

Phonetic symbols used in A. C. Baugh and Thomas Cable's *A History of the English Language*, 5th edition (Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson Education, 2002, page xvi):

PHONETIC SYMBOLS

[ɑ]	in father	[ə]	in about
[a]	in <i>French la</i>	[y]	in <i>German für</i>
[ɒ]	in not in England (a sound between [ɑ] and [ɔ])	[eɪ]	in play
[æ]	in mat	[oʊ]	in so
[ɛ]	in met	[aɪ]	in line
[e]	in mate	[aʊ]	in house
[ɪ]	in sit	[ɔɪ]	in boy
[i]	in meat	[ŋ]	in sing
[ɔ]	in law	[θ]	in thin
[o]	in note	[ð]	in then
[ʊ]	in book	[ʃ]	in shoe
[u]	in boot	[ʒ]	in azure
[ʌ]	in but	[j]	in you

[] enclose phonetic symbols and transcriptions.

: after a symbol indicates that the sound is long.

' before a syllable indicates primary stress: [ə'bʌv] *above*.

In other than phonetic transcriptions *e* and *o* indicate open vowels, *e* and *o* indicate close vowels.

* denotes a hypothetical form.

> denotes 'develops into'; < 'is derived from'.

Differing phonetic symbols listed in John Algeo and Thomas Pyles' *The Origins and Development of the English Language*, 5th edition (Boston, Massachusetts: Thomson and Wadsworth, 2004, page 37):

DIFFERING TRANSCRIPTIONS

The set of symbols we use to represent sounds depends on factors like convenience and familiarity, but it is essentially arbitrary. Dictionaries tend to use symbols closely aligned with conventional English spelling, although each dictionary makes its own alignment. This book uses a variant of the International Phonetic Alphabet (used for writing sounds in any language), adapted in certain ways by American dialectologists and linguists. Here is a list of some symbols used in this book, with variants you may find elsewhere:

ð ð	this	i	iy, i:	peat	o	ow, ou, o:, əʊ	so
ʃ ʃ	shun	ɪ	i, ɪ	pit	ə	ʌ	putt
ʒ ʒ	vision	e	ey, eɪ, et, e:	pate	ər	ɜ:, ɝ	pert
č tš, ʧ	chin	ɛ	e	pet	aɪ	ay, aɪ	by
ʝ dʒ, ɟ	jug	u	uw, u:	fool	au	aw, au	bough
y j	yes	ʊ	u, ʊ, v	full	ɔɪ	ɔy, ɔɪ	boy

Such differences in transcription are matters partly of theory and partly of style, rather than substantial disagreements about the sounds being transcribed. You need to be aware of their existence, so that if you encounter different methods of transcribing, you will not suppose that different sounds are necessarily represented. The reasons for the differences belong to a more detailed study than is appropriate here.

Note that these transcriptions are all generally based on the International Phonetic Alphabet, but different dictionaries, different linguists, and different countries have their own variations.