

NA symbols

IPA and North American transcription

A somewhat different system of phonetic transcription from IPA has evolved in North America. The tables below show the most important differences in the symbols used by both systems.

Table 1
Consonants: (American English consonants are shaded)

<u>Description</u>	<u>IPA</u>	<u>NA</u>
<u>Obstruents</u>		
Voiceless alveopalatal fricative	ʃ	ʃ̥
Voiced alveopalatal fricative	ʒ	ʒ̥
Voiceless alveopalatal affricate	tʃ	tʃ̥
Voiced alveopalatal affricate	dʒ	dʒ̥
<u>Sonorants</u>		
Palatal nasal	ɲ	ɲ̥
Retroflex <i>r</i>	ɻ	ɻ̥
Alveolar Flap	ɾ	ɾ̥
Trilled <i>r</i>	rr	rr̥
Palatal glide	j	j̥

Table 2
Vowels: (American English vowels are shaded)

<u>Description</u>	<u>IPA</u>	<u>NA</u>
High front rounded tense	y	y̥
Mid front tense unrounded with off-glide	ej	ej̥
Mid front tense rounded	ø	ø̥
Mid back rounded diphthong	ɔj	ɔj̥
Low central diphthong with off-glide	aj	aj̥

Long vowels and consonants: In IPA transcription, a long vowel or consonant is marked by two vertically aligned wedges (:̆) after the vowel or consonant symbol. In North American transcription, a simple colon (:̄) is used.

Stress: Although *Contemporary Linguistics* follows the IPA for phonetic symbols, we have chosen not to use the IPA system for marking stress. In IPA, a syllable receiving primary stress is marked with a superscript prime mark before the stressed syllable, and a syllable receiving secondary stress is marked with a subscript prime before it. In the North American system, primary stress is marked with an acute accent over the stressed vowel, and secondary stress is marked with a grave accent over the vowel. In the matter of marking stress, we have chosen to follow the North American system.

<u>Word</u>	<u>IPA</u>	<u>NA</u>
incommodious	ˌɪnkəˈmɔwdiəs	ɪnkəˈmówdiəs