHART: German Diphthongs, *ich*-Laut and *ach*-Laut

Refer to the *IPA Handbook for Singers* to complete the following chart

CONSONANTS							
IPA	Voiced	Manner of Articulation	Tongue Tip	Sides of Tongue and Arch	Lip Position	Jaw Position	Soft Palate
[ç] Prepalatal	YES / NO						
[χ] Velar	YES / NO						

ENGLISH IPA EXERCISE: English dental fricative [ð] and [θ]

The English *th* and German *ch* share the same manner of articulation. The air flow must remain uninterrupted for both. The German *ch* becomes a *k* if the flow of air is stopped. The English *th* becomes a *t* or *d* if the air flow is stopped. A voiced *th* is transcribed with a [ð] symbol. A voiceless *th* is transcribed with a [θ] symbol. Italian, German, and French do not have the *th* sound. Provide IPA for the following words with *th* spelling. Note: the word *with* is pronounced with a voiced *th* for lyric diction.

- | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----------|----------|------------|--------------|------------|----------|-----------|
| 1. both | the | withered | thoughtful | 7. thine | south | anything | rhythm |
| 2. heather | singeth | thorn | though | 8. raineth | father | with | strength |
| 3. thy | feathered | thither | mouth | 9. wealth | these | hither | taketh |
| 4. everything | thief | them | northern | 10. soothing | breathless | theme | thou |
| 5. leather | those | teeth | thousand | 11. then | clothing | youthful | thin |
| 6. forth | thinking | weather | they | 12. faithful | health | this | breathing |

GERMAN PHONETIC READINGS: German Diphthongs, *ich*-Laut and *ach*-Laut

Highlighted Sound	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6
[ae]	sein/his [zaen]	weiß/white [vaess]	Zeit/time [tsaet]	mein/mine [maen]	sei/is [zae]	kein/none [kaen]
Challenge words	Blümlein/little flower ['bly:mlaen]	Kindlein/little child ['kɪntlaen]	Schönheit/beauty ['ʃø:nhaet]	Vögelein/small bird ['fø:gølaen]	Mägdelein/servant girl ['mɛ:kðəlaen]	Heimat/home ['haemat]
[ao]	schaut/looks [ʃaot]	Baum/tree [baom]	Tau/dew [tao]	Haupt/head [haopt]	kaum/hardly [kaom]	Frau/woman [frao]
Challenge words	glauben/to believe ['glaobən]	hinaus/outside [hi'naos]	lauschen/to listen ['laʊʃən]	wohlauf/well [vo:l'ʔaof]	tausendmal/thousand ['taozəntma:l]	grausam/cruelly ['graoza:m]
[ɔø]	Freund/friend [frœnt]	neu/new [nœ]	träumt/dreams [trœmt]	Kreuz/cross [krœts]	Beute/prize [bœtə]	scheu/shy [ʃœ]
Challenge words	euer/your ['ʔœək]	Säugling/baby ['zœkliŋ]	bedeuten/to mean [bə'dœtən]	gläubigen/faithful ['glœbɪgən]	Feuer/fire ['fœək]	säuseln/whisper ['zœzəlŋ]
[aχ] [a:χ]	brach/broke [bra:χ]	Pracht/splendor [praχt]	Dach/roof [daχ]	Nacht/night [naχt]	wach/awake [vaχ]	macht/makes [maχt]
[ʊχ] [u:χ]	Schlucht/ravine [ʃlʊχt]	Buch/book [bu:χ]	Versuchung/temptation [fɛʊ'zu:χʊŋ]	Spruch/saying [ʃprʊχ]	suchen/search ['zu:χən]	Fluch/curse [flu:χ]
[ɔχ] [o:χ]	hoch/high [ho:χ]	gebrochen/broken [gə'brœχən]	Joch/yoke [jœχ]	Woche/week ['vœχə]	flocht/twisted [flœχt]	Tochter/daughter ['tœχtək]
[aoχ]	auch/also [ʔaoχ]	tauchen/to dip ['taoχən]	Hauch/breath [haoχ]	Geisterhauch/spirit breath ['gæstəʊhaoχ]	Brauch/custom [braoχ]	jauchzend/cheering ['jaoχtsənt]
[ɪç]	mich/me [miç]	flicht/twists [fliçt]	sich/itself [ziç]	dich/you [diç]	sticht/stings [ʃtiçt]	brich/break [briç]
Challenge words	endlich/at last ['ʔentliç]	ruhig/calmly ['ru:iç]	glücklich/lucky ['glykklɪç]	selig/blessed ['ze:liç]	lustig/merrily ['lʊstiç]	freudig/joyfully ['frœdiç]
[ɛç]	fechten/to fence ['fɛçtən]	Allmächtige/Almighty [ʔall'mɛçtigə]	Becher/cup ['bɛçək]	nächsten/next ['nɛçstən]	rechts/right [rɛçts]	lächelt/smiles ['lɛçəlt]
[aeç]	reich/rich [raeç]	Zeichen/mark ['tsaeçən]	weich/soft [vaeç]	leicht/easy [laeçt]	bleich/pale [blaeç]	Eiche/oak ['ʔaeçə]
Mixed v. + [ç]	Sprüche/sayings ['ʃpryçə]	Tücher/cloths ['ty:çək]	schüchtern/shy ['ʃyçtəkŋ]	möchte/would like to ['mœçtə]	Früchten/fruits ['fryçtən]	höchste/highest ['hø:çstə]
[ɔøç]	leuchten/to shine ['lœçtən]	däucht/seemed [dœçt]	räuchern/to smoke ['rœçəkŋ]	euch/you [ʔœøç]	keuchen/to gasp ['kœøçən]	scheuchen/to shoo [ʃœøçən]

GERMAN PHONETIC READINGS: German Diphthongs, *ich*-Laut and *ach*-Laut

Highlighted Sound	#7	#8	#9	#10	#11	#12
[ae]	zwei/two [tʰsvae]	nein/no [naen]	bei/with [bae]	dein/your [daen]	weit/far [vaet]	ein/a [ʔaen]
Challenge words	Kämmerlein/little room [ˈkɛmmɐ̯laen]	Sternlein/little star [ˈʃtɛrnlaen]	Einsamkeit/isolation [ˈʔaenzɑːmkaet]	Röslein/little rose [ˈrøːslaen]	Sonnenschein/sunshine [ˈzɔnnənʃaen]	Schwesterlein/little sister [ˈʃvɛstɐ̯laen]
[ao]	Braut/bride [braot]	Haus/house [haos]	Lauf/run [laof]	Traum/dream [traom]	blau/blue [blao]	laut/loud [laot]
Challenge words	Augen/eyes [ˈʔaogən]	vertraut/familiar [fɛkˈtraot]	draußen/outside [ˈdraossən]	hinauf/up [hɪˈnaof]	rauschen/to rush [ˈraoʃən]	aufwärts/upward [ˈʔaofvɛrts]
[ɔø]	Heute/today [høtə]	Reue/regret [røø]	Freude/joy [frøødə]	streut/strews [ʃtrøøt]	treu/true [trøø]	beugt/bends [bøøkt]
Challenge words	zerstreut/scatters [tʰɛkˈʃtrøøt]	Bräutigam/bridegroom [ˈbrøøtɪgam]	Träume/dreams [ˈtrøømə]	Freundschaft/friendship [ˈfrøøntʃaft]	Bäume/trees [ˈbøømə]	Seufzer/sigh [ˈzøøftʰɛk]
[ax] [ɑ:χ]	Fach/subject [fax]	lacht/laughs [laxt]	Bach/brook [bax]	sacht/gentle [zaxt]	nach/after [na:χ]	sprach/spoke [ʃpra:χ]
[uχ] [u:χ]	Buchstaben/letters [ˈbu:χʃtaːbən]	wuchert/grows fast [ˈvu:χɛkt]	ruchlos/profane [ˈru:χlɔːs]	Frucht/fruit [fruχt]	Sehnsucht/longing [ˈzeːnzʊχt]	verrucht/despicable [fɛkˈru:χtə]
[ɔχ] [o:χ]	dennoch/nevertheless [ˈdennɔχ]	pochet/pound [ˈpɔχɛt]	Knochen/bones [ˈknɔχən]	doch/however [dɔχ]	Hochland/high country [ˈho:χlant]	noch/still [nɔχ]
[aoχ]	Rauch/smoke [raoχ]	Rosenstrauch/rose bush [ˈroːzənʃtraoχ]	Bauch/belly [baoχ]	Abendhauch/evening breeze [ˈʔaːbənthaoχ]	Strauch/bush [ʃtraoχ]	brauchen/to need [ˈbraoχən]
[Iç]	schlich/crept [ʃlɪç]	nicht/not [nɪçt]	wich/yielded [vɪç]	sprich/speak [ʃprɪç]	ich/I [ʔɪç]	Licht/light [lɪçt]
Challenge words	Gesicht/face [gəˈzɪçt]	ewig/eternal [ˈʔeːvɪç]	mächtig/powerfully [ˈmɛçtɪç]	plötzlich/suddenly [ˈplœtslɪç]	König/king [ˈkøːnɪç]	fröhlich/merrily [ˈfrøːlɪç]
[ɛç]	Bächlein/little brook [ˈbɛçlaen]	sprechen/to speak [ˈʃprɛçən]	Nächte/nights [ˈnɛçtə]	brechen/break [ˈbrɛçən]	Wächter/guard [ˈvɛçtɐ̯]	Knecht/farmhand [knɛçt]
[aeç]	vielleicht/perhaps [vɪlˈlaeçt]	Teich/pond [taeç]	Streich/trick [ʃtraeç]	reicht/reaches [raeçt]	gleich/same [glaeç]	schleicht/sneaks [ʃlaeçt]
Mixed v. + [ç]	Töchter/daughters [ˈtøçtɐ̯]	Röcheln/to rattle [ˈrøçəlɪn]	flüchtig/fleeting [ˈflʏçtɪç]	nüchtern/sober [ˈnyçtɐ̯n]	Bücher/books [ˈbyːçɐ̯]	Psyche/psyche [ˈpsyːçə]
[ɔøç]	Heuchler/hypocrite [ˈhøøçlɛk]	verscheuchen/chase away [fɛkˈʃøøçən]	Gesträuche/shrubs [gəˈʃtrøøçə]	feuchten/moisten [ˈføøçtən]	sträucheln/stumble [ˈʃtrøøçəlɪn]	bäuchlings/face down [ˈbøøçlɪŋs]

GERMAN PHRASES: German Diphthongs, *ich*-Laut and *ach*-Laut

Intone the following:

- | | | | |
|------|--|------|---|
| [ae] | 1. <i>Little rose spoke: I prick you,</i>
Röslein sprach: Ich steche dich,
['rø:slæ:n ʃpra:χ ʔiç 'ʃtɛçə diç] | [ae] | 4. <i>I want once more to look back,</i>
Möcht' ich noch einmal rückwärts seh'n,
[mœçt ʔiç nɔχ 'ʔænma:l 'rykkverts ze:n] |
| [ao] | <i>Also they were, for you and me</i>
Auch waren sie für dich und mich
[ʔaoχ 'va:rən zi: fy:ɐ diç ʔont miç] | [ao] | <i>and also then must I hesitate.</i>
Und auch da noch muß ich schwanken.
[ʔont ʔaoχ da: nɔχ mu:ß ʔiç 'ʃvaŋkən] |
| [ɔø] | <i>hear me still sigh: today,</i>
Hörte mich noch seufzen: heut,
['hø:rtə miç nɔχ 'zœftsən hœt] | [ɔø] | <i>kindly by the starry night</i>
freundlich die gestirnte Nacht
['frœnthlɪç di: gə'ʃtɪrntə naχt] |
| [ae] | 2. <i>I awake and cry bitterly.</i>
Ich erwach und weine bitterlich.
[ʔiç ʔɛɐ'vaχ ʔont 'vaenə 'bittɛblɪç] | [ae] | 5. <i>and I know not when it is night.</i>
Und ich weiß nicht, wann es nachtet.
[ʔont ʔiç vaess niçt vann ʔes 'naχtət] |
| [ao] | <i>It reveals no roof, no yard, no house,</i>
Es dringt kein Dach, nicht Hof noch Haus,
[ʔes driŋt kaen daχ niçt ho:f nɔχ ha:ʊs] | [ao] | <i>Jubilant am I, I could shout,</i>
Jauchzen möcht' ich, möchte weinen,
['jaoχtsən mœçt ʔiç 'mœçtə 'vaenən] |
| [ɔø] | <i>Comfort I sought from you,</i>
Linderung sucht ich bei euch,
['lɪndərʊŋ zu:χt ʔiç bæ ʔœç] | [ɔø] | <i>I will tell you what makes me hurt,</i>
Sag' Euch an, was krank mich macht,
[za:k(g) ʔœç ʔan vas kraŋk miç maχt] |
| [ae] | 3. <i>make me joyful, I who weep,</i>
Mach mich fröhlich, der ich weine,
[maχ miç 'frø:liç de:ɐ(r) ʔiç 'vaenə] | [ae] | 6. <i>a joyful wedding is made,</i>
Fröhliche Hochzeit macht,
['frø:liçə 'hœχtsaet maχt] |
| [ao] | <i>And ah! I cannot believe it,</i>
Und ach! ich kann es nicht glauben,
[ʔont ʔaχ ʔiç kann ʔes niçt 'glaʊbən] | [ao] | <i>and though she looks not out for me,</i>
Und schaut sie auch nach mir nicht aus,
[ʔont ʃaʊt zi: ʔaoχ na:χ mi:ɐ niçt ʔa:ʊs] |
| [ɔø] | <i>So you spoke, sweetheart, today to me.</i>
So sprachst du, Liebchen, heut zu mir;
[zo: ʃpra:χst du: 'li:pçən hœt tsu: mi:ɐ] | [ɔø] | <i>which last night in her open little bedroom</i>
Die heute Nacht im offenen Stübchen
[di: hœtə naχt ʔim 'ʔœffnən 'ʃty:pçən] |

ENGLISH IPA REVIEW

Transcribe the following American art song using the symbols introduced in preceding chapters. An open vowel transcription of diphthongs is recommended for formal American English (Marshall, p. 167). Intervocalic *r* within the phrase is transcribed with a flipped [(r)] but may be articulated with a quick vowel [ɻ]. Purpose: the flipped *r* transcription reminds the singer to treat postvocalic *r* with care, while the German vowel *r* pronunciation helps the singer avoid the negative affect that a retroflex tongue would have upon a preceding vowel. A light glottal stop before the following initial vowel word would allow *r* to be dropped without distorting the text (see first line). All other glottal stops that precede weak words within the phrase should be omitted. Weak words are transcribed with a schwa to indicate their weakened vowel quality. Weak words are listed on page 140.

Read the answer key first, fold it back to conceal the answers, then provide IPA below.

Answer key

[huz wʊdz ðɪz ə(r) ʔaɪ θɪŋk aɪ noʊ]
 [hɪz haʊs ɪz ɪn ðə 'vɪlədʒ ðoʊ]
 [hi wɪl nat si mi 'stɑpɪŋ hɪə]
 [tə wɑtʃ hɪz wʊdz fɪl ʌp wɪð snoʊ]
 [maɪ 'lɪtəl hɔ:s məst θɪŋk ɪt kwɪə]

[tə stɑp wɪð 'aʊt ə 'fɑ:mhaʊs nɪə]
 [bɪ'twɪn ðə wʊdz ənd 'fɪoʊzən leɪk]
 [ðə 'dɑ:kəst ʔɪvniŋ əv ðə jɪə]
 [hi ɡɪvz hɪz 'hɑ:nəs belz ə fɛɪk]
 [tə ask ɪf ðeə(r) ʔɪz sʌm mɪs'teɪk]

[ði 'ʔoʊnlɪ 'ʌðə saʊndz ðə swɪp]
 [əv 'ɪzɪ wɪnd ənd 'daʊnɪ flɛɪk]
 [ðə wʊdz ə 'lʌvli dɑ:k ənd dɪp]
 [bət aɪ həv 'pɹɑmɪsəz tə kɪp]
 [ənd maɪlz tə goʊ bɪ'fɔə(r) ʔaɪ slɪp]

Fold here

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening (Robert Frost poem set by John Duke)

Whose woods these are I think I know.

His house is in the village though;

He will not see me stopping here

To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer

To stop without a farmhouse near

Between the woods and frozen lake

The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake

To ask if there is some mistake.

The only other sound's the sweep

Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep.

But I have promises to keep,

And miles to go before I sleep.

FRENCH CHAPTER 5

CLOSED MIXED [ø], OPEN MIXED [œ], THE SCHWA [ə]

Fold here

Answer key for page 95

1. ['lit(ʊ)l]	['ha:v(ɛ)st]	['sʌm(ʌ)]	['dist(æ)nt]	['mɛid(i/ɛ)n]	['wɛlk(ʌ)m]
2. ['hæp(i/ɛ)nz]	['dʒiz(ʌ)s]	['fiɛiɟi(æ)nt]	['pɜp(ʊ)l]	['nɛv(ʌ)]	['moum(ɛ)nt]
3. ['ʔɛndl(ɛ)s]	['wʌnd(ʌ)]	['gɛiɟ(ʌ)s]	['biʊk(i/ɛ)n]	['ʔim(æ)dʒ]	['tiæv(ʊ)l]
4. ['ʔouʋ(ʌ)]	['wizd(ʌ)m]	['dʌb(ʊ)l]	['ʔinf(æ)nt]	['fɛid(i/ɛ)d]	['hæpin(ɛ)s]
5. ['lis(i/ɛ)n]	['vaibɪ(æ)nt]	['gɛit(ɛ)st]	['lʌv(ʌ)z]	['bæt(ʊ)l]	['kiɪmz(ʌ)n]
6. ['dizm(ʊ)l]	['aft(ʌ)]	['ɛtʃ(i/ɛ)d]	['ʔɛks(ʊ)l(ɛ)nt]	['fænt(ʌ)m]	['sɜt(æ)n]
7. ['kæpt(æ)n]	['nouʋ(ʊ)l]	['ɪv(ʌ)]	['wʌndɪ(ʌ)s]	['tɛmp(ɛ)sts]	['ʔiv(i/ɛ)n]
8. ['difi(ɛ)nt]	['ʔæŋkʃ(ʌ)s]	['kiɛid(ʊ)l]	['lift(i/ɛ)d]	['plɛz(æ)nt]	['ʔʌnd(ʌ)]
9. ['wʊm(æ)n]	['hid(i/ɛ)n]	['ɛstl(ɛ)s]	['nɛitʃ(ʌ)]	['simp(ʊ)l]	['lʌnd(ʌ)n]
10. [di'vaɪd(i/ɛ)d]	['mæŋʃ(ʌ)n]	['kɜt(æ)n]	['pɛiʃ(ɛ)nt]	['ʔʌð(ʌ)]	['tɛib(ʊ)l]
11. ['tɛnd(ʌ)]	['mistɪ(ɛ)s]	['lin(i/ɛ)n]	['dɛindʒ(ʌ)r(ʌ)s]	['kiɪst(ʊ)l]	['pæl(æ)s]
12. ['ʔamin(ʌ)s]	['læŋgw(æ)dʒ]	['mʌð(ʌ)]	['tiʌb(ʊ)l]	['giʋ(i/ɛ)n]	['sail(ɛ)nt]

LISTENING ASSIGNMENT: Art song with a frequent occurrence of [ø], [œ], and schwa

Claude Achille Debussy (1862–1918)

Fêtes galantes II, Song Cycle

Paul Verlaine (1844–1896)

3. Colloque sentimental

In the old park solitary and icy,

Dans le vieux parc solitaire et glacé

[dɑ̃ lə vjø park sɔlɪtɛr e glasɛ]

two forms have within the hour passed.

Deux formes ont tout à l'heure passé.

[dø fɔrmə ð tut a lœrə pase]

Their eyes are dead and their lips are soft,

Leurs yeux sont morts et leurs lèvres sont molles,

[lœrz jø sɔ̃ mɔr e lœr lœvrə sɔ̃ mɔlə]

and one hears scarcely their words.

Et l'on entend à peine leurs paroles.

[e lɔ̃ ɑ̃tɑ̃t a pənə lœr parɔlə]

In the old park solitary and icy

Dans le vieux parc solitaire et glacé

[dɑ̃ lə vjø park sɔlɪtɛr e glasɛ]

two spirits recalled the past.

Deux spectres ont évoqué le passé.

[dø spɛktrə ɔ̃t evɔkɛ lə pase]

Do you remember our past ecstasy?

Te souvient-il de notre extase ancienne?

[tə suvjɛ̃t il də nɔtr ɛkstaz ɑ̃sjənə]

Why do you want me to remember it?

Pourquoi voulez-vous donc qu'il m'en souvienne?

[purkwa vule vu dɔ̃ kil mɑ̃ suvjənə]

Does your heart beat still at the mere sound of my name?

Ton cœur bat-il toujours à mon seul nom?

[tɔ̃ kœr bat il tuzur a mɔ̃ sœl nɔ̃]

Do you still see my soul in your dreams? No.

Toujours vois-tu mon âme en rêve? Non.

[tuzur vwa ty mɔ̃n am ɑ̃ rɛvə nɔ̃]

Ah! The lovely days of happiness indescribable

Ah! Les beaux jours de bonheur indicible

[a lə bo zur də bɔ̃nœr ɛ̃disiblə]

when we would join together our mouths!

Où nous joignons nos bouches!

[u nu ʒwanjɔ̃ no buʃə]

It is possible.

C'est possible.

[sɛ pɔsiblə]

How blue was the sky, and great our hope!

Qu'il était bleu le ciel, et grand, l'espoir!

[kil etɛ blø lə sjɛl e grɑ̃ lɛspwar]

Hope has fled, vanquished, toward the dark sky.

L'espoir a fui, vaincu, vers le ciel noir.

[lɛspwar a fɥi vɛ̃ky vɛr lə sjɛl nwar]

Thus they would walk in the oat grass wild,

Tels ils marchaient dans les avoines folles,

[tɛlz il marʃɛ dɑ̃ lɛz avwanə fɔlə]

and the night alone heard their words.

Et la nuit seule entendit leurs paroles.

[e la nuʃi sœl ɑ̃tɑ̃di lœr parɔlə]

FRENCH PHONETIC CHART: Closed mixed [ø], open mixed [œ], and the schwa [ə]

Refer to the *IPA Handbook for Singers* to complete the following chart

VOWELS						
IPA Symbol	Onset	Tongue Tip	Sides of Tongue and Arch	Lip Position	Jaw Position	Soft Palate
[ø] Closed mixed						
[œ] Open mixed						

ENGLISH IPA EXERCISE: Defining the English schwa

The English schwa is a weakened version of the [ɛ], [ɪ], [ʌ], [ɜ], [ʊ], [æ], [ɑ], or [ɔ] vowel. The French schwa is not a weakened vowel and maintains one pronunciation for lyric diction: [œ]. Defining the English schwa is determined by spelling. Final unstressed *es* and *ent* spellings are [ɛ], *en* and *ed* spellings are [ɪ] or [ɛ], vowel + *r* is [ʌ] ([ɜ] for informal English), vowel + *l* is [ʊ], *o* and *u* spellings are [ʌ], *a* + consonant is [æ], final *a* is [ʌ] or [ɑ], and the *or* spelling is [ɔ]. See page 140 for a full list of spellings. Indicate schwa for the following words by placing the full vowel sound in parenthesis.

- | | | | | | |
|--------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| 1. little | harvest | summer | distant | maiden | welcome |
| 2. happens | Jesus | fragrant | purple | never | moment |
| 3. endless | wonder | gracious | broken | image | travel |
| 4. over | wisdom | double | infant | faded | happiness |
| 5. listen | vibrant | greatest | lovers | battle | crimson |
| 6. dismal | after | wretched | excellent | phantom | certain |
| 7. captain | noble | river | wondrous | tempests | even |
| 8. different | anxious | cradle | lifted | pleasant | under |
| 9. woman | hidden | restless | nature | simple | London |
| 10. divided | mansion | curtain | patient | other | table |
| 11. tender | mistress | linen | dangerous | crystal | palace |
| 12. ominous | language | mother | trouble | given | silent |

FRENCH PHONETIC READINGS: Closed mixed [ø], open mixed [œ], and the schwa [ə]

Highlighted Sounds	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6
[e]→[ø]	veux/want [ve → vø]	pleut/rains [ple → plø]	queue/tail [ke → kø]	feu/fire [fe → fø]	eux/them [e → ø]	jeux/games [ʒe → ʒø]
[jø]	Dieu/God [djø]	cieux/heaven [sjø]	vieux/old [vjø]	lieu/place [ljø]	yeux/eyes [jø]	pieux/piles [pjø]
2 syllables [ø]	glorieux/glorious [glɔʁjø]	radieux/radiant [radjø]	affreux/awful [afrø]	précieux/precious [presjø]	milieu/middle [miljø]	bleuets/blueberries [bløe]
3 syllables [ø]	harmonieux/harmonious [armonjø]	amoureux/in love [amurø]	merveilleux/wonderful [mɛrvɛjø]	généreux/generous [ʒenerø]	délicieux/delicious [delisjø]	ténébreux/dark [tenebrø]
[ø] [y]	brumeux/misty [brymø]	juteux/juicy [ʒytø]	écumeux/frothy [ekymø]	curieux/curious [kyrjø]	veux-tu/do you want [vø-ty]	fabuleux/fabulous [fabylø]
[ɛ]→[œ]	cœur/heart [kœr → kœr]	œil/eye [ɛj → œj]	pleurs/cries [plɛr → plœr]	neuf/new [nɛf → nœf]	leur/their [lɛr → lœr]	seul/alone [sɛl → sœl]
2 syllables [œ]	meunier/miller [mœnje]	fleuri/flowery [flœri]	cerceuil/coffin [sɛrsœj]	heurté/struck [œrte]	fauteuil/armchair [fotœj]	meurtri/hurt [mœrtri]
Final [œr]	honneur/honor [ɔnœr]	douceur/sweetness [dusœr]	chaleur/heat [ʃalœr]	seigneur/lord [sɛɲœr]	pêcheur/fisherman [pɛʃœr]	couleur/color [kulœr]
[œ] [y]	pudeur/modesty [pydœr]	rumeur/rumor [rymœr]	fureur/rage [fyœr]	plusieurs/several [plyzjœr]	humeur/mood [ymœr]	buveurs/drinkers [byvœr]
3 syllables [œ]	supérieur/superior [syperjœr]	laboureur/plowman [laburœr]	voyageur/traveler [vwajazœr]	travailleurs/workers [travajœr]	rajeunir/to rejuvenate [razœnir]	peupliers/poplars [pœplije]
[ə]	le/the [lə]	ce/that [sə]	de [də]	je/I [ʒə]	que/that [kə]	ne/not [nə]
[œ] [ə]	veuve/widow [vœvə]	peuple/people [pœplə]	heure/time, hour [œrə]	feuilles/leaves [fœjə]	jeune/young [ʒœnə]	fleuve/river [flœvə]
2 syllables [ə]	âme/soul [amə]	belle/beautiful [bɛlə]	toute/all [tutə]	une/a [ynə]	notre/our [nɔtrə]	terre/earth [tɛrə]
3 syllables [ə]	tristesse/sadness [tristəsə]	aurore/dawn [ɔrɔrə]	nature/nature [natyrə]	solitaire/solitary [sɔlitrə]	murmure/whisper [myrmyrə]	souvenir/memory [suvənir]
[ə] [ə]	chevelure/hair [ʃøvɔlyrə]	venue/coming [vənyə]	marguerite/daisy [margɛritə]	rebelle/rebel [rəbɛlə]	semaine/week [səmənə]	mesure/measurement [məzyrə]

FRENCH PHONETIC READINGS: Closed mixed [ø], open mixed [œ], and the schwa [ə]

Highlighted Sounds	#7	#8	#9	#10	#11	#12
[e]→[ø]	peu/few [pe → pø]	ceux/those [se → sø]	bleu/blue [ble → blø]	preux/valiant [pre → prø]	deux/two [de → dø]	bœufs/oxen [be → bø]
[jø]	dieux/gods [djø]	mieux/better [mjø]	cieux/heavens [sjø]	vieux/old [vjø]	lieux/places [ljø]	yeux/eyes [jø]
2 syllables [ø]	soucieux/anxious [susjø]	adieu/farewell [adjø]	joyeux/happy [ʒwajø]	aveux/confessions [avø]	gracieux/graceful [grasjø]	heureux/happy [(ø)rø]
3 syllables [ø]	mystérieux/mysterious [misterjø]	rigoureux/rigorous [rigurø]	capricieux/capricious [kaprisjø]	douloureux/painful [dulurø]	mélodieux/melodious [melødjø]	orageux/stormy [ɔraʒø]
[ø] [y]	lumineux/bright [lyminø]	furieux/furious [fyrjø]	rugueux/rough [rygø]	studieux/studious [stydjø]	fumeux/smoking [fymø]	pluvieux/rainy [plyvjø]
[ɛ]→[œ]	fleurs/flowers [flɛr → flœr]	deuil/mourning [dɛj → dœj]	peur/fear [pɛr → pœr]	œuf/egg [ɛf → œf]	sœur/sister [sɛr → sœr]	meurs/dies [mɛr → mœr]
2 syllables [œ]	œillets/carnations [œjɛ]	pleurer/to cry [plœre]	veuillez/would you [vœje]	l'aïeul/the grandparent [lajœl]	cueillir/to pick [kœjir]	écueil/reef [ekœj]
Final [œr]	ardeur/ardor [ardœr]	odeur/smell [ɔdœr]	meilleur/best [mɛjœr]	bonheur/happiness [bɔnœr]	douleur/pain [dulœr]	fraîcheur/freshness [frɛʃœr]
[œ] [y]	pudeur/modesty [pydœr]	rumeurs/rumors [rymœr]	fureur/fury [fyœr]	plusieurs/several [plyzjœr]	buveurs/drinkers [byvœr]	l'humeur/the mood [lymœr]
3 syllables [œ]	serviteurs/servants [servitœr]	moissonneurs/harvesters [mwasɔnœr]	l'épaisseur/thickness [lepɛsœr]	fossoyeur/gravedigger [foswajœr]	épouseurs/suitors [epuzœr]	protecteur/protector [prɔtɛktœr]
[ə]	me/me [mə]	te/you [tə]	je/I [ʒə]	de [də]	le/the [lə]	que/that [kə]
[œ] [ə]	cueille/picks [kœjə]	l'heure/the time, hour [lœrə]	seule/lonely [sœlə]	veille/would want [vœjə]	peuvent/can [pœvə]	œuvre/work [œvrə]
2 syllables [ə]	votre/your [vɔtrə]	cette/this [sɛtə]	douce/soft [dusə]	roses/pink, roses [rozə]	comme/like [kɔmə]	elle/she [ɛlə]
3 syllables [ə]	étoiles/stars [ɛtwalə]	visage/face [vizazə]	fidèle/faithful [fidɛlə]	lumière/light [lymjɛrə]	sourire/smile [surirə]	mystère/mystery [mistɛrə]
[ə] [ə]	regarde/look at [rɛgardə]	première/first [prɛmjɛrə]	revenir/to come back [rɛvɛnir]	cimetière/cemetery [simɛtjɛrə]	petite/small [pɛtitə]	sereine/serene [sɛrɛnə]

FRENCH PHRASES: Closed mixed [ø], open mixed [œ], and the schwa [ə]**French words within the phrase**

The French schwa is consistently pronounced as an [œ] vowel. It is as equally unstressed as any other unstressed vowel within the vocalic flow. Intone the following:

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <p>1. <i>Their short jackets of silk,</i>
Leurs courtes vestes de soie,
[lœr kurtə vɛstə də swa]</p> <p><i>I'm leaving! Good-bye, my dear love,</i>
Je pars! adieu, ma chère âme,
[ʒə par adjø ma ʃɛr amə]</p> | <p>5. <i>Leaf that the abyss reclaims,</i>
Feuille que le gouffre réclame,
[fœjə kə lə gufrə reklamə]</p> <p><i>and the lovely listeners,</i>
Et les belles écouteuses,
[e lɛ beləz ekutøzə]</p> | <p>9. <i>the young ladies</i>
Les jeunes demoiselles
[lɛ ʒœnə dəmwazelə]</p> <p><i>farewell, handsome stranger! Alas!</i>
Adieu, beau voyageur! Hélas! Adieu!
[adjø bo vwajazœr elas adjø]</p> |
| <p>2. <i>weep their beautiful leaves of gold!</i>
pleurent leurs belles feuilles d'or!
[plœrə lœr belə fœjə dɔr]</p> <p><i>Happy who dies here,</i>
Heureux qui meurt ici,
[(ø)rø ki mœr isi]</p> | <p>6. <i>Tell me, young beauty,</i>
Dites, la jeune belle,
[ditə la ʒœnə belə]</p> <p><i>and this mysterious voice</i>
Et cette voix mystérieuse
[e sɛtə vwa misterjøzə]</p> | <p>10. <i>The bed of leaves is prepared;</i>
Le lit de feuilles est préparé;
[lə li də fœjəz ɛ prepare]</p> <p><i>And when our two hearts</i>
Et lorsque nos deux cœurs
[e lɔrskə no dø kœr]</p> |
| <p>3. <i>studded with pale little flowers.</i>
Étoilés de fleurettes pâles.
[etwale də flœrɛtə palə]</p> <p><i>And when our two hearts</i>
Et lorsque nos deux cœurs
[e lɔrskə no dø kœr]</p> | <p>7. <i>they return to their home,</i>
Ils regagnent leur domicile,
[il rɛgɑnə lœr dɔmisilə]</p> <p><i>both of us are flowers!</i>
Fleurs tous deux!
[flœr tu dø]</p> | <p>11. <i>His mouth all full of perfume</i>
Sa bouche d'odeur toute pleine
[sa buʃə dɔdœr tutə plenə]</p> <p><i>joyous music,</i>
La musique joyeuse,
[la myzikə ʒwajøzə]</p> |
| <p>4. <i>dies like the smoke,</i>
Meurt comme de la fumée,
[mœr kɔmə də la fymeə]</p> <p><i>It is time: what can be delaying you,</i>
Voici l'heure: qui peut t'arrêter,
[vwasi lœrə ki pø tar(e)te]</p> | <p>8. <i>the choir of small voices.</i>
Le chœur des petites voix.
[lə kœr də pətitə vwa]</p> <p><i>I am dying! Good-bye, my dear love,</i>
Je meurs! Adieu, ma chère âme,
[ʒə mœr adjø ma ʃɛr amə]</p> | <p>12. <i>The dawn weeps under the leaves,</i>
L'aube pleure sous les feuillées,
[lobə plœrə su lɛ fœjeə]</p> <p><i>a terrible sadness!</i>
Une tristesse affreuse!
[ynə tristɛs afrøzə]</p> |

PHONETIC TRANSCRIPTIONS OF EXCERPTS FROM CLASSICAL LITERATURE

Read the following excerpts from *Voice Culture and Elocution* by W.T. Moss and note the elegant treatment of *r* and the refined pronunciation of diphthongs. The glottal stop is reserved for words that are stressed within the phrase. Unstressed words are transcribed with a schwa. (Answer key, p. 141)

Admiration:

[ʌt ə pi:s əv wək ɪz mæn]
 [hæʊ 'noubel ɪn 'i:zən]
 [hæʊ 'ʔɪnfɪnɪt ɪn 'fækəltɪ]
 [ɪn fɔ:m ənd 'muviŋ hæʊ ɪks'pɪəs ənd 'ʔædmɪrəbəl]
 [ɪn 'ʔækʃən hæʊ laɪk ən 'ʔeɪndʒəl]
 [ɪn æp.ɪ'hɛnfən hæʊ laɪk ə gəd]
 [ðə 'bjutɪ əv ðə wɜ:ld]
 [ðə 'pærəgən əv 'ʔæniməlz]
Hamlet, Act II., Sc. 2.

Shakespeare.

Adoration:

[ðəʊ ʔɑ:t ʔou gəd ðə laɪf ənd laɪt]
 [əv ʔəl ðɪs 'wʌndɪəs wɜ:ld wi si]
 [ɪts glou bɑɪ deɪ ɪts smaɪl bɑɪ naɪt]
 [a: bət ɪ'fleksjənz kət frəm ði]
 [məə'ʔeə wi tɜ:n ðɑɪ 'glɔəri:z faɪn]
 [ənd əl θɪŋz 'fɛər ənd bɪɑɪt a: ðɑɪn]
Sacred Songs

Moore.

Advice:

['krɪəm wɛl ʔɑɪ tʃɑ:dʒ ði flɪŋ ʌ'weɪ æm'biʃən]
 [ʌv ðɑɪ'self lɑst 'tʃɛrɪʃ ðouz hɑ:ts ðət heɪt ði]
 [bi dʒʌst ənd frə nɔt]
 [lɛt əl ði ʔendz ðəʊ ʔeɪmst æt bi ðɑɪ 'kʌntɪz]
 [ðɑɪ gədʒ ənd truθs]
Henry VIII., Act III., Sc. 2.

Shakespeare.

Affection:

[ɪɑɪz maɪ 'tʃɪldrən]
 [fɔ: ʒi ʔɑ: maɪn maɪn boʊθ ənd ɪn ʒə swɪt]
 [ənd ʒʌŋ dɪ'laɪt]
 [maɪ ʔoun lɑst juθ bɪɪðz 'mjuzɪkəl]
Richelieu, Act I., Sc. 2.

Bulwer.

Amazement:

[ʌɑɪ lʊk ju ðeə lʊk hæʊ ɪt stɪlz ʌ'weɪ]
Hamlet, Act III., Sc. 4.

Shakespeare.

Anger:

[ɪf ðəʊ dʌst 'slændə hɜ: ənd 'tɔ:ʃə mi]
 ['nevə pɪeɪ mɔə ʔʌ'bændən əl ɪ' mɔ:s]
 [ʌn 'hɔrəz hɛd 'hɔrəz ʌ'kjʊmjulɛɪt]
 [du dɪdz tə meɪk 'hevən wɪp əl ʔəθ ʌ'meɪzd]
 [fɔ: 'nʌθɪŋ kʌnst ðəʊ tə dæm'neɪʃən ʔæd]
 ['gɪeɪtə ðən ðæt]
Othello, Act III.

Id.

Anxiety:

[ʔʌ'læk ʔɑɪ əm ʌ'frɛɪd ðeɪ hæv ʌ'weɪkt]
 [ənd tɪz nɔt dʌn ði ʌ'tempt ənd nɔt ðə dɪd]
 [kʌn'faʊndz ʌs hɑ:k ʔɑɪ leɪd ðeə 'dægəz 'ɪeɪtɪ]
 [hi kʊd nɔt mɪs əm hæd hi nɔt ɪ'zembəld]
 [maɪ 'fæðər əz hi slept ʔɑɪ həd 'dʌnət maɪ 'hʌzbænd]
Macbeth, Act II., Sc. 2.

Id.

Apparition:

[ɪz ðɪs ə 'dægə ʌɪtʃ ɑɪ si brɪ'fəə mi]
 [ðə 'hændəl twɔ:d maɪ hænd kʌm lɛt mi klɪtʃ ði]
 [ʔɑɪ hæv ði nɔt ənd ʒet ɑɪ si ði stɪl]
Macbeth, Act II., Sc. 1.

Id.

Appeal:

[hu ɪz hɪə sou beɪs ðət wʊd bi ə 'bændmən]
 [ʔɪf 'ʔeɪnɪ spɪk fɔ: hɪm hæv ɑɪ o'fendəd]
 [hu ɪz hɪə sou frʊd ðət wʊd nɔt bi ə 'roumən]
 [ʔɪf 'ʔeɪnɪ spɪk fɔ: hɪm hæv ɑɪ o'fendəd]
 [hu ɪz hɪə sou vaɪl ðət wɪl nɔt ʌv hɪz 'kʌntɪ]
 [ʔɪf 'ʔeɪnɪ spɪk fɔ: hɪm hæv ɑɪ o'fendəd]
 [ʔɑɪ pɔz fɔ:(r) ʔə ɪ'plɑɪ]
Julius Caesar, Act III., Sc. 2.

Id.

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