

## CATALOGUE OF SOUNDS FOR REVIVED TRADITIONAL CORNISH (base 1500-1800)

We have evidence<sup>1</sup> for 70<sup>2</sup> distinguishable sounds.

*Symbols according to the International Phonetic Alphabet*

### Pure vowel sounds (25)

DKSG <sup>3</sup>	Symbol	IPA No.	Unicode	Descriptive Name	KS Spelling	Example
1	[i:]	301	U+0069	Long close front unrounded vowel	<b>i, î, u, y, ÿ</b>	mis, cîder, tus, chy, prÿs
2	[i]	301	U+0069	Short close front unrounded vowel	<b>i, î</b>	lies, lînednor
3	[e:] <sup>4</sup>	302	U+0065	Long close-mid front unrounded vowel	<b>a, â, ai, e, ê, ë, eu</b>	pras, prais, les, êsy, bës, leur
4	[e]	302	U+0065	Short close-mid front unrounded vowel	<b>e</b>	eos, cudhlen
5	[ɛ]	303	U+025B	Short open-mid front unrounded vowel	<b>e, è, ê, eu</b>	pell, yêhes, deuthons
6	[ɔ]	306	U+0254	Short open-mid back rounded vowel	<b>o, ò</b>	cot, gròn
7	[o:] <sup>5</sup>	307	U+006F	Long close-mid back rounded vowel	<b>o, ô, oo</b>	noth, hôk, gôy, coos
8	[o]	307	U+006F	Short close-mid back rounded vowel	<b>o</b>	loas, minfron
9	[u:]	308	U+0075	Long close back rounded vowel	<b>oo, ou, u, û</b>	coos, toul, a-ugh, gûn
10	[u]	308	U+0075	Short close back rounded vowel	<b>ow, ù</b>	Kernowek, perpetûal
11	[y:]	309	U+0079	Long close front rounded vowel	<b>u</b>	lus

12	[y]	309	U+0079	Short close front rounded vowel	<b>u</b>	truan
13	[ø:]	310	U+00F8	Long close-mid front rounded vowel <i>This vowel is often realized as intermediate between [ø:] and [e:]</i>	<b>eu</b>	leur
14	[œ]	311	U+0153	Short open-mid front rounded vowel <i>This vowel is often realized as intermediate between [œ] and [ɛ]</i>	<b>eu</b>	deuthons
15	[ɔ:]	313	U+0252	Long open back rounded vowel	<b>â or au</b>	brâs, dauns
16	[ɒ]	313	U+0252	Short open back rounded vowel	<b>â or au</b>	brâsterow, dauncya
17	[ɨ]	317	U+0268	Short close central unrounded vowel	<b>i, y</b>	isella, gwelys
18	[ʉ]	318	U+0289	Short close central rounded vowel	<b>ou, u, ù</b>	auctour, uhella, pùb
19	[ɪ]	319	U+026A	Short near-close front unrounded vowel	<b>i, u, y</b>	isel, usons, warbydn
20	[ɻ]	320	U+028F	Short near-close near-front rounded vowel	<b>u</b>	ancombrus, usons
21	[ʊ]	321	U+028A	Short near-close back rounded vowel	<b>ou, u, ù</b>	auctour, uhel, tùchya
22	[ə:] <sup>6</sup>	322	U+0259	Long mid central vowel	<b>e</b>	ker
23	[ə] <sup>6</sup>	322	U+0259	Short mid central vowel (schwa)	<b>a, à, e, è, o, y</b>	an, pàn, on <u>e</u> n, berr, mès, es <u>o</u> n, yma
24	[æ:]	325	U+00E6	Long near-open front unrounded vowel	<b>a, â</b>	pras, dâ
25	[æ]	325	U+00E6	Short near-open front unrounded vowel	<b>a, à</b>	<u>a</u> val, màn

## Diphthongs (8)

DKSG	Symbol	First element	Second element	KS Spelling	Example
26	[iʊ]	Short close front unrounded vowel	Short near-close back rounded vowel	<b>u, ew, uw, yw</b>	tu, dew, pluw, dyw
27	[ɛʊ]	Short open-mid front unrounded vowel	Short near-close back rounded vowel	<b>ew, êw, ôw</b>	bew, bêwnans, dôwys
28	[aɪ] <sup>7</sup>	Short open front unrounded vowel	Short near-close front unrounded vowel	<b>ay</b>	may
29	[aʊ] <sup>7</sup>	Short open front unrounded vowel	Short near-close back rounded vowel	<b>aw, ow</b>	maw, Sowsnek <sup>8</sup>
30	[oʊ]	Short open-mid back rounded vowel	Short near-close back rounded vowel	<b>ow, êw, ôw</b>	pow, bêwnans, dôwys
31	[oɪ]	Short close-mid back rounded vowel	Short near-close front unrounded vowel	<b>oy</b>	moy
32	[uɪ]	Short close back rounded vowel	Short near-close front unrounded vowel	<b>oy, ùy</b>	moy / mùy <sup>9</sup>
33	[əɪ]	Short mid central vowel (schwa)	Short near-close front unrounded vowel	<b>y, ey</b>	chy, seyth

## Single consonant sounds (34)

DKSG	Symbol	IPA No.	Unicode	Descriptive Name	KS Spelling	Example
34	[p]	101	U+0070	Voiceless bilabial stop	<b>p, pp</b>	aspia, cappa
35	[b]	102	U+0062	Voiced bilabial stop	<b>b, bb</b>	bobba
36	[t]	103	U+0074	Voiceless alveolar stop	<b>t, tt</b>	stordy, otta
37	[d]	104	U+0064	Voiced alveolar stop	<b>d, dd</b>	adran, addya
38	[k]	109	U+006B	Voiceless velar stop	<b>c, ck, k, q, qw</b>	olcan, lacka, park, qweth, qwra <sup>10</sup>
39	[m]	114	U+006D	Voiced bilabial nasal	<b>bm, m, mm</b>	mabm, mos, lamm
40	[ <sup>b</sup> m]	114	U+006D	Pre-occluded voiced bilabial nasal	<b>bm, mm</b>	mabm, lamm
41	[g]	110	U+0261	Voiced velar stop	<b>g, gg, gw</b>	golow, braggya, gwra <sup>10</sup>
42	[n]	116	U+006E	Voiced alveolar nasal	<b>dn, n, nn</b>	pedn, nos, splann
43	[ <sup>d</sup> n]	116	U+006E	Pre-occluded voiced alveolar nasal	<b>dn, nn</b>	pedn, splann
44	[ŋ]	116	U+006E	Voiceless alveolar nasal	<b>n, nh</b>	scona, canhasow
45	[ <sup>d</sup> ŋ]	116	U+006E	Pre-occluded voiceless alveolar nasal	<b>dn, dnh, nn</b>	gwednal, byhadnha, splanna
46	[ŋ]	119	U+014B	Voiced velar nasal	<b>n, ng</b>	angùs, mong
47	[f]	128	U+0066	Voiceless labiodental fricative	<b>f, ff</b>	flour, daffar
48	[v]	129	U+0076	Voiced labiodental fricative	<b>f, v, vv</b>	an fos, cov, scovva

49	[θ]	130	U+03B8	Voiceless dental non-sibilant fricative	<b>th</b>	yth
50	[ð]	131	U+00F0	Voiced dental non-sibilant fricative	<b>dh</b>	codha
51	[s]	132	U+0073	Voiceless alveolar sibilant fricative	<b>c, s, sc, ss</b>	ac <u>ce</u> ptya, sawya, ascendya, fâss
52	[z]	133	U+007A	Voiced alveolar sibilant fricative	<b>s, z</b>	zyp <sup>12</sup>
53	[z̥]	133	U+007A	Partially devoiced alveolar sibilant fricative	<b>s</b>	gweres <sup>13</sup>
54	[ʃ]	134	U+0283	Voiceless palato-alveolar fricative	<b>cy, scy, sh, ssy, sy</b>	tradycyon, conscyans, shâp, passyon, fycsyon
55	[x]	140	U+0078	Voiceless velar fricative	<b>gh</b>	dyghtya
56	[h]	146	U+0068	Voiceless glottal fricative	<b>gh, h, th</b>	margh, marhogeth, marth
57	[h̥]	146	U+0068	Voiceless glottal fricative (added aspiration)	<b>h, -</b>	<u>p</u> elha, sconha, <u>k</u> erha, why, <u>c</u> lock, <u>t</u> ap, co <u>t</u> , <u>u</u> hel, <u>r</u> ag
58	[ɻ]	152	U+027B	Voiced retroflex approximant	<b>r, rr, rdh</b>	clor, carr, kerdhes
59	[ɻ̥]	152	U+027B	Voiceless retroflex approximant	<b>r, rgh, rth</b>	kefrës, margh, marth
60	[j]	153	U+006A	Voiced palatal approximant	<b>y</b>	yagh
61	[j̥]	153	U+006A	Voiced palatal approximant (reduced)	<b>y, -</b>	ponya, <u>û</u> sya, <u>u</u> hel
62	[l]	155	U+006C	Voiced alveolar lateral approximant	<b>l, ll</b>	lo, dell
63	[l̥]	156	U+026D	Voiceless alveolar lateral approximant	<b>l, ll</b>	dyflas, pelha, gwella
64	[ʍ]	169	U+028D	Voiceless labialized velar approximant	<b>wh</b>	whe

65	[ <sup>h</sup> ]	169	U+028D	Voiceless labialized velar approximant (reduced)	<b>wh</b>	whra
66	[w]	170	U+0077	Voiced labialized velar approximant	<b>w</b>	wosa
67	[ <sup>w</sup> ]	170	U+0077	Voiced labialized velar approximant (reduced)	<b>w</b>	gwil, gwra

### Double sounds that are treated as single consonants (3)

68 [dʒ]<sup>15</sup>

69 [tʃ]

70 [ks]

**j, s**

neyja, uḡons<sup>16</sup>

**ch, t**

chauns, te<sup>17</sup>

**x**

box

## Notes

- 1 Specifically Cornish evidence. Revived traditional Cornish does not rely on purely comparative evidence from Breton or Welsh.
- 2 In terms of phonetics. Not all of these sounds are phonemes.
- 3 These numbers have no official status: they are purely for teaching convenience.
- 4 Evidence for [ɛ:] instead of [e:] is weak.
- 5 Evidence for [ɔ:] instead of [o:] is weak.
- 6 Some speakers may substitute [ʌ], but there is no consistent distribution.
- 7 The first element [a] is IPA symbol 304, Unicode U+0061.
- 8 This is an exclusively late pronunciation.
- 9 These are alternative spellings.
- 10 When w is treated as silent.
- 11 Where [z] is rhotacized, **s** may alternatively be written **r**.
- 12 **z** is written as an alternative to **s** only at the beginning of a word (including a compound element).
- 13 This sound originates in the plural endings -s, -ys under English influence. Its application to final s of other unstressed syllables is by levelling.
- 14 [ɪ] and [ɪ̠] are 'dark' in the same environments that velarize [ɪ] in standard British English.
- 15 The second element [ʒ] is IPA symbol 135, Unicode U+0292, the voiced palato-alveolar fricative.
- 16 Speakers who pronounce [dʒ] often write **j** rather than **s** in relevant words.
- 17 When [tʰ] is palatalized in this pronoun, **t** may alternatively be written **ch**.