

**Win**

No Authoring

**Title: Phonemic Alphabet in English****Publisher: Sky Software House****Author: Don Friend****Machines: Windows****Level: All****Type: Tutorial****Language: English****System Requirements:** IBM 486/25MHz, 4MB RAM, VGA display sound card,**Single user: £45.00****1-5 user licence: £55.00****5-25 users: £100.00****UK & EC add 17.5% VAT****Win/Mac**

No Authoring

**Title: New Similar Sounds****Publisher: Sky Software House****Author: Don Friend****Machines: Windows****Level: All****Type: Tutorial****Language: English****System Requirements:** IBM 486/25MHz, 4MB RAM, VGA display sound card,**Single user: £50.00****1-5 user licence: £65.00****5-25 users: £120.00****UK & EC add 17.5% VAT****Windows**

No Authoring

**Title: Murder Mystery****Publisher: Sky Software House****Author: Don Friend****Machines: Windows****Level: Intermediate****Type: Language game****Language: English****System Requirements:** IBM 486/25MHz, 4MB RAM, VGA display sound card,**Single user: £45.00****1-5 user licence: £55.00****Unlimited users: £110.00****UK & EC add 17.5% VAT**

# Phonemic Alphabet in English

## An Interactive Pronunciation Program

This program was developed in order to teach users to recognise the sounds and letters of the Phonemic Alphabet in English as spoken by speakers of British Received Pronunciation. It comprises the following elements:

**Listen to Vowel Sounds:** Short/Long vowels

**Listen to Consonant Sounds:** Problem consonants, all consonants

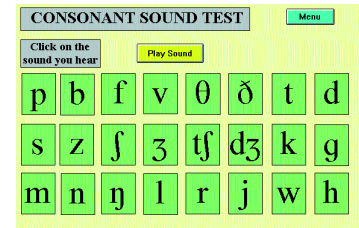
**Test Vowel Sounds:** Short vowels, Long vowels, Diphthongs/Triphthongs, All vowels

**Test Consonant Sounds:** Problem Consonants, All Consonants

**Word Sound Test:** Hear a word spoken and select the correct one of four written phonemically.

**Transcribing:** Type the Roman version of 50 words written phonemically.

**Connecting:** Pick up words and put them in boxes which correspond to their vowel sound.



## New Similar Sounds

*Similar Sounds* focuses on sounds with which learners of English have particular problems. It requires them to listen to two words at a time and then click on the gridpoint where the two words meet.

### PRONUNCIATION : SIMILAR SOUNDS

In this program, you will hear pairs of words with similar sounds spoken together. You must decide which words are being spoken.

To see which sounds are a problem for speakers of different languages, move the mouse into the questions mark ? next to each pair.

WHEN YOU ARE READY, CLICK ON THE PAIR YOU WANT TO PRACTISE



The program takes up about 10MB of disk space.

It provides practice in a variety of problem sounds including:

- the vowel sounds found in *sit* and *seat*, *pepper* and *paper*, *much* and *match*
- the consonant sounds in *veal* and *wheel*, *lice* and *rice*, *think* and *sink*.
- weak and strong forms including the

*schwa...* and many more.

*Similar Sounds* is primarily designed as a tool for building awareness of sounds and thereby assists learners differentiate between words.

## Murder Mystery

In the early days of CALL text-based murder mysteries were common, but I have not come across one for some years, so this program from Scotland fills a real need.

Since it also provides sound, in the form of the spoken testimony of witnesses and suspects (in hammy "actor's" voices appropriate to the murder mystery genre) close listening is essential. Since close listening is not easy, each testimony is confined to two or three sentence bites and, in addition, 'detectives' are invited to take notes so that they don't forget. Installing and playing the game is rapid and intuitive and you might get stumped solving the mystery but not in how to work the program.

After placing their finger on the murder suspect detectives then have to identify the accomplice. To do this they have to go along with the curious idea that the chief suspect is the one that makes the most language mistakes, but let that pass, since this is a language teaching program after all.