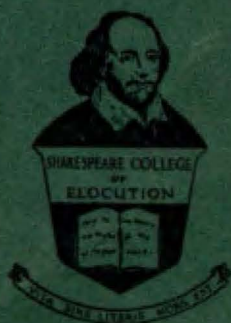


THE
SPEECH-SOUNDS
OF
AFRIKAANS
BY
HENRY MILES,

Author of:
THE SPEECH-SOUNDS OF MODERN ENGLISH
THE LAWS OF NATURAL SPEECH.
Etc., etc.

IN COLLABORATION WITH
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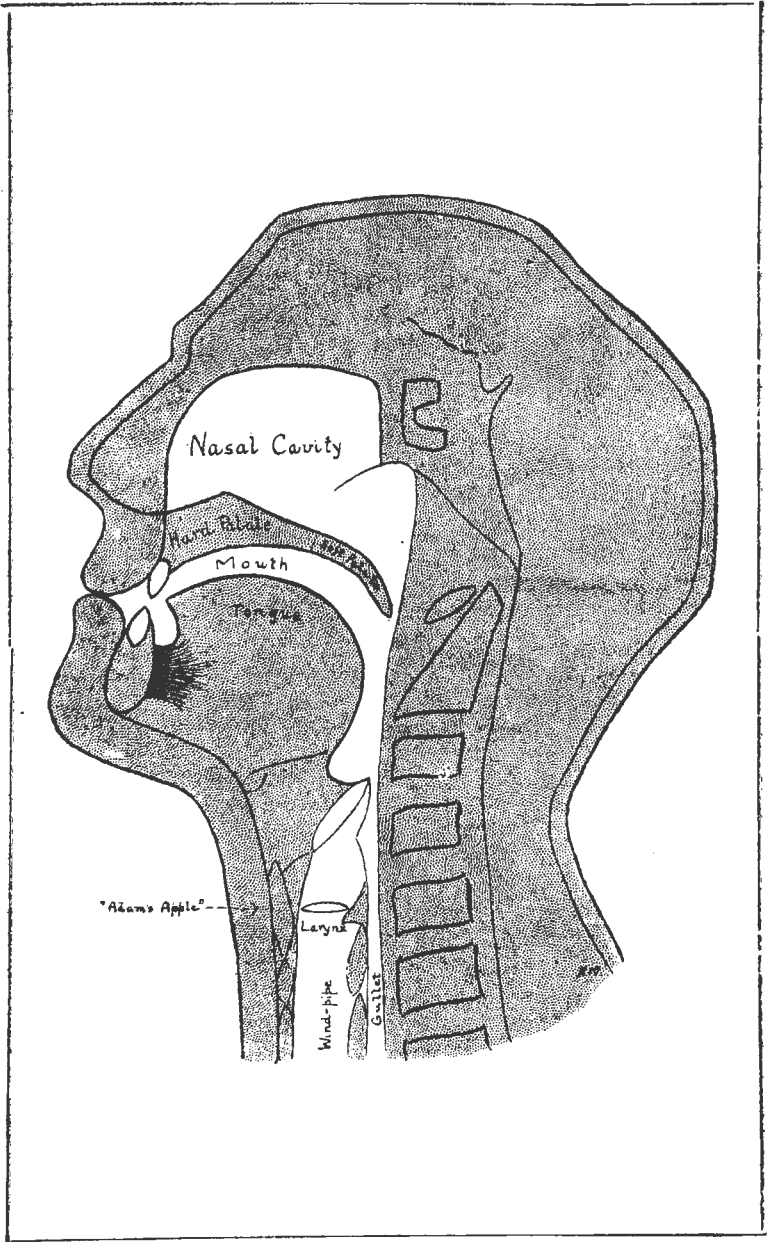


DIAGRAM OF THE ORGANS OF SPEECH.

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PREFACE.

Many excellent text-books of Afrikaans have now been published, and it is not the authors' intention to add further to the list. They have set out to supply a simple, yet effective, scheme whereby students may be enabled to improve in the pronunciation of the Taal.

So great is the divergence in the formation of the greater part of the sounds of both the official languages that, even with the assistance of a teacher, the student, whose mother-tongue is not Afrikaans, can scarcely acquire more than an imperfect knowledge of its sounds, dependent as he must be on the degree to which his imitative faculty is developed.

Further, in explanation of the various sounds, many writers of Afrikaans text-books and makers of Afrikaans Dictionaries compare them with the sounds of other languages in such ambiguous terms as "northern English dialects" and "slightly broadened and approximating" sounds that occur in French or German words.

This means that the student, in order to understand the correct formation of the sounds of Afrikaans, must be conversant with French, German, and the various provincial "dialects" of English speech; and that, in addition to this linguistic attainment, he must further be able to "broaden" and "approximate."

Explanations of this kind are too vague to be of any definite value to the student, and lead him on to a "confusion worse confounded."

Similarly, both writers and teachers are apt to be confronted with considerable difficulties in the classification of the various sounds, and no two classifications appear entirely to tally. Thus we find that, in some books, the Afrikaans vowel of **i** in "pit" is identical with the English **i** in "sit"; the Afrikaans **o** in "nog" with the English **o** in "not"; and the Afrikaans **u** in

“ kus ” with the English u in “ cut.” When these are subjected to the Phonetist’s examination, however, they are found at variance.

Modern philologists consider the **spoken** language as the **primary** manifestation of man’s mind, the written word being only of secondary importance. For this reason they concern themselves chiefly with the spoken word, and a new science has sprung up—the science of Speech-sounds—which, although comparatively of recent date, already commands a literature of its own.

In accordance with this view, the authors have laid down a method of speech-sound production upon a strictly phonetic basis, by which it is hoped to set up a definite standard of spoken Afrikaans.

To meet the growing demand for such a standard by a large section of the community, the authors humbly offer this, the result of their efforts.

H M.

C. L.

VOICE PRODUCTION.

The act of speaking is largely automatic. Speech-sounds are produced by the current of air issuing from the lungs, and operated by the vocal organs. The Larynx, or Voice-box, in which lie the vocal cords, is situated at the top of the wind-pipe, and is easily distinguishable by the prominence in the throat called "Adam's Apple."

The **vocal cords** are composed of two ledges of thin membrane, each connected on one side with the left and right walls of the larynx, and attached at the front and back to gristly substances called **cartilages**. The cords are of an elastic nature, and are capable of being separated or closed, tightened or relaxed, when acted upon by certain muscles in the larynx.

In ordinary breathing, the inside edges of the vocal cords are separated, disclosing an aperture or slit, commonly called the **Glottis**. In the act of speaking, the cords are approximated to the extent of practically obliterating the slit, and the air from the lungs urged through the remaining space causes the vocal cords to vibrate, yielding a vocal sound which is called "**Voice**."

Should the vocal cords not be sufficiently approximated, a whispered sound is produced, called "**Voiceless**."

Both **Voiced** and **Voiceless** sounds are used in speech.

SPEECH-SOUNDS.

Speech is the production of sounds to express thoughts. These sounds consist of two dissimilar elements, called **Vowel Sounds** and **Consonant Sounds**.

Vowel Sounds are formed by the vocalised air passing through the mouth without encountering any obstruction. The nature and quality of the Vowel Sound varies according to

1. The varying position of the tongue.
2. The shape of the lips,
3. The changed angle of the jaw, and
4. The raising of the soft palate.

Each change of shape and position produces a different sound, although only a definite number are recognised.

Consonant Sounds are produced by the contact or approximation of the articulative organs, which results in a restriction, or complete stoppage, of whispered, as well as vocalised, air.

The particular organs which take part in this restriction or stoppage are the lips, teeth and gums, tongue, hard palate and soft palate.

DESIGNATION OF THE SOUNDS.

In order to avoid the various spelling inconsistencies of the language (which in Afrikaans are remarkably few), it becomes necessary to employ some sort of phonetic formula, whereby each sound can be expressed by a distinctive symbol, without resorting to the intricate symbols employed by the Societe Internationale Phonetique—a study in itself:—

CLASSIFICATION OF SOUNDS.

VOWEL SOUNDS.

SYMBOL: as in:			SYMBOL: as in:		
Long ...	{ aa ...	baar, vader.	Diph- thongal *	{ ei (y) ...	meid, bly.
	{ ô ...	môre.		{ ui ...	huis.
	{ oo ...	boom, bome.		{ ou ...	nou.
	{ uu ...	vuur, vure.		{ ai ...	aits.
	{ ee ...	been, bene.		{ aai ...	fraai.
	{ ê ...	hê, perd.		{ oi ...	boikot.
	{ eu ...	leun.	{ ooi ...	mooi.	
			{ oei ...	boei.	
			{ eeu ...	leeu.	
Short ...	{ a ...	kat.	Murmur Diph- thongal ...	{ a ^o ...	sae.
	{ e ...	bed.		{ oe ^o ...	droë.
	{ o ...	nog.		{ ee ^o ...	neë.
	{ u ...	kus.		{ eue ^o ...	geheue.
Intermediate or Half- long ...	{ oe ...	boek.	{ oee ^o ...	voeë.	
	{ ie ...	sien.	{ iee ...	wieë.	
Weak ...	{ ẽ ...	(murmur) bode, wil.	{ ôe ...	sôe.	
	{ ĩ ...	nasie, sigaar.	{ êe ...	lêer.	
	{ ĩ ...	diaken.			

There are four further sounds, viz.: brúe, nè, *nói, and wíe, which are modified forms of other sounds. At present they apply to a very limited number of words, but with the growth of the language, there is every probability of many more words being added. Hence, they are included in the list of words.

* These sounds become Triphthongal by the addition of the Murmur Sound e, as in: weie, suie, goue, baie, maaier, toings, nóiens, dooie, poeier, and eeue. They are dealt with under the several sounds.

VOWEL SOUNDS—(Continued).

SEMI-VOWEL SOUND:

SYMBOL:	<i>as in:</i>
J	jaar.

CONSONANT SOUNDS:

SYMBOL:	<i>as in:</i>
P	paap
B	babbel.
T	tint.
D	derde.
K	kerk.
G	nege.
Ġ	gesag.
V (F)	verval, fuif.
W	welwe.
S	saals.
R	roer.
SJ	sjef.
TJ	tjek.
L	lankal.
M	mymer.
N	naand.
NG	vang, bank.
H	herhaal.

PRONUNCIATION.

Pronunciation is the method and manner of uttering words, the ultimate standard of which is confirmed by the usage that prevails among the best educated portion of the people. Words are formed by a distinct sound or combination of sounds called **Syllables**.

The foundation of good pronunciation is **articulation**, which means purity of vowel sounds, and clear enunciation of the consonant sounds.

Accentuation is the extra force of voice placed upon one syllable to distinguish it from the others. This, correctly employed, becomes an element of pleasing variety in speech, and an important factor in the formation of verse.

As will be seen from the list of sounds given on the previous page, there are in all sixty-six different sounds in spoken Afrikaans. These consist of forty-seven vowel sounds (including diphthongal and triphthongal varieties), eighteen consonant sounds, and one semi-vowel sound. The latter, while regarded as a consonant, takes the sound of a vowel (except when it is preceded by **t** or **d** (in diminutive positions)).

ARTICULATION.

DIVISION OF THE VOWEL SOUNDS.

The recognised vowel sounds are divided into six different groups, viz.: Long, Short, Intermediate or Half-long, Weak, Diphthongal, and Triphthongal.

Long sounds are those resulting from a definitely maintained adjustment of the vocal organs, and occur chiefly in accented positions.

Short sounds constitute "jerks" of voice, and cannot be sustained.

Intermediate, or Half-long, sounds are those between the Long and Short. They have not the decided adjustment of the former, nor yet the abruptness of the latter.

Weak sounds are indefinite counterparts of other vowel sounds, and are found only in unaccented positions.

Diphthongal sounds are those which combine two vowel elements, one of which, however, is scarcely noticed in spoken words.

Certain sounds of the above groups are further modified in speech, according to the particular sounds preceding or following them. (See Assimilation.)

EXPLANATION OF VOWEL ARTICULATIONS.

POSITIONS OF THE TONGUE.

The tongue can move backwards or forwards in the mouth. This movement can easily be determined in the production of **oo** and **ee**.

The tongue can also move upwards to the roof of the mouth, as well as downwards to the pit of the mouth, e.g., **ee** and **aw**.

According to the movement backwards and forwards, the vowel sounds are divided into **front**, **back**, and **mixed** sounds; and according to the rise or fall of the tongue, into **high**, **low**, and **mid**.

The compound movements of the tongue, therefore, result in nine fundamental tongue positions, as follows:

high-front	high-mixed	high-back
mid-front	mid-mixed	mid-back
low-front	low-mixed	low-back

(See Diagrams on Page 7.)

The sounds are further modified by the particular portion of the tongue raised or lowered.

POSITIONS OF THE LIPS.

The lips may be approximated to five different positions:—

1. **NEUTRAL**: as when breathing normally through the mouth.
2. **WIDE**: drawn back, as when smiling.
3. **WIDE-ROUND**: as when pronouncing **aa** in "baa."
4. **NARROW**: being in a forward position, but not protruded.
5. **NARROW-ROUND**: being fully protruded.

(See photographic illustrations on Page 10.)

POSITIONS OF THE JAW. These vary, generally, according to the relative position of the tongue. The higher the tongue is raised, the greater the angle of the jaws.

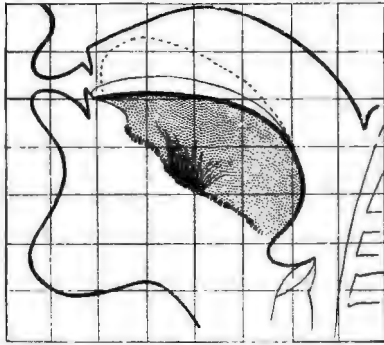
THE SOFT PALATE. The higher the back of the tongue, the higher the soft palate is raised.

We thus find that, combining the positions of the tongue and the lips, there are forty-five primary vowel positions. Of these, twenty are used in spoken Afrikaans, according to the table on Pages 8 and 9.

DIAGRAMS.

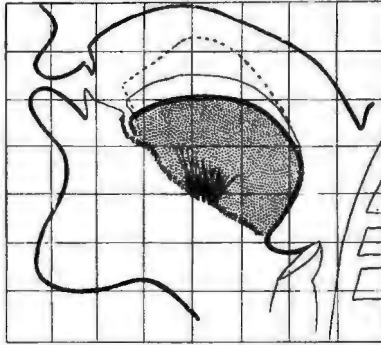
SHOWING RELATIVE POSITIONS OF THE TONGUE FOR VOWEL SOUNDS.

I



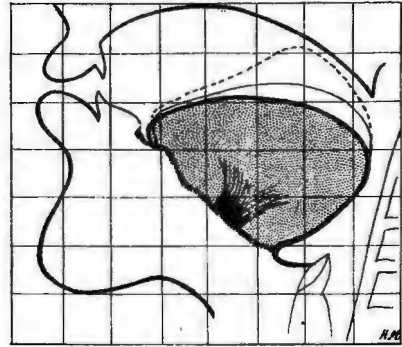
----- high-front.
——— mid-front.
———— low-front.

II



----- high-mixed.
——— mid-mixed.
———— low-mixed.

III



----- high-back.
——— mid-back.
———— low-back.

TABLE OF PRIMARY VOWEL POSITIONS.

(English vowel sounds are shown at

	WIDE-ROUND.			WIDE.			NEU-
	Front	Mixed	Back	Front	Mixed	Back	Front
HIGH				ie sien mier niemand			weak i diaken fiasko
				2nd element in heel	hill		re-act
MID			aa haar vader	ê hê also 1st element in ei: meid			
		fast	father	men	bird		recent
LOW				1st element in ai: baie		a kat	
				bat			final

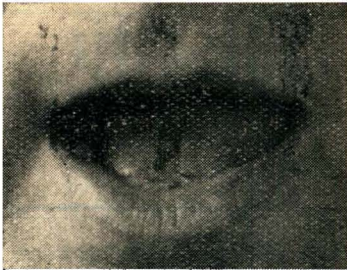
TABLE OF PRIMARY VOWEL POSITIONS.

(the foot of each column.)

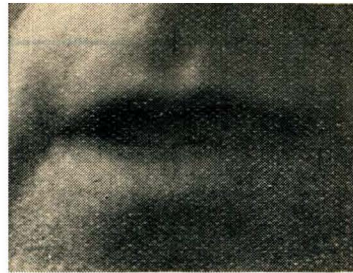
FRONTAL.		NARROW.			NARROW-ROUND.		
Mixed	Back	Front	Mixed	Back	Front	Mixed	Back
weak ie nasie privaat sigaar					uu nuut vuur unie	2nd element in ui:	oe boek boer also 2nd element in eeu: leeu
cigar Sadie	instru- ment						book
Murmur rade water lepel wil maklik		ee been here	1st element in Œe: brœ		eu leun	1st element in ui: huis	oo boom olie
harder	datum		burn	nut			2nd element in pool
		e bed			u kus	o nog also 1st element in oi: toi-ings also 1st element in ou: hou	ô môre
violet	authority			not		1st element in flow	paw

PHOTOGRAPHIC DIAGRAMS.

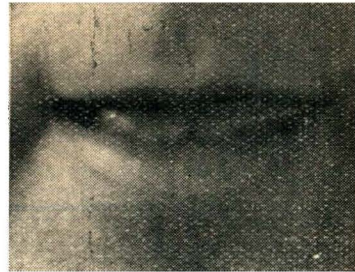
POSITIONS OF THE LIPS.



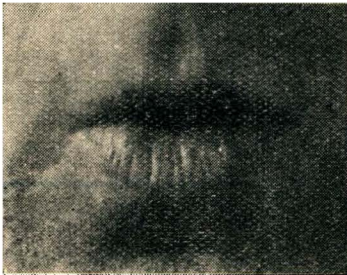
Wide-Round.



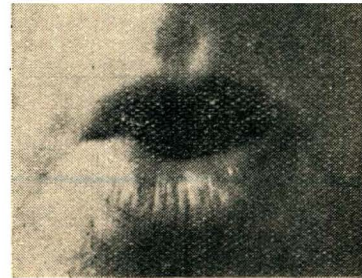
Neutral.



Wide.



Narrow.



Narrow-Round.

Photos by Jane Piotz

SYLLABIFICATION.

In order to be able to pronounce correctly, it is necessary to know, and to be able to apply, the rules which govern the division of words into syllables.

If we listen attentively to the sounds uttered in spoken words, it will be clear that they are not produced separately, but in groups. The organs of speech change their position so quickly and so imperceptibly, that two or more sounds are "telescoped," as it were, into one sound. Take for example the word "slump"; by means of a brief pause after each, it is possible to produce the five component parts separately, but by pronouncing them as a group, that is, without interrupting the flow, the five components become a **sound-complex** or **sound group**, conventionally known as a **syllable**.

In consequence of the defective system of Afrikaans spelling, a syllable as a group of **sounds** often differs materially from a syllable as a group of **symbols** set down on paper to represent a sound or group of sounds. It is necessary to bear in mind, therefore, that in any language—in this case Afrikaans—we are dealing with **sounds**, and that the letters are merely symbols employed to represent those sounds.

There are two kinds of syllables, viz.: **Open** and **Closed**. Open syllables are those ending in vowel sounds. Closed syllables are those ending in consonant sounds.

RULES FOR DIVIDING INTO SYLLABLES.

NOTE: The accented syllable is shown above the vowel thus (').

1. **The break occurs before a single consonant situated between two vowel sounds, as in:** bróe-der, é-sel, kó-ning, líe-we, móe-der, mú-re, ta-ran-tá-le, vá-der, etc.

2. **The break occurs between two consonant sounds situated between two vowel sounds, as in:** blés-bok, hón-de, lét-sel, rég-tig, skét-se, win-de, etc. Also between double consonants: blik-ke, stów-we, etc.

EXCEPTION: Combined symbols representing distinctive sounds cannot be separated in speech, even though it may not be in accordance with writing practice or derivation, e.g.: **ng** (láng-er, tóng-e, wáng-e); diminutive **tj** and **dj** (ká-tjie, ó-tjie); **sj** (re-sji-mént, ma-sjien); **gh** (an-ghó-ra—pronounced ang-ghor-ra).

3. **Where words have been compounded and the components are clearly recognizable, the division is made accordingly. The rule is, therefore, first to break up into components, and then**

to apply Rules (1) and (2) given above, e.g.: *dáar-om*, *land-bou-ten-toón-stel-ling*, *le-wens-ver-se-ke-rings-maat-skap-pý*, *self-be-wús-syn*, *ver-klein-woord-ag-ter-vóeg-sel*, etc.

4. **Prefixes constitute separate syllables:** *aarts-vy-and*, *af-guns*, *ánt-woord*, *be-gín*, *er-kén-te-lik-heid*, *ge-kwéek*, *her-dénk*, *ón-kun-de*, *ont-hóu*, *óor-saak*, *ver-án-der*, *wán-trou*, etc.

5. **Suffixes beginning with a consonant sound constitute separate syllables, as in:** *slá-per-rig*, *blóm-me-tjie*, *dáag-likes*, *dék-sel*, *bréed-te*, *dráag-baar*, *dróef-nis*, *Fré-de-rik*, *bóom-pie*, *lé-lik*, *hef-de*, *húl-pe-loos*, *húis-waarts*, *léer-ling*, *náar-heid*, *ryk-dom*, *vriend-skap*, *wérk-saam*, *wérk-ster*, etc.

6. **When suffixes beginning with a vowel are joined to a word ending in a consonant sound, that consonant becomes part of the suffix-syllable, e.g.:** *beeld-ver-béel-ding*; *byt-by-ter*; *dien-die-naar*; *giet-gie-ter*; *hand-hán-de*, *hán-dig*, *hán-del*, *hán-de-laar*; *heil-héi-land*; *held-hel-dín*; *húis-húis-sie*; *werk-wér-ke*; *klerk-klér-kie*; *léuen-léu-e-naar*; *onderwýs* (verb)—*on-der-wý-ser*, *on-der-wyse-rés*; *prins-prin-sés*; *toon-to-néel*; *tuin-tui-nier*; etc.

7. **The diminutive suffixes "pie," "kie," and "tjie" always constitute separate syllables:** *á-sem-pie*, *kétting-kéttinkie* (pronounced *ket-ting-kie*), *stóel-tjie*, *són-ne-tjie*, etc.; **but the diminutive suffixes "ie" and "jie" generally take the preceding consonant sound with them:** *nes-nés-sie*; *oog-ó-gie*, *streep-stré-pie*; *wind-wín-djie*; *hout-hóu-tjie*; etc.

8. **Two different vowel (or diphthongal) sounds coming together belong to separate syllables:** *di-a-lóog*, *fi-ás-ko*, *fi-li-áal*, *frái-ing*, *góu-e*, *i-de-áal*, *mo-sa-iék*, *spi-óen*, *vi-a-dúk*, etc.

9. **The diaeresis (") always indicates the beginning of a syllable:** *drie-ë-nig*, *dró-ë*, *kóe-ëls*, *lé-ër*, *sé-ë*, *spié-ël*, *tré-ë*, etc.

10. **The circumflex (^) indicates the end of a syllable:** *brú-e*, *ê-e*, *rú-ens*, *só-e*, *trô-e*, *wi-e*; **except where ô is followed by í, as in:** *nói-ens*, *nói-en-tjie*, when it is used to denote a distinct sound.

THE SEPARATE VOWEL SOUNDS.

LONG VOWEL SOUNDS:

aa as in "vader," "baar," etc.

This is the mid-back-wide-round sound, and is similar to the English **a** in "father."

The purity of this sound depends upon the lips being well rounded in the form of an ellipse, the tongue raised midway and drawn back.

WORDS CONTAINING THE SOUND:

Aan, baan, daad, faal, gaar, haar, jaar, kaap, laag, maak, maar, paar, raad, saal, taal, vaal, waard, etc.

The sound is further represented by a at the end of open accented syllables: da-del, fa-bel, ha-mer, ja-rig, ka-mer, la-ken, ma-tig, na, na-der, pa, ra-de, sa-bel, ta-fel, wa-ter, etc.

PRACTICE.

(Emphasise the words containing the sound.)

- (1) Met 'n swaar hamer slaan die kwaadaardige knaap 'n paar spykers in die blad van 'n gawe kijaathout-tafel.
- (2) "Teen sy oewers slaat
Hy op onrustige maat,
Met 'n voorgevoel van onweerstaanbare kwaad."
(Joubert.)
- (3) "Hoe lê die tenseil baan aan baan!
Hoe wakker bly die nokke staan!
Die klappies netjies oopgeslaan—
Mooi eenheid same."
(Totius.)

ô as in "môre."

This is the low-back-narrow-round sound, and is similar to the English **au** in "Paul." The lips should be fully protruded, the tongue low in the mouth and well back.

Besôre, môrestond, sôre, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) Smôrens vroeg, nog voor die môrester sy verskyning maak, kom ou Booi om vir die vee te sôre.

oo as in "groot," "hoor."

This is the mid-mixed-narrow-round sound, and is not found in English. The sound inclines between the first element of the English "**ow**" in "grow," and the first element of the English "**oo**" in "grew."

The tongue is back, the lips well forward and rounded.

Boom, dool, goor, hoog, koop, loon, moot, noord, oor, poort, roos, soos, toon, voor, woord, etc.

The sound is represented by o at the end of open syllables: bo-de, do-delik, fo-no-graaf, go-gel, ho-ring, ko-ning, lo-ge, mo-de, no-dig, o-lie, ro-we, to-wer, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) **Koos Roos bloos atoos so rooi soos** sy naamgenoot, as hy berispe word **oor** sy balhorigheid, maar luister is **min**. Dis egter 'n **troos** dat hy nog kan **bloos**.
- (2) Die diens**ode** van die **koning** is **dodelik** gewond deur die-geweers**ote** van die **rowers**.
- (3) "Sterk is die stem en sk**oon**,
Smekend om hulpbet**oon**,
Wat tot die Vadertr**oon**
Klim in gebede."

(Cilliers.)

uu as in "nuut," "vuur."

This is the high-front-narrow-round sound, and is not found in English. It is similar to the English **ee** in "fee," except that the tongue is in the mixed position, and the lips protruded to the full extent.

Aan**vuur**, buur, duur, guur, muur-kas, nuus, nuut, suur, tuur, uur, vuur-slag, etc.

The sound is represented by u at the end of open syllables: bru-taal, du-et, lu-welik, ju-rie, lu-sifer, mu-siek, Nu-wejaar, ru-sie, u-nie, vu-rig, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) Aange**vuur** deur die voorbeeld van sy buur**man**, bou ou Stuur**man** vir hom 'n duursame veekraal bestaande uit 'n sirkelvormige klip**muur**.
- (2) "Reguit en raak-sek**uur**
Blits uit die tenwa-m**uur**
Driemaal die Boere **vuur** . . ."

(Cilliers.)

ee as in "weet," "seer."

This is the mid-front-narrow sound, and is not found in English. The tongue is in the mid position and forward, the lips forward but not protruded.

Beeld, deel, een, fees, geen, heel, jeens, keel, leen, meer, neem, peet, reeds, see, tee, veel, etc.

Also in: di-ëet, ge-ëerd, po-ëet, re-ël, etc.

Represented by **e** at the end of open accented syllables: be-de, de-ken, e-dik, he-re, me-nig, ne-ge, pri-ë-le, re-de, se-dig, te-ken, we-we, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) Om tering volgens nering te reël is 'n kunsie wat 'n menigte hoë here nog moet leer, en wat nege uit die tien seker nooit sal regkry nie.
- (2) “ Breed,
In onbreekbare eenheid gesmeed,
Dy die draers van droefheid en leed”
(Joubert.)
- (3) “ Wees trou!
Daar's 'n volk te leer
Om homself te eer,
Te bou;
Om God, en God alleen te vrees,
Aan aard en taal getrou te wees,
Gesond en waar van hart en gees—
Komaan!
(Celliers.)

eu as in “ neus,” “ deur.”

This is the mid-front-narrow-round sound, and is not found in English. The formation is similar to **ee**, but the lips are fully protruded.

Beurs, deug, euwel, fleur, gleuf, jeug, keurig, kleur, leun, meubel, peuter, reuk, seur, treur, verskeur, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) “ Muskiet, wees maar nie treurig nie,
Wees ook nie so kieskeurig nie.”
(Keet.)
- (2) “ 'n Sarsie uit die wolke bars
En dreun die wêreld deur,
Die weerlig verf die hele baai
Met goud en silwer kleur.”
(Leipoldt.)
- (3) “ En Grietjie staan daar by die deur—
Ja, kyk, haar voorskoot is verskeur!
Ag, armsalige ou blikkie,
Hoe kan ek eensaam wees en treur?”
(Leipoldt.)

ê as in “ hê.”

This is the mid-front-wide sound, and is similar to the English **e** in “ hen,” but is longer sustained.

Afsê, bêre, dê, ingelê, kêrel, lê, lêplek, neerlê, ontsê, oorlê, pérel, rérig, sê, toesê, etc.

Also in words like: kombers, perd, werd.

PRACTICE.

“ ‘Oppas!’ het die baas gesê,
Tot ek weer kom, hier bly lê.”

(Celliers.)

Note: è indicates the shorter form of the above, and is the same sound as the English e in “net,” e.g., dè, nè,

SHORT VOWEL SOUNDS.

a as in “kat.”

This is the low-back-wide sound, and is not found in English. The sound inclines towards the English a in “cat,” but the tongue is drawn well back.

Found in monosyllables, accented closed syllables, and open unaccented syllables.

Arm, balans, band, basaar, dag, damas, fataal, gang, hand, jag, jaloers, kafee, kaffer, kaneel, lag, lakei, latent, mag, makou, masien, nag, nasaal, natuur, pad, paleis, parool, radys, rand, sak, salon, tabak, talent, tap, trawal, vals, was, wat, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) “Lang, soos ’n slang
Op sy kronk ’lende gang,
Lê Toegela en wag
Op die koms van die dag.”

(Joubert.)

- (2) “Bleek blink die seile vér teën die hang,
Swart kom die kaffers met driftige drang,
Bewend omhoog rys gebed en gesang—
O, so bang!”

(Totius.)

e as in “bed.”

This is the low-front-narrow sound, and is not found in English. The sound inclines to the English e in “bet,” but the lips are in a forward position, and the tongue is lower.

Bef, dek, en, fel, geld, held, kerk, kliënt, kwosiënt, les, mes, nes, pen, red, sel, veg, wel, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (2) “ Wie magtig is **en** sterk,
Die **ken** geen paal of perk.
Hy is nie gou tevrede—
Hy spot met Reg **en** Rede,
En laat sy merk.”
- (Keet.)
- (2) “ Twee witte **tente** in die veld:
'n Wa **en** tent daarnaas gesteld,
Tweeheid tot eenheid saamgesmelt
In sware stonde.”

(Totius.)

Note: When the article 'n is followed by words commencing with consonants, it takes a similar sound to the English article, but with a slight inclination to the nasal. Compare “ a man ” and “ 'n man.”

o as in “ nog.”

This is the low-mixed-narrow-round sound, and is not found in English, though it is similar to the first element in the production of the English **ow** in “ blow.” The tongue is low in the mouth, and in the mixed position. The lips are protruded.

Bol, dom, fop, God, hom, jong, kom, lof, mond, om, pond, rond, tog, volk, wond, etc. Also in koöperasie.

PRACTICE.

- (1) “ Blare dwarrel oor die **grond**,
Deure klap, en orals **rond**
Golwe wolke **stof**.”
- (2) “ O hoor hoe dreun dit, soos hul **kom**!
Dit woel en wemel **rond** en **om**!
Hul **storm**! Hul **storm**, die swarte **drom**,
En skreeu en **bokspring** soos hul **kom**.”
- (Wassenaar.)

u as in “ kus.”

This is the low-front-narrow-round sound, and is not found in English. The tongue is low in the mouth and forward. The lips are protruded.

Buk, druk, flus, guns, hul, julle, kuns, lug, mus, nugter, put, rus, sulks, turf, vul, wurm, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) “ Op die bult wat stil rus,
 Waar die son hom sal kus,
 Bly ek staar na die liggende lug
 Tot die môre ontwaak met 'n sug.”
 (van Bruggen.)
- (2) “ Toe g'n huis nog die trekker se kroos kon beskut,
 Was my tent vir die kleintjies 'n veilige hut,
 Wat my nagtlike tog met gewieg en gesus
 Hulle sag het laat sluimer in salige rus.”
 (Totius.)

INTERMEDIATE VOWEL SOUNDS.

oe as in “ voet.”

This is the high-back-narrow-round sound, and is similar to the English **oo** in “ foot.” The back of the tongue is high, and drawn back. The lips are protruded.

Boek, doel, foelie, goed, hoek, moed, noem, oes, poets, roep, soet, toekom, voet, woel, etc.

When followed by r, the sound is longer sustained, as in:
 Boer, joernaal, loer, oeroud, roer, toer, voer, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) “ Sy's op haar knieë voor die stoel—
 Dat ek moes help, nie meer as plig nie.
 Die amandelpitte was ons doel—
 Sy's op haar hande voor die stoel.
 Dat ek haar handjies raak moes voel,
 Kan jul begryp; daar was g'n lig nie!
 (Ceilers.)
- (2) “ Jan Pieterse draai hom sy vyand toe
 En wuif hulle dank met sy hoed;
 Al stappend verdwyn hy op die horison daar
 In 'n raam van die westergloed.
- “ So hoera vir die klank van stiebeul en spoor,
 En hoera vir die reuk van die roer!
 God behoede ons veld van vreemde geweld,
 En bewaar ons ou land vir die Boer!”
 (van der Heever.)

ie as in "sien."

This is the high-front-wide sound, and is not found in English. It inclines to the English *i* in "sin," but the tongue is further forward. **Found only in accented syllables and monosyllables.**

Bies, die, fiets, giet, iemand, kieser, lied, mielie, nies, niemand, piets, riem, siel, wie, etc.

When followed by r, the sound is slightly longer, as in: dier, hier, hier, pier, tier, vier, etc.

(FOR **ie** IN UNACCENTED SYLLABLES, SEE WEAK SOUNDS.)

PRACTICE.

- (1) "Dit laat my dink aan Gert en Griet:
Al is dit 'n gebroke **riet**,
Die armsalige ou blikkie
Is anker teen my **sielsverdriet**."

(Leipoldt.)

- (2) "Slag **dië** offerbeeste **hier**;
Gooi hul in **die** groot rivier
Met **die** pronkkalbasse **bier**—
Vir **dië** geeste!"

(Totius.)

MURMUR SOUND.

e as in "bode," "wil."

This is the mid-mixed-neutral sound and, because it is the most natural to produce, is called the **Murmur Sound**.

Represented by e in unaccented syllables, as in: aarde, bende, bome, derde, eerste, frase, hawe, julle, koelte, lende, mate, ure; baken, laken, nakend; asem, besem, bliksem; beter, eter, moeder, seker, wyser; bedel, esel, hamel; frikkedel, bobbejaan, pappegaai, mekaar, etc.

Represented by ë, when preceded by i, as in: porië, etc.

Also in the prefixes, be-, ge-, yer-: bekeer, gesond, verval, etc.

Represented by i in closed accented syllables and monosyllables: blits, dit, fiks, gis, hink, is, kind, lig, middel, mis, niks, pint, pitte, rit, sig, tip, vir, witte, etc.

Represented by i in: egoïs, linguïs, etc.

Also in the suffixes, -ik, -ing, -ig, -is (and inflected forms): maklik, woning, stadig, ergenis, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) “ Daar staan die moeder met haar kind
Allenig in die winterwind—
En niemand wat haar tranes siet,
En niemand wat haar trooste bied.”

(Celliers.)

- (2) “ Die osse stap aan deur die stowwe,
Geduldig, gedienstig, gedwee;
Die jukke, al drukkend hul skowwe—
Hul dra dit getroos en tevreë.”

(Celliers.)

WEAK VOWEL SOUNDS.

ie as in “ nasie,” “ sigaar.”

This is the high-mixed-neutral sound, and is found only in unaccented syllables. It is similar to the English **ie** and **i** in “ Maisie ” and “ cigar.”

Represented by ie in: bakkies, balie, famiële, josie, kierie, merrie, storie, studie, tjalie, etc.

Also in words corresponding to English words ending in -tion: ambiesie, petiesie, rewolusie, etc.

And in diminutives: boetie, messie, sussie, tannie, etc.

Represented by i when followed by consonant sounds: adviseer, Afrika, fabrikant, finaal, mirakel, orisjineel, maksimum, pilaar, privaat, ruïneer, tiran, titanies, uniwersiteit, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) “ Nog een minuut vir grasie!
Nooit sien jy weer jou nasie!”
- (2) Tussen die biesies aan die onderend van die mielie land
het hy 'n kiewietjie se beentjie afgegooi met 'n kĩaathout
kierietjie.

ī as in “ diaken.”

This is the high-front-neutral sound, and is found only in unaccented syllables when followed by a vowel sound. Its English equivalent is the **e** in “ react.”

Asië, Asiaat, aria, biblioteek, bioloog, dialoog, diët, editoriaal, fiool, folio, grasiëus, heliograaf, idioom, Italië, kĩaathout, liniaal, patriot, pionier, triomf, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) “ Verwekker van malaria,
Sing maar jou laaste aria!”
(Keet.)
- (2) Daardie grasieuse Italiaanse bioloog met die dalla en die fiooltjie in sy knoopsgat is die besitter van kosbare diamante.

DIPHTHONGAL SOUNDS.

ei as in “ meid ” (and **y** as in “ bly ”).

This sound begins with the mid-front-wide sound, which is the **ê** in “ hé,” and ends with the high-mixed-neutral (weak) sound **ie**, the accent being on the first element.

The sound is similar to the English **ai** in “ maid.”

Represented by ei in: beitel, deins, eis, feit, heil, keil, lei, meisie, neig; peits, rein, seil, teister, veiliger, etc.

Represented by y in: afgly, by, dyk, fyn, gly, hy, jy, kyk, lyn, myl, nyg, pyp, rys, sy, tyd, vyf, wys, ys, etc.

- (1) “ Ek luister; en dit skyn vir my,
Klein Gert is weer hier aan my sy
By jou, armsalige ou blikkie,
Om weer 'n slukkie melk te kry.”
(Leipoldt.)
- (2) “ Die nag is heen, die môre is grys:
'n Plaat van tente en waens wys,
Waar Perdekraal se steenhoop rys . . .”
(Totius.)
- (3) “ Hul lewensweg het ons gewys
Om trou te wees aan waarheids eis.
Wie laak mag laak, wie prys mag prys—
Komaan!”
(Celliers.)

The sound is rendered triphthongal by the addition of the murmur sound. In these cases, however, the second element is almost unnoticed in production.

E.g.: breier, eie, eien, leie, skeie, steier, reier, weie, etc.; blye, blye, dye, rye, stye, tye, vryer, wye, etc.

ui as in “ huis.”

This sound begins with mid-mixed-narrow-round formation, and ends with the high-mixed formation, the lips being fully protruded for both elements. Accent on the first element.

This sound is not found in English.

Buite, duim, fuif, gruis, huil, kuil, lui, muil, puik, ruim, suid, tuin, uit, vuis, wuif, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) “ Stil in die **du**ister lê 'k en **lu**ister
Hoe die **spru**ite gesels en lag——”
(Celliers.)
- (2) “ Een kers brand stadig in die **tult**,
Die ander flikker heen en weer ;
En langs my, deur die onderru**it**,
Daar loer die nag so swart soos kru**it**!”
(Eugene Marais.)

The sound is rendered triphthongal by the addition of the *murmur* sound, the second element being scarcely heard:

E.g.: buie, duie, getuienis, kuier, luie, suier, uie, etc.

ou as in “ jou.”

This sound begins with the low-mixed-narrow-round sound (**o** in “ nog ”), and ends with the mid-back-narrow-round sound. Accent upon the first element.

The sound is similar to the English **o** in “ no,” but the **lips** are fully protruded for both elements.

Bou, dou, fout, gou, hou, lou, mou, nou, oud, pou, rou, trou, vou, woud, etc.

The second is spelt **au** and **auw** in proper names, e.g.: Raubenheimer, Rautenbach, Pauw, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) “ In elk grashalm se **vou**
Blink 'n druppel van **dou**,
En vinnig verbleek dit
Tot ryp in die **kou**.”
(Marais.)
- (2) “ Verbeelding—dit is alles **nou**,
Wat ek nog het: laat my dit **hou**!
Ag, armsalige **ou** blikkie,
Jy is my anker teen die **rou**!”
(Leipoldt.)

The sound is rendered triphthongal by the addition of the *murmur* sound, the second element being almost unheard.

E.g.: bloue, gouer, groue, houer, koue, loue, moue, noue, ouer, skouer, trouer, voue, etc.

ai as in "kai-ings."

This sound begins with the low-front-wide sound, which is the English **a** in "cat," and ends with the high-mixed-neutral (weak) **ie** sound. Accent upon the first element.

Aia, aispaai, aits, etc.

Murmur Triphthongal: baie, frai-ings, kastai-ings, etc.

Diminutive of bad—bad-jie, pronounced **bai-tjie**.

Diminutive of kat—kat-jie; pronounced **kai-tjie**.

Diminutive of mat—mat-jie, pronounced **mai-tjie**.

Diminutive of plat—plat-jie, pronounced **plai-tjie**.

aai as in "baai."

In this sound, the initial element is the mid-back-wide-round sound, as in "baar," the second element being the same as in **ai**.

Daai, fraai, gesaaide, haai, laai, maai, paai, raai, saai, taai, vasdraai, waai, etc.

Diminutive of Kate—Kaat-jie, pronounced **Kaai-tjie**.

Diminutive of maat—maat-jie, pronounced **maai-tjie**.

Diminutive of pad—pad-jie, pronounced **paai-tjie**.

Diminutive of plaat—plaat-jie, pronounced **plai-tjie**.

Baad-jie, pronounced **baai-tjie**.

PRACTICE.

- (1) "Die twye swenk, die takke swaai;
Dit is die winterwind wat waai."

(Celliers.)

- (2) "Die hele huis raak in rumoer,
Die honde blaf, die hoenders kraai;
Maar, moeg van heeldag ry en roer,
Slaap ek so deur die heel lawaai."

(Celliers.)

The sound is rendered triphthongal by the addition of the murmur sound, the second element being almost unheard.

E.g.: baaie, haaie, laaie, maaier, saaiër, taaier, etc.

oi as in "toi-ings."

This sound begins with the low-mixed-narrow-round sound (**o** in "nog"), and ends with the high-mixed-neutral (weak) sound **ie**.

The sound is similar to the English **oi** in "toil."

Boi-kot, goi-ingsak, toi-let, etc.

Diminutive of afgod—afgod-jie, pronounced afg**oi**-tjie.

Diminutive of grot—grot-jie, pronounced gro**oi**-tjie.

Diminutive of lot—lot-jie, pronounced lo**oi**-tjie.

Otjie—ot-jie, pronounced o**oi**-tjie.

Diminutive of strot—strot-jie, pronounced stro**oi**-tjie.

In words like n*oi*, the initial element is the low-back-narrow-round sound, as in "m*ô*re."

ooi as in "mooi."

This sound begins with the long **oo** (mid-back-narrow-round) formation, and ends with the high-mixed-neutral (weak) **ie** sound. Accent upon the first element.

The sound is not found in English.

Dooi, fooi, gooi, hooi, looi, nooit, prooi, rooi, sooi, tooisel, etc.

Diminutive of groot—groot-jie, pronounced gro**ooi**-tjie.

Diminutive of loot—loot-tjie, pronounced lo**ooi**-tjie.

PRACTICE.

"So skoon en so **mooi** soos 'n fris jong **nooi**
Wat lag in haar bruidsgewaad."

(Celliers.)

The sound is rendered triphthongal by the addition of the murmur sound, the second element being almost unheard.

E.g.: dooie, looier, mooier, ooie, rooier, vlooie, etc.

oei as in "koei."

This sound begins with the high-back-narrow-round sound, as in "voet," and ends with the high-mixed-neutral (weak) sound **ie**. Accent upon the first element.

The sound is not found in English.

Boei, foei, loei, moeilik, roei, stoei, etc.

Diminutive of bloed—bloed-jie, pronounced blo**ei**-tjie.

Diminutive of hoed—hoed-jie, pronounced ho**ei**-tjie.

Diminutive of soet—soet-jies, pronounced so**ei**-tjies.

Diminutive of voet—voet-jie, pronounced vo**ei**-tjie.

PRACTICE.

- (1) " Uit **gloe**lende sfeer brand hy wreed op my neer
 Tot my naaktheid kraak en **skroei**,
 En my koorsige asem in bewende wasem
 Al hygende my bors ontv**loe**i." (Celliers.)
- (2) " Die wilde boslommer, berank en be**boei**
 Met geilste klimop in geen jare ges**noei**,
 Waaronder die blou apies klouter en **knoei** . . ." (Malherbe.)

The sound is rendered triphthongal by the addition of the **murmur** sound, the second element being almost unheard.

E.g.: bloeiende, goeie, loeiende, poeier, roeier, stoeier, vermoeiende, etc.

eeu as in " leeu."

The initial element in this sound is the long ee (mid-front-narrow) sound, the final element being a less definite form of the intermediate **oe** (high-back-narrow-round) sound. Accent on the first element.

The sound is not found in English.

Eeu, meeu, sneeu, etc.

Triphthongal: eeu, skreeuer, etc.

MURMUR DIPHTHONGAL SOUNDS.

Note: The final element in the following sounds is the **murmur** sound.

ae as in " hael."

This sound begins with long **aa** sound, as in " vader." Accent upon the first element.

Dae, draer, klaer, knae, laer, nael, sae, slae, swaer, waens, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) Die **hael** kletter teen die **waens** se seile in die boerel**aer**.
- (2) " Matie, as jy nou 'n keuse mag **wae**,
 Wat sou jy kies, wat sou jy **vrae**?
 Dink jy dat rykdom en lengte van **dae**
 'n Einde sal maak aan jou mor en jou **klae**?"

oe as in " droë."

This begins with the long **oo**, as in " groot." Accent upon the first element.

Afdroë, bewoë, boë, gedoë, goël, hoërhand, hoërskool, hoëskool, loën, oë, oëdokter, opdroë, opgetoë, poësie, voël, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) Dis nie in my vermoë om onbewoë en met droë oë sulke vreeslike lyding te aanskou nie.
- (2) Hy sal dit nie gedoë nie dat die kind in die hoë bome rond klouter om voëlnessies uit te haal.

oe as in "voë."

This begins with the intermediate **oe** sound, as in "voet." Accent upon the first element.

Genoë, koeël, misnoë, moeë, ploë, voë, vroeër, etc.

PRACTICE.

In vroeër tye het die boere mekaar met die grootste genoë help ploë.

ee as in "neë."

This begins with the long **ee** sound, as in "neem." Accent upon the first element.

Daarenteë, fariseër, geneë, geleë, geseën, ideë, leër, motreën, oorweë, plasreën, reël, seël, teë, tweërlei, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) "Lieflike reën,
Bron van soveel seën . . ."
 - (2) "Ginds op 'n koppie, wydgeleë,
Ver van die woelige werf en weë . . ."
- (Totius.)

eu as in "teue."

This begins with the long **eu** sound, as in "leun." Accent upon the first element.

Beuel, geheue, leuen, teuels, vleuels, etc.

PRACTICE.

“ Al jaag dit voort met losse **teu**els,
Al vlieg dit met gestrekte **vleu**els”

ieë as in “ wieë.”

This begins with the intermediate **ie** sound, as in “ sien.”
Accent upon the first element.

Bedrieër, knieë, kopieë, spieël, vlieë, etc.

PRACTICE.

Die seun se **vlieër** trek hoog bo die **spieël**-gladde vlak
van die meer.

ôe as in “ sôe,” “ trôe.”

This begins with the long **ô** sound, as in “ môre,” the accent
being on the first element.

The sound is similar to the English “ oar.”

There are very few words of this kind.

êe as in “ êe,” “ lêer,” bedlêend.”

This begins with the long **ê** sound, as in “ hê.” Accent upon
the first element. There are very few words of this kind.

The sound is similar to the English “ air.”

MODIFIED FORMS.

ie as in “ wie.” This begins with a sustained murmur
sound, and ends with the ordinary murmur sound. Accent upon
the first element.

This is the only word of its kind.

ûe as in “ brûe,” “ rûens.” This sound approximates to
the former, but the lips are in a forward position for the first
element, which is accented.

There are very few words of this kind.

SEMI-YOWEL J.

The formation of this sound is similar to the intermediate vowel sound **ie**, except that it is not sustained.

The sound is similar to the English **Y** in "yet."

Initial: ja, jaar, jas, jig, jou, jota, julle, Junie, etc.

Medial: bajonet, briljant, bataljon, kabeljou, kajuit, kampanjie, koejawel, konjak, kwajong, majesteit, majoor, sienjaal, verjaar, etc.

PRACTICE.

Ja, Jong, die Josie sal jou ja, as jy volgende Junie nie saam my gaan jakhalse jag nie.

CONSONANT SOUNDS.

Consonant Sounds are divided into two different classes, called Voiced, and Voiceless (whispered). The Voiced sounds are those produced by the vibration of the vocal cords, while the Voiceless Sounds are produced as a whisper, there being no action of the vocal cords. The difference is easily determined by placing two fingers on the "Adam's Apple" in the production of **f** and **v** (English), or **v** and **w** (Afrikaans). In sustaining the former, no vibration is felt, while the latter results in a distinct quivering sound.

Of the eighteen consonant sounds, eight are classified in pairs, each pair being produced in the same way, but one of each pair being Voiced while the other is Voiceless.

The consonant sounds are further sub-divided into what are called **Momentary**, and **Continuous** sounds. The Momentary sounds are those which cannot be produced until the contact is broken, while the Continuous are those which can be sustained during contact of the articulative organs.

M, **n**, and **ng** are called nasal consonant sounds, being produced by the vocalised air passing out through the nose. All the others are called oral consonant sounds, these being emitted through the mouth.

Following is the Table of Consonant Sounds, showing the points of contact, and classifications:

TABLE OF CONSONANT SOUNDS.

POINTS OF CONTACT.	ORAL.				NASAL.
	Momentary.		Continuous.		Continuous.
	Voiceless.	Voiced	Voiceless	Voiced.	Voiced
Lips	p	b	—	—	m
Point of tongue and upper gum .	t	d	s	—	n
Base of tongue and soft palate ...	k	g	g ^o	—	ng
Mid-tongue and hard palate ...	—	—	sj	—	—
Front of tongue and hard palate ...	—	—	—	l ^r	—
Upper teeth and lower lip	—	—	f (v)	w	—
Glottis	—	—	h	—	—
COMPOSITE: tj.					

THE SEPARATE CONSONANT SOUNDS.

P. (Voiceless-momentary). **B.** (Voiced-momentary).

FORMATION: To produce these sounds, the lips close tightly, and reopen to an explosion of whispered or vocalised air.

P.

WORDS CONTAINING THE SOUND:

Paap, pa-pa, pa-pier, pas-poort, pen-kop, pe-ri-skoop, piep, pomp, pop, pot-le-pel, prin-si-paal, proef-preek, prop. pur-per, pyp, etc.

The sound is represented by **b** at the end of words: ab, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) Met 'n stemmetjie wat pynlik piep lewer die aspirant predikant sy proefpreek.
- (2) Ons pappie se perde vrek op hope aan papies; maar so lank as die lepel in die pappot steek is ons penkoppe nog propvol moed.

B.

WORDS CONTAINING THE SOUND:

Bab-tel, bak-boord, bar-baar, be-ar-bei, be-bou, be-lang-heb-ben-de, be-staan-baar, be-trou-baar, bib-ber, bloed-bad, boer-be-skuit, born-bar-deer, bors-been, by-bel, by-bly, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) Die kabbelende, babbelende bekie begin in die borrelende fonteintjie tussen die blou bosse daarbo in die berg.
- (2) Buite in die biesies daar lê 'n hondjie dood,
Sy stertjie is bevrore, sy beentjies byna bloot.

COMBINATION OF P AND B SOUNDS.

Pap-broek, per-de-by, plooi-baar, pos-bo-de, pro-beer, pynboom, etc.

Be-amp-te, be-dom-pig, beeld-spraak, be-grip, be-gryp, be-help, be-kamp, be-krom-pe, be-perk, be-roep, be-skip, be-spaar, blom-pot, boon-op, brand-sta-pel, bui-te-pos, etc.

T. (Voiceless-momentary). **D.** (Voiced-momentary).

FORMATION: The point of the tongue comes in contact with the gum of the upper teeth, the contact breaking to an explosion of whispered or vocalised air.

Tan-te, ta-blet, ta-lent, ta-pyt, tart, tie-tel, tint, to-taal, troe-tel, tuis-te, etc.

The sound is represented by **d** at the end of words: aan-bod, bad, seend, fel-heid, haard, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) Gedurende die **T**agtig-jarige Oorlog het die **N**ederlanders die mag van die **t**rotse Spaanse koning **t**riomfantelik uitgetart en **g**etrotseer.
- (2) Die **t**wistrekkerige **T**alhaar het die **t**alentvolle maar **t**aktelose **t**oneelspeler **t**aamlik lieflik **t**oegetakel met 'n **t**aaiboslat.

D.

Daar-die, da-del, der-de, des-kun-dig, deur-dat, diens-doende, Dins-dag, Don-der-dag, dui-de-lik, dwars-deur, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) **D**eurd**d**at die moter van die vliegmasien vir die derde maal onklaar geraak het, was die **d**eskundige gedwonge om in **d**aardie **d**ennebos neer te **d**aal.
- (2) Die **d**iensdoende diener hou elke **D**insdag en **D**onderdag aand die **d**ou**d**iewe en **d**obbelaars in **d**aardie **d**anssaal **d**op.

COMBINATION OF T AND D SOUNDS.

Taal-kun-de, ta-fel-doek, te-der, ten-der, te-rug-deins, te-vre-de, tien-de, toe-drag, tot-dat, tra-die-sie, tra-ne-dal, trou-dag, twe-de, ty-de-lik, tyd-stip, etc.

Daad, dar-tel, de-bat, dee-moed, deur-sit, deus-kant, diep-te, dik-taat, dis-trik, doel-ma-tig, dood, dors-tig, draad, druk-fout, druk-te, dui-send, duis-ter, duld, dut, etc.

K. (Voiceless-momentary). **G.** (Voiced-momentary).

FORMATION: The back or base of the tongue rises in contact with the soft palate, the sound being produced on the breaking of contact, to an explosion of whispered or vocalised air.

K.

Kaak, kaal-kop, kalk, ka-rak-ter, ken-merk, kerk, kie-kie, klie-maks, klink, knak, ko-ker, kom-pleks, kon-trak, kor-rek, kort-likes, krank-lik, krink, kro-niek, kruik, kuns-stuk, kwaak, kyk, etc.

(See also under TJ—Diminutive: Page 35.)

Represented by **Ĉ** in proper names, e.g.: Cloete, Coetzee.

By **Ch** in *Christus*, its compounds and derivations; also in proper names, e.g.: Schoeman.

By **X** (which takes the sound of ks) in proper names, e.g.: Alexander (pronounced Aleksander).

Ch is silent at the end of words, e.g.: Stellenbosch (Stellenbos).

PRACTICE.

- (1) **Kyk**, **kaalkop**, daar is **kalk** in die **koker**.
- (2) **Koos** neem **kiekies** van die **kinders** wat **kiep-kiep** speel in die **skaduwee** van die **kiepersolboom**.

G.

Note: This sound is equivalent to the English **g** in "go." It is used in Afrikaans only when it is preceded by **r** (and very occasionally by **l**) followed by a semi-accented **e**; also when followed by **h**.

Berge, burger, erger, er-ger-nis, ge-vol-ge, ter-ge, wil-ger, etc.

Also in: nege; and in foreign words, when followed by **h**: an-ghor-ra, ghan-tang, ghie-nie, gholf, man-gho, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1). Hy koop vir sy **gh**antang 'n nege-**gh**ienie horlosie.
- (2) Daardie seun se **gh**oen is amper netso groot as 'n **gh**olf-bal.

Ĝ. (Voiceless-continuous).

This sound is not found in English. It is produced by the base of the tongue coming into contact with the soft palate, with a breath vibration similar to that of a faint effort at gargling the throat.

Galg, gas-lig, ge-dag-te, gees-tig, ge-goed, ge-heg, ge-juig, ge-lag, ge-mag-tig-de, ge-na-dig, ge-rog-gel, ge-rug, ge-slag, ge-veg, ge-volg, ge-waag, gie-rig, god-sa-lig, goe-dig, graag, grag, gre-tig, grim-mig, gryns-lag, gul-sig, etc.

- (1) **Gretig** en met die **grootste** **genoeë** neem die **Evangelie-**
dienaar die **goedhartige** **gifte** van die **gegoede** **grond-**
eienaar in ontvangs.
- (2) **Grimmig** **gluur** die **gierigaard** deur die **gleuf** in die
glasdeur.

F. and **V.** (Voiceless-continuous). **W.** (Voiced-continuous).

FORMATION: The lower lip touches the edges of the upper teeth, the whispered or vocalised air being forced through the points of contact.

F. V.

These are identical in pronunciation, and are equivalent to the English **F** in "fluff."

Fi-lo-so-fie, fo-no-graaf, fos-for, fo-to-graaf, fuif, etc.

Van-ef-fe, ver-af, ver-blyf, ver-derf-lik, ver-doof, ver-ef-fen, ver-f, ver-fris, ver-gif, ver-hef, ver-kleef, ver-skaf, ver-styf, ver-toef, ver-vaard, ver-val, ver-voeg, vief, voor-af, oor-skrif, vrag-vry, vryf, vyf, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) Hy is **f**aikonta 'n **f**amielie-betrekking van 'n **f**ameuse **F**ranse **f**inansier, maar hy is niks anders nie as 'n **f**likflooierige **f**ortuinsoeker.
- (2) **B**evrees **v**ir die **g**e**v**aarlike **g**e**v**olge van sy **g**e**f**oeter met die bynes agter die **v**eekraal **v**lug **v**et **F**anie in die **v**yeboom.
- (3) Hy weet daar **s**o**v**eel **v**an as 'n **v**arkie **v**an **v**iool speel.

W.

This sound is equivalent to the English **v** in "valve."

Wa-wyd, we-du-wee, weer-stre-we, weg-wy-ser, wel-le-wend, werk-woord, wer-waarts, wer-wel, wet-ge-wend, we-we, win-ge-wes, wit-wor-tel, wol-we, wre-we-lig, wy-wa-ter, etc.

Note: When preceded by gh in a very few words, the **W** loses its consonantal character, and assumes that of the vowel sound **oe** (without being sustained), or equivalently, the English **W** as in "swell," e.g.: ghwano, ghwarrieboom, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) **Woelig waai die windswawels soos wolkies om die waenhuis.**
- (2) **Wie weet waar in die wye wêreld Wiekus Willemse rondwaal?**

COMBINATION OF F, V: AND W SOUNDS.

Fer-weel, vaar-wel, ver-ant-woord, ver-ge-wis, ver-nu-we, ver-sweye, ver-war, vol-was-se, voor-waar, vry-waar, etc.

Waar-van, waar-voor, wa-ter-val, wel-vaart, wuf, wyf, etc.

S. (Voice-continuous).

FORMATION: The tongue comes into contact with the upper teeth at the junction of the gum, the air being forced over the tip of the tongue.

Saals, saans, sag-gies, see-gras, seep-sop, sek-sie, selfs, se-mels, sen-sa-sie, ser-vies, ses, sinds, sin-te-se, si-pres, skans, skerts, skors, skrams, skuins, skyn-sel, slang-bos, slegs, slons, slot-sang, sluis, sly-ta-sie, snap-sie, spa-sie, sta-sie, sulks, swart-sel, sy-de-lings, etc.

Represented by **z** in proper names: Coetzee, Zoutendyk, Zoutpansberg, Zoekmekaar, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) **Soos die son saggies sak saal die seun sy vosperd op.**
- (2) **Die skouts skiet skrams oor die skans waaragter die swart skelms skuil.**

R. (Voiced-continuous).

FORMATION: The tip of the tongue vibrates strongly against the upper gum, resulting in a vibration.

Note: There is no smooth or vowelized **R** as in English.

Raar, rak-ker, ra-ser-ny, rat-braak, rat-werk, re-fe-raat, re-geer-der, re-gis-treer, reg-spraak, rek-baar, rê-rig, re-toer, ri-vier, roem-ryk, roe-rend, ro-ker, rond-bring, rond-reis, rou-brief, rug-baar, ru-moer, rus-oord, ry-me-la-ry, ry-perd, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (2) **Rustig roskam** die **ratse ruiter** sy **runnikende ryperd**.
- (2) **Roer** jou **rammelkas** ou **Ruiter**, die **roekelose Rooies** op hul **ras-perde ruk reëlreg** op die **rooi randjies** aan.

SJ. (Voiceless-continuous).

FORMATION: The tongue is drawn slightly towards the back, and broadened out against the hard palate, the air passing through the narrow space thus formed. The sound is equivalent to the English **sh** in "she."

Sjag-ger, sjar-mant, sjef, sjo-fel, ma-sjien, re-sji-ment, etc.

Represented by **g** in the following words and in their compounds and derivatives: ar-gi-pel, ar-gi-tek, e-ner-gie, ge-neer, ge-nie, gi-raf, kol-le-ge, o-ri-gi-neel, pres-ti-ge, pri-vi-le-gie, re-li-gie, lo-ge, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) **Sj**uut! Kyk bietjie, die **Sj**inese **sj**ef bring **sj**errie vir die vader en **sj**ampanje vir die **sj**aperone van daardie **sj**armante dame.
- (2) Daardie **sj**impansee, wat so lekker **sj**okolade sit en eet op die **masj**ien-geweer, is die talisman van 'n beroemde **resj**iment.

TJ. (Voiceless-continuous).

FORMATION: This is the composite production of **T** and **J** (the latter being the equivalent of the English **Y** in "yet.") The points of contact for the **T** in this case are slightly different

from those of the ordinary sound. Whereas for the ordinary sound the points are the tip of the tongue and the gum of the upper teeth, in this case they are the *blade of the tongue and the mid-roof of the mouth.

Most English speakers and some Afrikaans speakers pronounce this sound like the English **CH** in "Church." This is incorrect, and the formation as given above should be practised until the sound can be produced without difficulty.

Found at the beginning of words and accented syllables, as in: tja-lie, tjank, tjap, tjek, tjop, ge-tjap, etc.

PRACTICE.

Hy is netso gesteld op **tjou-tjou** by **tjops** en **tjiekorie** in sy koffie as die **tjer-tjer** op heuning.

DIMINUTIVE **tjie** and **djie**.

Note: In unaccented syllables (diminutive **tjie** and **djie**), the back of the tongue rises slightly, this formation producing a sound which inclines to that of **K**, as in: baan-tjie, ba-be-tjie, gei-tjie, grein-tjie, kram-me-tjie, paad-tjie, ta-fel-kleed-tjie, etc.

There appears to be a sharp division of opinion in regard to this sound, many cultured speakers pronouncing it as in accented syllables. The majority, however, seem to favour the above.

PRACTICE.

Jantjie, die plaatjie, steek stilletjies sy handjie in die rosyntjie-maandjie.

L. (Voiced-continuous).

FORMATION: The front of the tongue curls up to the hard palate, the sound passing over the sides of the tongue.

Lan-de-lik, le-lik, lug-bal-lon, ly-de-lik, lyn-o-lie, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) Liewe lewe! die lelike lamleilige Lambert maak 'n lawaai soos 'n lawwe, luidrugtige lakei.
- (2) Luilekkerland is die liefings-lêplek waarna al die leeglopers verlang.

* The "blade" is that part of the tongue situated immediately behind the tip.

M. (Voiced-nasal-continuous).

FORMATION: The lips close, the sound passing through the nose.

Maal-stroom, mak-si-mum, mam-ba, me-de-mens, min-saam, anom-pel, my-mer, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) Hy het **maar min medelyde met** die **melankoliese** lot van die **melaatses** onder sy **medemense**.
- (2) **My mammie** bak elke **Maandag melktertjies** en **mosbolletjies**, **maar Miena**, die **mismaakte Masbiekermeid**, **meen** dat **mieliepap** en **moskonfynt** die **mienimum** kos, terwyl dit die **maksimum** voedingswaarde het.

N. (Voiced-nasal-continuous).

FORMATION: The tip of the tongue touches the upper gum, the sound passing through the nose.

Naand, nè, ne-wens-gaand, niks-nuts, nog-tans, non-na, nou-nou, nuus-blad, ny-dig, etc. Also 'n, when followed by words commencing with vowel sounds.

PRACTICE.

- (1) **Neef Neels**, jeuk **neef se neus nog net** soos **netnou**?
- (2) **Nee**, **noointjie**, die **nydige niks-nuts** van 'n **norse**, **nukkerige Niklaas** het **nie een** van sy **neefs** of **niggies** na die **nuwejaarsfees** **ge'noui nie**.

NG. (Voiced-nasal-continuous).

FORMATION: The base of the tongue comes into contact with the soft palate, the sound passing through the nose.

Angs, aan-drang, bal-ling, deur-gang, er-va-ring, frai-ing, gang, har-sings, in-dring, jong, kar-ring, lang, mee-ding, ne-ring, om-gang, po-ging, re-ke-ning, skat-ting, toe-gang, vang, etc.

Represented by **N**, when followed by **K**, but not when the **N** is at the end of a prefix: an-ker (ang-ker), bank (bangk), en-kel (eng-kel), fon-kel, ge-denk, ink, jonk-heid, links, na-dink, rank, sank-sie, tenk, ver-den-king, win-kel, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) **A**ngstig **d**ring die uitgehongerde banneling deur die gedrang van jongelinge in sy poging om toegang te verkry tot die saal waar hy die pyniging van sy honger kan stil.
- (2) Die jonkman sit op die toonbank van die winkel en dink ernstig oor die krankheid wat sy kanker-lydende vader so lank aan die siekbed geanker het.
- (3) Fonkel, fonkel sterretjie, wat blinkoog vir ons wink. Fonkel, fonkel sterretjie, in die nag so swart soos ink.

H. (Voiceless-continuous).

FORMATION: This sound is produced by forcing the air through the mouth.

The sound is similar to the English aspirate, but the effort required in production is not so strong.

Hard-han-dig, hard-ho-rig, hart-ver-hef-fend, ha-we-hoof-hei-lig-heid, held-haf-tig, her-haal, hier-heen, hoog-heid, hout-hok, huis-hou, ge-hoor, on-heil, sink-huis, uit-haal, ver-hef-we-der-helf, yl-hoof-dig, etc.

PRACTICE.

- (1) Hoor tog hoe hartroerend huil die honde by die houthok agter die waenhuis.
- (2) " Ek hef my oë op na die berge, van waar my hulp sal kom.

My hulp is van die Here, wat hémel en aarde gemaak het."

ASSIMILATION.

We have already learned that the sounds of a language do not occur individually, but in groups, and it is necessary to study the duration of each in relation to other sounds, and the changes that result from the influence exercised upon it by the sounds preceding or following it.

DURATION OF VOWEL SOUNDS.

Before voiceless consonant sounds the Long vowel sounds, as well as the Diphthongal sounds, are reduced to half length: blaas, soos, nuus, de-kens, gleuf, lêplek, mei-sie, sluit, hout, tooisel, etc.

The Long sounds are further reduced to half length in syllables which have not the chief accent:

Áf-ri-ka, bé-de-laar, éi-ke-boom, áan-vuur, jáar-vees, etc.

DURATION OF CONSONANT SOUNDS.

Although the term "duration" generally applies to vowel sounds, there are distinct differences in the case of consonants also, including even the momentary sounds, **p**, **b**, **t**, **d**, **k**, and **g**.

It is only at the beginning of words that these sounds are strictly of a momentary character, for the formation of the contact is silent, the sound not being produced until the contact is broken.

The duration of a momentary sound, therefore, is the time that elapses between the formation of the contact and its breaking.

Final momentary sounds are very short, the shortest being the **t** after a long vowel sound, as in *baat*, *laat*, etc.

The duration increases when the preceding vowel sound is short, and still more when the consonant is a voiceless continuous sound, except in the cases of **l**, **m**, **n**, and **ng** which, though voiced, are always long, and particularly so when preceded by short vowel sounds.

The duration of initial continuous consonants depends, generally, upon the speed of utterance. The quicker the speech, the shorter the duration.

Consonant sounds are also long where words are closely connected or compounded, as in: "groot tafel," "klein nael," etc. Here the contact is formed on the final consonant of the first word, and broken on the initial consonant of the second word.

The same applies to all double consonants, as in: *ken-nis*, *mid-dág*, *ver-ryk*, etc.

CONCLUSION.

CHARACTERISTICS OF AFRIKAANS IN COMPARISON WITH ENGLISH.

The mode of articulation is more definite than in English. The tongue is generally further forward in the mouth; the lips are more firmly rounded and protruded. There are more rounded sounds, and practically no indefinite sounds.

The inclusion of the consonant sound $\overset{\circ}{g}$ in "gesag," etc., with its predominating influence in a very large number of words, coupled with the fact that there are a lesser number of Voiced consonant sounds than is found in English, tends to make the language somewhat "metallic" in tone, and therefore, less musical.

The distinctive trill of the **R**, found in a predominating number of words also tends to make the tonal quality of the speech harder than in English, which contains the softening down quality of the vowelized **R**.

The musical quality of a language, however, is finally determined by the number and variety of its vowel and voiced consonant sounds. In this regard, a comparison of Afrikaans and English proves of interest:

	Afrikaans.	English.
Single Vowel Sounds:		
Wide-round	1	2
Wide	3	4
Neutral	3	9
Narrow	2	3
Narrow-round	7	2
Diphthongal Varieties ...	17	11
Triphthongal Varieties ...	10	13
Semi-Vowel Sounds	1	3
Voiced Consonant Sounds ...	9	13
	—	—
	53	60
	—	—

APPENDIX I.

SOUNDS IDENTICAL IN AFRIKAANS AND ENGLISH:

	Afrikaans.		English.
Long	aa—vader	father.
	ô—môre.	paw (with less protrusion).
	è—nê	net.
Inter.	oe—boek	book.
	e—moeder	mother.
Weak	ie—sigaar	cigar.
	i—flasko	flasco.
Diph.	ei—meid	mate.
	ou—nou	no.
	ai—aits	kites.
	ôi—nôi	noise.
	ôe—sôe	soar.
	êe—lêer	lair.
Triph	eie—weie	stayer.
	oue—goue	goer.
	aie—baie	buyer.
	ôie—nôiens	annoyance (slightly modified).
Semi-			
vowel J—	jaar	yard.

The consonant sounds p, b, t, d, k, g, s, r, l, m, n, ng, and h, are identical in both languages.

Afrikaans **V** is the same as English **F**; Afrikaans **W** is the same as English **V**; Afrikaans **SJ** is the same as English **SH**.

The symbols c, x, and z, are very rarely used in Afrikaans, and then only in proper names, c taking the sound of **k**, and z of **s**, as in Coetzee (**Koetsee**). X takes the sound of **ks**, as in Alexander (**Aleksander**).

