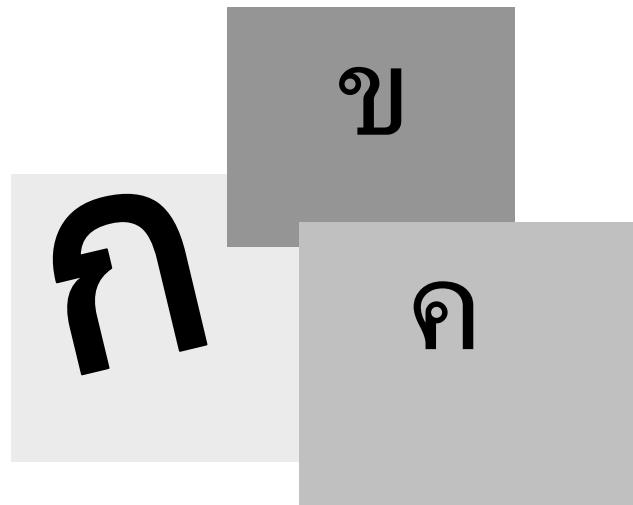


Thai SOLT I
Module 1 Lesson 1



Identify the Alphabet

At the end of the lesson you will be able to produce character sounds, letter combinations, and tones:

- Recognize the alphabet, tone marks, special symbols and numbers
- Recognize consonants
- Identify consonants in an alphabetical order
- Produce consonant sounds: aspirate & unaspirate
- Recognize consonant sounds in syllable-final position
- Identify consonant classes as the base of the tone rules
- Identify compound consonants: clusters & grouping
- Identify consonants with two functions in word-medial position
- Recognize variety in the consonant system
- Recognize vowels
- Produce vowel & diphthong sounds
- Recognize the vowel positions in the writing system
- Identify the acceptance & irregularities of certain vowels
- Identify short vowels & long vowels
- Produce vowel-consonant combinations
- Recognize vowels that change their form with final consonants
- Identify the tone marks and tone rules
- Produce tones
- Produce consonant-vowel & tone combinations
- Identify special cases
- Thai hand-writing
- Recognize borrowings

Identify the Alphabet

Introduction

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Consonants

ກ	ຂ	ຄ	ໝ	ງ	ຈ	ໝ
ໜ	ໜ	ໝ	ໝ	ງ	ໝ	ໝ
ຖ	ຖ	ນ	ດ	ຕ	ນ	ທ
ນ	ນ	ບ	ປ	ຜ	ຜ	ພ
ຟ	ກ	ນ	ຢ	ຮ	ລ	ວ
ສ	ໝ	ສ	ຫ	ຟ	ອ	ໝ

Single Vowels

short	long
-ະ	-၏
-း	-္
-	-
-ဌ	-ပ
-	-
-	-
ဤ-	ဤ-
ဣ-	ဣ-
ေ-	-ခ
ေ-ခ	-ခ
-	

Compound Vowels

କ୍ରି-ପ୍ଲେ	କ୍ରି-ୟ
କ୍ରି-ଓଳ	କ୍ରି-ଓ
- ନ୍ୟୁ	- ଗ୍ୟ

Consonant/vowel combination

Consonant-vowel combination			
බ	භ	බ	භ

Tone Marks	Special marks
-□ - - -	៥ ៥ ᭟ ᭟ ᭟

Numbers

Numbers

୦	୧	୨	୩	୪	୫	୬	୭	୮	୯	୧୦
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----

Consonants

How to draw Thai consonants: The basic rule is to write from left to right starting with the loop and trying to complete the letter in one stroke. Only two consonants are written without a loop: ນ and ນ. Here is what the forty-two consonant look like:

ກ	ຂ	ຄ	ຂ	ງ	ຈ	ຈ
ຂ	ຂ	ຄ	ງ	ງ	ງ	ງ
ກ	ດ	ດ	ດ	ດ	ດ	ດ
ນ	ນ	ບ	ບ	ຜ	ຜ	ຜ
ພ	ພ	ມ	ມ	ຮ	ຮ	ຮ
ສ	ສ	ສ	ສ	ຫ	ຫ	ຫ

Exercise 1

Look at each consonant on the chart above carefully to see how it is written. Observe the similarities and differences. In the table below, group consonants that look similar. The first box has been filled in to serve as an example. Compare your answer with your instructor's.

There isn't one correct answer. There can be other possible combinations.

ກ ດ				

Exercise 2

In the exercise below you are given a consonant in bold type and three similar consonants. Mark the consonant that matches the consonant in bold type.

1. **ກ** ก ດ ກ

5. **ຄ** ກ ດ ຄ

2. **ຂ** ຂ ຂ ຂ

6. **ງ** ນ ນ ນ

3. **ອ** ອ ວ ອ

7. **ສ** ສ ສ ສ

4. **ຫ** ຫ ຫ ຫ

8. **ັ** ແ ພ ພ

Tip of the Day

Copy each letter a number of times until you can reproduce it accurately and naturally; say the name of the letter (e.g. koo) each time you write it to help you memorize it.

Variety in the Consonant System

1. What may be confusing is the fact that there is more than one consonant for the same sound. For example, /kh/ is represented by three different consonants: ຂ ຄ and ໝ. You must learn by each word which consonants have to be used because different spelling gives different meaning.

To distinguish between the consonants that represent the same sound when referring to them verbally, each consonant has a name- a common noun associated with the consonant—e.g. in English “A is for apple.” This will not only help the new learner remember the consonants, but if you need to give verbally the correct spelling of many Thai words you will need to say each consonant with its associated common noun.

Example: ສ = /s/ is called /ຮວ່ວຮ້າລ້າ/ from the word ສາລາ /sǎalaa/

ໝ = /s/ is called /ສົ່ວຮູ້ຍື້ສີ/ from the word ຕູ້ຢື້ /ryysii/

ສ = /s/ is called /ຮວ່ວຮ້າຢໍາ/ from the word ເສືອ /sýa/

2. Many consonants have a different sound depending on whether they are used as initial consonants at the beginning of a syllable, or as final consonants at the end of the syllable. For example: ສ as an initial consonant at the beginning of a syllable has the sound of the English /r/ but as a final consonant has the sound of /n/.
3. Thai consonants, when pronounced individually, are all pronounced with the carrying vowel ອ /oɔ/. To pronounce a Thai consonant, make the sound of the consonant and follow it with the vowel sound /oɔ/. (This differs from English where the pronunciation of consonants have different vowel sounds, for example: G is pronounced /ci i/, F is pronounced /?ef/). Middle class and low class consonants without tone marks are pronounced with a *level* tone, while high class consonants without tone marks are pronounced with a *rising* tone.

Example: Middle class consonant ດ is pronounced /kɔɔ/ : level tone
 Low class consonant ຄ is pronounced /khɔɔ/: level tone
 High class consonant ພ is pronounced /khɔɔ/: rising tone

The consonants, classified in the “Thai Alphabet” order

Symbol	Phonetics	English	Name		
ກ	k	as in <u>skate</u>	kູ້ກ່າຈ	ໄກ	a chicken
ຂ	kh	as in <u>car</u>	khູ້ຂ່າຈ	ໄຂ	an egg
ຄ	”	”	khູ້ຂວາຈ	ຄວາຍ	a buffalo
ຈ	”	”	khູ້ຮ່າ?ຂາງ	ຮະໝັງ	a bell
ງ	ŋ	as in <u>sing</u>	ນູ້ນູ້ນູ້	ງູ້	a snake
ຈ	c	as in <u>jet</u>	ດູ້ດານ	ຈານ	a plate
ຂ	ch	as in <u>chair</u>	ດົ້ດິງ	ສິງ	a cymbal
ໜ	”	”	ດູ້ດ້າງ	ໜ້າງ	an elephant
ໝ	s	as in <u>song</u>	ດູ້ດູ້	ໄໝ	a chain
ໝ	ch	as in <u>chair</u>	ດູ້ດູ້	ເມອ	a kind of tree
ຢ	j	as in <u>you</u>	ຈູ້ຈິງ	ໜົງ	a woman

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The consonants, classified in the “Thai Alphabet” order (continued)

Symbol	Phonetics	English	Name
ດ	d	as in <u>day</u>	dູ້ chá?daa ຂ້າ a Thai dancer's headdress
ດ	t	as in <u>s</u> top	tູ້ pà?tag ປ້ກ a spear
ດ	th	as in <u>two</u>	thູ້ thăan ລານ a pedestal
ນ	”	”	thoo monthoo ມັນໂຖ a woman's name
ນ	”	”	thooophûuthâw ຜູ້ເມາ an old person
ນ	n	as in <u>now</u>	nູ້ neen ເນີຣ a novice monk
ດ	d	as in <u>day</u>	dູ້ dèg ເດືກ a child
ດ	t	as in <u>s</u> top	tູ້ taw ເຕ່າ a turtle
ດ	th	as in <u>two</u>	thູ້thŭŋ ຄຸງ a sack
ທ	”	”	thootha?hăan ທ້າຮານ a soldier
ທ	”	”	thoothonj ດົງ a flag

Identify the Alphabet
Introduction

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The consonants, classified in the “Thai Alphabet” order (continued)

Symbol	Phonetics	English	Name		
ນ	n	as in <u>now</u>	nູ້ນ	ນູ້	a rat
ບ	b	as in <u>boy</u>	bູ້ບາຈມາຈ	ບານໄມ້	a leaf
ປ	p	as in <u>spot</u>	pູ້ພລາ	ປລາ	a fish
ຜ	ph	as in <u>pet</u>	ພູ້ພິງ	ິງ	a bee
ຝ	f	as in <u>fun</u>	fູ້ຝຳ	ຝ	a lid
ຫ	ph	as in <u>pet</u>	ພູ້ພານ	ພານ	a dish w/pedestal
ົ	f	as in <u>fun</u>	fູ້ຟັນ	ຟັນ	a tooth
ກ	ph	as in <u>pet</u>	ພູ້ສຳພາວ	ສຳເກາ	a sailing vessel
ມ	m	as in <u>may</u>	mູ້ມາ	ມາ	a horse
ຍ	j	as in <u>you</u>	jູ້ຈາກ	ຈັກຂ່າ	a giant
ຮ	r	as in <u>red</u>	rູ້ຮຽ	ຮຽ	a boat

The consonants, classified in the “Thai Alphabet” order (continued)

Symbol	Phonetics	English	Name		
ล	l	as in <u>low</u>	ลູ້ ລິງ	ລິງ	a monkey
ວ	w	as in <u>war</u>	ວົວ ວັນ	ແວນ	a ring
ສ	s	as in <u>song</u>	ສົວ ສຳາລາ	ສາລາ	a shelter
ໝ	”	”	ສົວ ຮີສີ	ຖື່ມ	a hermit
ສ	”	”	ສົວ ສູ້າ	ເສືອ	a tiger
ໜ	h	as in <u>hat</u>	ຫຼົວ ຫິບ	ຫິບ	a large box
ີ	l	as in <u>low</u>	ລູ້ ຜຸ້າ	ຈຸໍາ	a male fighting kite
ອ	? (glottal stop)	as in <u>uh ha</u>	?ົວ ?ານ	ອ້າງ	a basin
ໝ	h	as in <u>hat</u>	ໂຮງ ໂກສູກ	ນກສູກ	an owl

Note:

- Throughout the first lesson, the phonetic transcription, as used in the Thai-English Student’s Dictionary written by Mary Haas, is used to show how a word is pronounced.

2. Character ‘ຂ’

If used in the initial position of a syllable or a word, its function is to carry a vowel because a vowel cannot stand alone. e.g. ອາຫາຣ (food), ອົນ (fat), ອອກ (exit). If used in the middle of a syllable, it functions as a vowel /ɔɔ/ e.g. ນອກ (to tell).

3. The following consonants do not have similar sounds in English:

3.1 ປ and ຜ Representing /t/. A single sound which is somewhere between a /d/ sound and a /t/ sound in English. Many learners find it hard to distinguish it from /th/.

3.2 ປ Representing /p/. A single sound which is somewhere between a /b/ sound and a /p/ sound in English. Many learners find it hard to distinguish it from /b/.

3.3 ວ Representing /ŋ/. A single sound which is found in English at the end of words like *wrong* and *song*. Some English speakers find it hard to make this sound at the beginning of a word. For example, in Thai: ວຽນ (ŋaan) work, ວູ້ (ŋuu) snake, ພ່າຍ (ŋâaj) easy.

Exercise 3

Write down the consonants that represent each sound in the **initial** position:

- | | |
|---------|----------|
| 1. /k/ | 11. /ph/ |
| 2. /f/ | 12. /kh/ |
| 3. /m/ | 13. /ŋ/ |
| 4. /r/ | 14. /c/ |
| 5. /l/ | 15. /ch/ |
| 6. /w/ | 16. /s/ |
| 7. /h/ | 17. /j/ |
| 8. /?/ | 18. /d/ |
| 9. /t/ | 19. /th/ |
| 10. /p/ | 20. /n/ |
| | 21. /b/ |

Exercise 4

Find six pairs of words below that have the same **initial** consonant sound. Write down the pairs in the table provided.

ฝาก มาก พืน ขาว ชรา หา สูง นา ผ้า
โซ่ ตาม ลง งา ลา ตา ฆ่า พ่อ พื่อ

Aspirated and unaspirated consonants

Aspirated consonants: consonants with the sound of ‘h’ and unaspirated consonants, are clearly separated from each other in Thai. Thai sounds /p/, /t/, and /k/ (unaspirated) must be distinguished from Thai /ph/, /th/, and /kh/ (aspirated) respectively because the character can change the meaning of words:

เป็ด /pèd/ means duck เพ็ด /phèd/ means hot, spicy

ตา /taa/ means eye ทา /thaा/ means to paint

ไก่ /kàj/ means chicken ไข่ /khàj/ means egg

The Thai sounds /b/ and /d/ are similar to the English sounds written the same way. They must be carefully distinguished from Thai /p/ and /t/:

ໃບ /baŋj/ (classifier for fruit)	ໄປ /paŋj/ ‘to go’	ภัย /phaj/ ‘danger’
ดี /dii/ ‘to be good’	ตี /tii/ ‘to hit’	ที /thii/ ‘time, instance’

Exercise 5

(Practice in shifting from /t/ to /d/ or from /p/ to /b/)

Repeat the practice below after your instructor. If you can repeat correctly and not too slowly, you are well on the way to controlling your pronunciation of /d/ vs. /t/ and /b/ vs. /p/. Practice them until you can say them easily.

เดือน	/dyan/	‘month; moon’
เตือน	/tyan/	‘to remind, warn’
ตื่น	/t`yyn/	‘to wake up by oneself’
ดื่น	/dy`yyn/	‘abundant, common’
ปิด	/pid/	‘to close; to be closed’
บิด	/bid/	‘to twist’
บอก	/bòwøg/	‘to tell, say to’
ปอก	/pòwøg/	‘to peel’
สตางค์แดง	/sàtaŋdəɛŋ/	‘penny’
เตียงดีและโตด้วย	/tiaŋ dii lé too dûaj/	‘The bed is good and also large’
ประตูโต	/pràtuu duu too/	‘The door looks big’
เปิดประตูโบสถ์	/pèəd pràtuu bòod/	‘Open the temple door’
ปิดประตูโบสถ์	/pid pràtuu bòod/	‘Close the temple door’

Exercise 6

This exercise will allow you to practice distinguishing between two similarly sounding words. Listen carefully as your teacher reads one word from each pair of words below. Circle the word you hear the teacher say.

1. ໃບ ໃປ 2. ໃປ ກ້າຍ 3. ຕີ ຕີ 4. ຕີ ທີ 5. ກາ ດາ 6. ນີ ນີ
7. ດັ ດຸ 8. ພາ ປ່າ 9. ຕາ ທາ 10. ເກ ເເດ 11. ໄຂ ໄກ 12. ປາ ບາ

Consonant sounds in syllable-final position

In spoken Thai, only a few consonants are pronounced as finals. This is because the final consonant sound is not released even though the mouth is positioned to make that sound. Regarding the tone rules, there are 2 types of final consonant sounds in a closed syllable: ‘stops’ and ‘sonorants’.

1. Stops:

/b/ words ending with ບ ປ ພ ກ

/d/ words ending with ຈ ຂ ຊ ວ ອ ສ ດ ຕ ດ ທ ລ ສ ຊ ສ

/g/ words ending with ກ ຂ ດ ພ

2. Sonorants:

/ŋ/ words ending with ງ

/m/ words ending with ມ

/n/ words ending with ນ ປ ວ ລ ພ

/j/ words ending with ຍ

/w/ words ending with ວ

Exercise 7

Repeat the following words ending with the ‘stops’ after your instructor. Concentrate on the final consonant sounds.

1. Words ending with /b/: บ ป พ ภ

คบ ทบ พบ ลบ อบ บາປ ຮູປ ສຽປ ສາປ ທວີປ
ເຕາຣພ ຂູ້ນື່ພ ທັພິພ ແຫພ ລພບຸງ ສພ ອພຍພ ອານື່ພ ກຣາພ ກອລົ່ພ
ປຣາກ ລາກ ໂລກ

2. Words ending with /d/: ຈ ຂ ຊ ດ ດ ຕ ດ ທ ດ ສ ຂ ສ ພ ສ

ຕໍ່າວຈ ອຳນາຈ ບາຂ ເວຊ ໂກໜາ ກໍາຊ ກວ້າມາຍ
ປຣາກ ກນົງ ຮັດ ອັນ ປະເສີນ ມຣຸຖ ວັນ
ພົມນ ກຳ ດັດ ສາດ ສະວາດ ເນຣິມິຕ ທີບເຕ ວິປຣີຕ
ອນຢາຕ ຮດ ບທ ນາທ ປະເກທ ພຸທສ ກໂຮສ ພສ
ສມຍສ ອາກາສ ກຣະດາຊ ໂທຊ ພິຊ ພິເສີຊ
ວິເສີຊ ຮສ ໂບສດ ສວສດී ໂອກາສ

3. Words ending with /g/: ກ ຂ ດ ພ

ຈາກ ຝາກ ນຶກ ຮັກ ຕີກ ສຸກ ເລຂ
ສຸຂ ສຸນົຂ ໂບດ ນາດ ຝາດ ໂຣດ ເມຂ

Exercise 8

Repeat the following words ending with the ‘sonorants’ after your instructor.
Concentrate on the final consonant sounds.

1. Words ending with /ŋ/: ນ

ເກົງ ຮະໜັງ ດັ່ງ ນັກເລົງ ເຮັງ ທັນຈິງ ມວັງ

2. Words ending with /m/: ມ

ແກ້ມ ຂົນມ ແລ້ມ ຂຸນຂນ ນມ ດຣມໝາດີ

ກົມືໃຈ ມອນແມນ ມະຂານ ສມບັດີ

3. Words ending with /n/: ນ ນ ລ ພ

ຂວັງ ເຈິ່ງ ຂາຍ ບຸງ ປຶ້ງຫາ ຮຳຄາງ ໄຫ ດຳນວນ ອຸນຄາ

ທາຮຸນ ໂບຮານ ອຸນ ຂວານ ດນ ຈນ ນານ ປ່ານ ເຮືອນ ກຣ ຈຣາຈຣ ພຣ

ບວຮ ຮາຊກາຣ ຮາຊກුර ທ່າຮ ສົງສາຣ ອມຮ ໂໂຮ ກລ ກາລ ຂາລ

ໜລ ຕຣະກູລ ພຍາບາລ ພຸດບອລ ມູລ ນິລ ຕີລົປ ກາພໂຮກ ທີມີ້

ປລາວາພ

4. Words ending with /j/: ຍ

ເຂຍ ຂາຍ ເຕຍ ເຈຍ ເຫຍ ນາຍ ຜອຍ ຢາຍ ສາຍ ເລຍ

5. Words ending with /w/: ວ

ແກວ ຂາວ ແກວ ແນວ ເຖິຍວ ເປັນຍວ ແພວ ພຣາວ ສາວ

ແວວ ວາວ ອາວ

Exercise 9

Write down the Thai consonants that represent each sound (listed below) when the Thai consonant is in the **final** position:

1. /g/
2. /d/
3. /b/
4. /n/
5. /ŋ/
6. /m/
7. /w/
8. /j/

Exercise 10

Write down the final consonant sound of each word (next to the word given in each box). The first box has been filled in to serve as an example.

ເຄຍ /j/	ໜາງ	ຄຸນ	ຮັດ	ກຣ
ກາຮ	ພນ	ອມຮ	ບາທ	ໝາລ
ດັ່ງ	ຂນມ	ຂາວ	ສົຂ	ໂຣຄ

Exercise 11

Below, there are four pairs of words that have the same **final** consonant sound. Write down the pairs in the table provided.

ໝານ ເລຂ ບາປ ດາດ ເອກ ຊາງ ກາຈ ກາພ

Exercise 12

Identify the type of final consonants of the words from Exercise 11, whether they are ‘stops’ or ‘sonorants’.

ชาน _____
ชาญ _____
เลข _____
เอกสาร _____
คาด _____
ก้าว _____
บำบัด _____
ภาพ _____

The consonant classes

Thai consonants are divided into three groups or classes based on their basic sound. The three classes are called middle, high, and low. This classification is very important as it is the base of the tone rules in the Thai writing system. Remember, one sound may be represented by several different consonants and those consonants can belong to different classes. You have to memorize which consonant belongs to which class:

The middle consonant class (9):

ก จ ภ ภ ด ต บ ป ဓ

The high consonant class (10):

ຂ ຂ ສ ຜ ຜ ຜ ສ ໜ ຫ

The low consonant class (23):

ຄ	ຂ	ງ	ຍ	ຢ	ມ	ຢ	ຫ	ຜ	ລ	ນ	ຫ
ົ	ົ	ົ	ົ	ົ	ົ	ົ	ົ	ົ	ົ	ົ	ົ

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In the table below the consonants are sorted by how they sound and by tone rule class (final three columns).

Sound	English	Middle class	High class	Low class
/k/	G as in go	ก		
/č/	J as in jeep	ຈ		
/d/	D as in day	ດ		
/t/	T as in stop	ຕ		
/b/	B as in boy	ບ		
/p/	P as in spot	ປ		
/ʔ/	Glottal stop	ຂ		
/kh/	K as in key		ຂ	ຄ ຂ
/ch/	Ch as in chair		ຈ	ໜ ວ
/th/	T as in two		ຫ ຕ	ກ ແ ທ ດ
/ph/	P as in pet		ຜ	ພ ຜ
/f/	F as in fun		ຜ	ຝ
/s/	S as in say		ສ ສ ສ	ໜ
/h/	H as in hat		ນ	ໝ
/ŋ/	NG as in song			ງ
/j/	Y as in you			ຢ ຢ
/n/	N as in now			ນ ນ
/m/	M as in may			ມ
/r/	R as in red			ຮ
/l/	L as in low			ລ ພ
/w/	W as in war			ວ

Exercise 13

The instructor will read aloud the nine middle class consonants (with names). Repeat after the instructor and try to associate the sound with each character. Write down the consonant that represents each sound in the box provided below.

Exercise 14

The instructor will read aloud the ten high class consonants. Repeat after the instructor and try to associate the sound with each character. Write down the consonant that represents each sound in the box provided below.

Exercise 15

The instructor will read aloud the first ten low class consonants. Repeat after the instructor and try to associate the sound with each character. Write down the consonant that represents each sound in the box provided below.

Exercise 16

The instructor will read aloud the remaining (13) of the the low class consonants. Repeat after the instructor and try to associate the sound with each character. Write down the consonant that represents each sound in the box provided below.

Exercise 17

The instructor will read aloud the consonants randomly from each class. Repeat as many times as it takes for you to make the association between sound and script. Write down the consonant that represents each sound in the box provided below.

Exercise 18

The instructor will read aloud the consonants randomly from each class. Repeat as many times as it takes for you to make the association between sound and script. Write down the class of consonant that represents each sound in the box provided below.

Vowels

There are twenty-eight vowel symbols that comprise 9 pairs of short / long single vowels, 4 long single vowels, 3 pairs of combined vowels, plus 4 consonant + vowel combinations. Some vowels are written in front of the consonant, others behind the consonant, above the consonant or below the consonant.

In the Thai language some vowels seem to be longer in duration than other vowels. The vowels which are of brief duration are called *short vowels* while those which are of longer duration are called *long vowels*. It is most important to make the distinction between short and long vowels regarding the tone rules.

Most combined vowels have no equivalent in English. Combined consonants and vowels: ດ ດາ ກ ກາ are rare. Vowels ໃ- ໃ- ໄ- ໄ- have short sounds but are classified as long vowels when applying the tone rules. The practices below will help you hear and pronounce long and short vowels. Listen carefully while the instructor pronounces them and try to imitate him as exactly as you can.

Vowel Chart With Sound Description

Short vowels			Long vowels		
Symbol	Phonetics	Sound Description	Symbol	Phonetics	Sound Description
- া	/ɑ/	as in open 'u' sound, as in gun	- া	/aa/	as in 'a' sound in father
- ি	/i/	as in tip	- ী	/ii/	as in teak
- ়	/y/	no English equivalent	- ়া	/yy/	as /y/ but the tongue remains raised for a longer sound
- ু	/u/	as in foot	- ূ	/uu/	as in tooth
- ে	/e/	as in ten	- ো	/ee/	as in take
- ়ে	/ɛ/	as in tax	- ৌ	/ɛɛ/	as in fair
- ৰ	/o/	as in poke	- ৱ	/oo/	as in low
- ৱ	/ɔ/	as in top	- ়ো	/ɔɔ/	as in tore

Vowel Chart With Sound Description (continued)

Short vowels			Long vowels		
Symbol	Phonetics	Sound Description	Symbol	Phonetics	Sound Description
ເ - ອະ	/ə/	as in love	ເ - ອ	/əə/	as in bird
ເ - ເຢະ	/ia?/	no English equivalent (rare)	ເ - ເຢ	/ia/	as in beer
ເ - ອະ	/ya?/	no English equivalent (rare)	ເ - ອ	/ya/	a combination of /y/ and /a/
ໝງວ	/ua?/	no English equivalent (rare)	ໝງ	/ua/	as in brewer
ດ	/ry?/	no English equivalent (rare)	ດາ	/ryy/	no English equivalent (rare)
ກ	/ly?/	no English equivalent (rare)	ກາ	/lyy/	no English equivalent (rare)

Note: 1. A hyphen (-) indicates where the consonant is located in relation to vowels.

2. ເ - ເຢະ /-ia?/ , ເ - ອະ /-ya?/ , ໝງວ /-ua?/ are rare and mostly used for transcribing foreign words e.g. ເກີຍະ (Chinese wooden sandals), ຂນມເປີຍະ (Chinese bean cake), ໂອຍ້ວະ (hot coffee, Chinese).

3. Consonant + vowels: ດ ດາ ກ ກາ are extremely rare.

Exercise 19

The instructor will pronounce the words in pairs of either short and then long vowels; or of long and then short vowels. Listen carefully and repeat each pair in a loud, clear voice. Then write down your answers in the space provided below.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

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The following table shows all possible combinations of vowels and consonants in both 'open' and 'closed' syllables:

Vowels		Syllables		Vowels change form in closed syllables
Short	Long	Open	Closed	
-ະ		ກະ	ກະ + ນ = ກັນ	-ະ changed to ໝ
	-າ	ກາ	ກາ + ນ = ການ	
ົ		ກື	ກື + ນ = ກືບ	
ີ		ກີ	ກີ + ນ = ກີບ	
ຶ		ກຶ	ກຶ + ນ = ກຶບ	
ືອ	ືອ	ກືອ	ກືອ + ນ = ກືບ	ອ replaced by a final consonant
ຸ		ກຸ	ກຸ + ນ = ກຸບ	
ູ		ກູ	ກູ + ນ = ກູບ	
ເ-ະ		ເກະ	ເກະ + ນ = ເກົນ	ເ-ະ changed to ເໝ
ເ-	ເ	ເກ	ເກ + ນ = ເກນ	
ແ-ະ		ແກະ	ແກະ+ ນ = ແກົນ	ແ-ະ changed to ແໝ (rare)
ແ-	ແ	ແກ	ແກ + ນ = ແກນ	
ໂ-ະ		ໂກະ	ໂກະ+ ນ = ກນ	ໂ-ະ disappeared
ໂ-	ໂ	ໂກ	ໂກ + ນ = ໂກນ	
ເ-າະ		ເກາະ	-	
-ອ	ກອ	ກອ + ນ = ກອນ		
ັງ ຂ		ກັງຂ	-	
ັງ	ກັງ	ກັງ + ນ = ກວນ	ັງ disappeared	
ເ-ຍ ຂ		ເກີຍຂ	-	
ເ-ຍ	ເກີຍ	ເກີຍ+ ນ = ເກີຍນ		
ເ-ອ ຂ		ເກີອຂ	-	
ເ-ອ	ເກີອ	ເກີອ+ ນ = ເກີອນ		
ເ-ອະ		ເກອະ	-	
ເ-ອ	ເກອ	ເກອ+ ນ = ເກົບ	ເ-ອ becomes ເໝ (except ເລຍ)	
ໆ	ກໆ		-	
ໄ-	ໄກ		-	
ໃ-	ໄກ		-	
ເ-	ເກາ		-	

Note:

‘open’ syllable : syllable ending in a vocalic sound

‘closed’ syllable: syllable ending in a consonant sound

ກ is used as an example for initial consonant, and ປ is as final consonant

Exercise 20

Identify the initial consonant, the vowel, and the final consonant (if any) of the following words: (The first row has been filled in to serve as an example.)

Word	Initial consonant	Vowel	Final consonant
ຂັບ	ຂ	-ະ	ບ
ຄັນ			
ນາທ			
ນທ			
ເລາະ			
ເຕັກ			
ແກງ			
ໄປ			
ມືອ			
ຄືນ			
ແຂ້ງ			
ສວນ			
ບອກ			
ເດີນ			
ເລຍ			
ເປີດ			
ປິດ			
ພຸດ			
ນະ			
ດີກ			
ເຕາ			
ຈໍາ			
ໄປ			
ໃນ			
ລະ			
ມີ			
ດຸ			
ກາ			

Exercise 21

Identify each word if the initial consonant is high / mid/ or low class, if the vowel is short or long, and if the final consonant is ‘stop’ or ‘sonorant’.

The first row has been filled in to serve as an example.

Word	Initial consonant			Vowel		Final consonant	
	HC	MC	LC	Short	Long	Stop	Sonorant
ขับ	ຂ			-ະ		ນ	
คัน							
บท							
บท							
เลาะ							
เด็ก							
แกง							
ໄປ							
มีอ							
คืน							
แข็ง							
สวน							
บอก							
เดิน							
เลย							
เปิด							
ปิด							
พุด							
นะ							
ตีก							
เตา							
จำ							
ใน							
ละ							
มี							
ด							
กາ							

Exercise 22

The instructor will lead you in spelling the following words. Pronounce them aloud to see how spelling helps with pronunciation:

ก า ท ี ค ា เ ก็ ง แ ด ง ท ა ง

ອ າ ແ ກ ง ก ັ ້ງ ນ ໂມ ພາ ກ ຍາ ແ ເ ກ ບ ດ ອ ບ ເ ໒ ໄ ນ

THE TONES

Tip of the Day

In Thai, using the right tone is crucial to convey the correct meaning of a word. The use of the wrong tone often causes confusion. In the Thai writing system, the tone mark is used to indicate tone of a word or syllable. But remember that tone marks do not always represent the same tone; and words without a tone mark can be pronounced with tone.

Tones of a Syllable without Tone Mark

- I. Each Thai syllable, with or without a tone mark, is pronounced with a tone—one of the five tones: level, low, falling, high, and rising.
- II. There are 3 factors which determine the tone of a syllable:
 1. Type of initial consonant: high class, middle class, or low class
 2. Type of vowel: short vowel or long vowel
 3. Type of ending of a final consonant: ‘stop’ or ‘sonorant’ (in a closed syllable)

Stop: syllable ending in a /b/, /d/, /g/ sounds

Sonorant: syllable ending in a /m/, /n/, /ŋ/, /j/, /w/ sounds

Summary of the tone rules:

Tone rules: high class consonants

HC + S	=	low	HC + L	=	rising
HC + S + Stop	=	low	HC + L + Stop	=	low
HC + S + Sonorant	=	rising	HC + L + Sonorant	=	rising

Tone rules: middle class consonants

MC + S	=	low	MC + L	=	level
MC + S + Stop	=	low	MC + L + Stop	=	low
MC + S + Sonorant	=	level	MC + L + Sonorant	=	level

Tone rules: low class consonants

LC + S	=	high	LC + L	=	level
LC + S + Stop	=	high	LC + L + Stop	=	falling
LC + S + Sonorant	=	level	LC + L + Sonorant	=	level

Note: HC = high class consonant
MC = middle class consonant
LC = low class consonant
S = short vowel
L = long vowel

Examples of HC tone rules:

ສີ sì?	(particle)	ຫາ hǎa	(look for)	ຂັບ khàb	(Drive)
ໜີບ hiib	(Box)	ສຳນັກ sǎam	(There)	ຈັນ chǎn	(I)
ສົນນະ řǔam	(Wear)	ໜາມ mǎa	(Dog)	ຫິນ hǐn	(Stone)
ຂອນ khɔ̄w	(ask for)	ຄາມ thǎam	(Ask)	ຝານ fǒn	(Rain)
ສອງ řɔ̄wŋ	(Two)	ຜູກ phùug	(Tie)	ແຂກ khèg	(Guest)
ຜັດ phàd	(To fry)	ຜິດ phìd	(Wrong)	ໜົດ mòd	(Finished)
ຄາດ thàad	(Tray)	ໜກ hòg	(Six)		

Examples of MC tone rules:

ດຸ dùu	(Cruel)	ຈະ cà?	(Will)	ປະ pà?	(Meet)
ເຕະ tè?	(Kick)	ກະ kà?	(Estimate)	ຕີ tì?	(To blame)
ກຽງ kruŋ	(Town)	ບິນ bin	(To fly)	ໃຈ cai	(Heart)
ດຳ dam	(Black)	ເດືຍາ diaw	(One only)	ຕຽງ trɔ̄ŋ	(Straight)
ເອາ ?aw	(Want)	ຈນ con	(Poor)	ໄກລ klaj	(Far)
ນອກ bò̄wg	(To tell)	ຈຸບ cùub	(To kiss)	ຕິບ dib	(Unripe)
ຕກ tòg	(Fall)	ຕັດ tàd	(Cut)	ເກັບ kèb	(Keep)
ປຶດ pid	(Close)	ຈັບ càb	(Seize)	ບາທ bàad	(Baht)

Examples of LC tone rules:

ແລະ lε	(And),	ເພຣະ phrō?	(Because)		
ຄໍາ kham	(Word)	ชา chaa	(Tea)	ທໍາ tham	(Make, do)
ນາ naa	(Field)	ຊູ້ຖູນ	(Snake)	ນາ maa	(Corne)
ຮາຄາ rakhaa	(Price)	ລົມ lom	(Wind)	ໝໍມ chom	(Admire)
ນາກ māag	(Many)	ຮູບ rûub	(Picture)	ເຮືຍກ rîag	(Call)
ພຸດ phûud	(Speak)	ຢືດ jŷyd	(Stretch)	ຍາກ jâag	(Difficult)
ພັກ phág	(Reset)	ຄຸກ khúg	(Prison)	ຮັກ rág	(Love)
ລດ lód	(Decrease)	ດີດ khíd	(Think)		

Exercise 23
Tone exercises High-Class consonants

Each student takes turn reading through the following words. Note the tone of each.

ເສັ້ຈ	ເຂັ້ມ	ຜືນ	ຄ້ວ	ສ່າຍ
ຝັກ	ແຂ້ງ	ຫາຍ	ສັດວ	ໜີ
ັກ	ຂວານ	ສາຍ	ໜຸນ	ເລື້ຍ
ສວນ	ຂັດ	ໜັ້ງ	ຄ່ານ	ສູງ
ທົງ	ຈລາດ	ທອ	ເໜື້ອ	ຫລາຍ
ແພລ	ສີບ	ຫາວ	ຖຸ	ສ້າງ
ຝັວ	ຄ້ວຍ	ເຂີຍນ	ຜອນ	ຫົ່ງ
ສູນຍົງ	ສີ	ຂາວ	ທັງິງ	ຫອນ

Exercise 24
Tone exercises Middle Class consonants

Each student will take turns reading through the following words. Note the tone of each.

ອຍາງ	ຕລາດ	ເປັນ	ກັດ	ປິນ
ແຕ	ອື່ນໆ	ແບ່ງ	ໃຈ	ເຕືອນ
ແಡກ	ຈັງ	ກີ	ອານ	ເຕັກ
ຈ່າຍ	ປລຸກ	ບຸຕຣ	ກະບ່ອງ	ກັນ
ແບບ	ອຍາກ	ດື່ມ	ອັນ	ປູ
ກິນ	ເຈີດ	ປິດ	ເຕັມ	ປລ່ອຍ
ນ່າຍ	ກິ່ງ	ອ່ອນ	ອ່ານ	ຕູ
ເກົ້ບ	ເປັ້ນຍັນ	ເກີນ	ອອກ	ເກີດ

Exercise 25
Tone exercises High and Middle Class consonants.

Each student will take a turn reading through the following words. Note the tone of each.

กล่าว to mention	ส่วน as for	เจ้าของ owner	ป่า forest	หนี้ debt
ขณะ whilst	แก้ว glass	ปฏิบัติ behave	สังขยา custard	ถั่ว beans
ศึกษา education	สิ่ง thing	อิ่ม full	บิดา father	หนึ่ง one
สัตว์ animal	ด่าง faded	บุบ dented	แฉง smiling	ประกติ usual
แผ่นดิน earth	ปฏิเสธ deny	ฝรั่ง foreigner	เผา尸 cremate	สบู่ soap
ต้ม ^๑ boil	ถ้ำ cave	หมาก hat	ผุน dust	ตำบล district
ถึง ^๒ reach	บวม swollen	ห่าง far from	อาศัย take shelter	ตีไข่ beat eggs
ปลั้ง ^๓ shining	อ้วน fat	ศาสตร์ science	หอม fragrant	บึง ^๔ a swamp

Exercise 26
Tone exercises Low Class consonants.

Each student will take turns reading through the following words. Note the tone of each.

คน person	ครึ่ง half	ฆ่า ^๑ kill	งาน work	เงียบ ^๒ quiet
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ช้อน spoon	ใช่ it is	ทราย sand	เยี่ยม visit	เธอ she
ธุรก business	ทา paint	นั้น that	นี่ this	พัน thousand
เย็บ to sew	พื้น floor	ฟัง listen	ไฟ fire	ฟ้า the sky
มัน grease	ไม้ wood	ล้อ wheel	เชิญ invite	ร้อง cry out
โทรเลข telegram	เมือง city	ลง down	ลวด wire	ยุง mosquito
และ and	วัน day	ว่า say	เรียก to call	เลือก choose
โทษ punishment	เมื่อ when	มุ้ง mosquito net	เช็ด wipe	นึก think
นาน long time	เล่น play	ญาติ relatives	น้ำมัน oil	ชีวิต life

Exercise 27

Identify the tone of the following words:

Words	Tones
ชาน	
ปาก	
พลาด	
ลึก	
ชน	
เหนี้ยว	
กรวด	
เร็ว	
มีด	
แข็ง	

Exercise 28

Identify the tones of the following words:

Words	Tones
ขับ	
คัน	
นาท	
บท	
เลาะ	
เด็ก	
แกง	
ไป	
มือ	
คืน	
แข็ง	
สวน	
บอก	
เดิน	
เลย	
เปิด	
ปิด	
พูด	
นะ	
ตีก	
เตา	
จำ	
ใน	
ละ	
มี	
ดุ	
กາ	

Tone marks

These are the four tone marks (written symbols) with their names:

máaj ?eeg

máaj thoo

máaj trii

máaj càdtawaa

This textbook will use the following phonetic symbols to mark the tone of a syllable or a word when it is shown in phonetic transcription. This is in reference to the tones as sounds, not as written symbols:

Description	Level	Low	Falling	High	Rising
phonetic symbols	Unmarked	'	^	'	<
Example of tones	ກາ (kāa)	ຂ້າ (khāa)	ຫ້າ (hāa)	ໄຕະ (tō?)	ຈ້າ (cāa)

Tones of a Syllable with Tone Mark

1. The length of the vowel and the type of ending do **not** interfere when the first consonant of a syllable carries a tone mark.
2. The *normal* position of the tone mark is over the initial consonant of the syllable or word. (If the initial consonant already carries an superscript vowel, the tone mark is placed above it). When the syllable-initial is double, the tone mark is placed above the second consonant, even though the tone is determined by the first consonant.

ห้อง นี มี ໂດຍ ແລະ ເກົ້າ ອຍ່າງ ລະ ສີຕັງ
ເຂາ ຫຼື ຕົວ ທນັງ ມີ

máaj?èeg tone rules:

This tone mark represents two different tones depending on the class of the initial consonant:

- If máaj ?èeg occurs on a low class initial consonant, the tone will be a **falling** tone.
- If the initial consonant is either mid class or high class, then the tone is **low**.

ค khûu	(Pair)	แม่ mâe	(Mother)	พ่อ phâo	(Father)
ไม mâj	(No, Not)	ง่าย ŋâaj	(Easy)	วิ่ง wîng	(Run)
รวม rûam	(Together)	นั่ง nânj	(Sit)	เท่า thâw	(Equal)
ก่อน kòon	(Before)	กี่ kîi	(How many)	เก่า kâw	(Old)
ไก่ kâj	(Chicken)	ป่า pâa	(Forest)	เต่า tâw	(Tortoise)
ส่ง 送出	(Send)	ห่าน hâan	(Goose)	สี่ sîi	(Four)

máaj thoo tone rules:

This tone mark represents two different tones, depending on the class of the initial consonant:

- If máaj thoo occurs on a low class initial consonant, the tone will be **high**.
- If the initial consonant is either mid class or high class, then the tone is **falling**.

ม้า mâa	(Horse)	น้ำ náam	(Water)	ไว้ wâj	(Keep)
น้อย nôw j	(A little)	ซ้าย sâaj	(Left side)		
เก้า kâaw	(Nine)	จ้าง câaj	(To hire)	ต้อง tông	(Must)
ต้น tôn	(Tree)	ได้ dâaj	(Can)	บาง bâaj	(Some)
ปีง pîng	(Roast)	กุ้ง kûng	(Prawn)	ใกล้ klâj	(Near)
ข้าง khâaj	(Side)	ขึ้น khîn	(Up)	ผ้า phâa	(Cloth)
ส้อม sôm	(Fork)	ส้ม sôm	(Orange)	ห้าม hâam	(Forbid)
ให้ hâj	(To permit)	ถ้า thâa	(If)	ห้าหâa	(Five)

máaj trii and máaj càdtawaa tone rules:

These two tone marks are much less frequently encountered than the other tone marks, and **never** occur on a low or high class initial consonant. **máaj trii** always produces a high tone, and **máaj càdtawaa** always produces a rising tone on a middle class consonant. There are very few of these words.

ໂຕະ to? (Table) ດຸ tu? (Fat, plump) ຈະ cá? (A final particle)

ເດືອນນີ້ díaw níi (Now) ຕຳ tǔa (Ticket) ບ່ອຍ bǒj (Waiter)

Exercise 29

Identify the tones of the following words:

ໄມ່ ກ່າຍ ວິງ ນັ້ງ ກ່ອນ ສັ້ນ ໄດ້ ບ້າງ ນ້ອຍ ຂ້າຍ ສ້ວນ ສົມ
ໜ້າມ ມ້າ ນ້ຳ ໄວ ສົ່ງ ທ່ານ ສີ່ ກ່ອນ ກີ່ ເກ່າ ຈີ່ ບ່ອຍ

Tip of the Day

Don't be apprehensive about the tone rules. In most cases the word you intend to use will be made clear by the context of the sentence even though your tone may not be quite correct. The best way to learn the tones is to listen to the native speakers. With extensive practice in listening, imitating, speaking, and reading aloud, students start to get the feel of the sounds of the language.

THE TONE RULES: An Overview on the chart

	SYLLABLE WITH TONE MARK				SYLLABLE WITH NO TONE MARK					
					VOWEL ENDING		CONSONANT ENDING			
							LONG VOWEL		SHORT VOWEL	
	'	“	”	+	LONG	SHORT	STOP	SON.	STOP	SON.
Middle class: ก ຈ ງ ڇ ດ ຕ ບ ປ ခ	แก	บ้าน	ໂດະ	ตัว	เตี	จะ	ปาก	ajan	ติบ	ติน
	low	falling	high	rising	level	low	low	level	low	level
High class: ຂ ຂ ້ ່ ໊ ໍ ຝ ສ ຂ ສ ທ	ຂ່າວ	ຂ້າວ			ສື່	ສະ	ຄອດ	ຂອງ	ໜັບ	ຄຶງ
	low	falling			rising	low	low	rising	low	rising
Low class: ຄ ຂ ແ ຂ ຂ ຄ ຜ ຖ ນ ພ ກ ນ ຍ ຮ ລ ວ ພ	ແມ	ໜ້າງ			ຢາ	ແລະ	ນາກ	ທາງ	ຮັດ	ຄຸນ
	falling	high			level	high	falling	level	high	level

Stops:

/b/ ບ ປ ພ ພ ກ

/d/ ຈ ຂ ປ ປ ອ ດ ຕ ດ ດ ທ ດ ຕ ດ ຕ ດ ຕ ດ ຕ ດ

/g/ ກ ຂ ຄ ຂ

Sonorants: /ng/ ຈ, /m/ ມ, /y/ ຍ, /w/ ວ, /n/ ນ ພ ນ ລ ພ

Consonant Clusters & Groupings

I. Consonant Clusters: Words or syllables having two initial consonants that can be pronounced together.

There are fifteen consonant clusters. The first element consists of the consonants:

ก ข ค ป ผ พ ຕ

The second element consists of the consonants: ຮ ລ ວ

The co-occurrence restriction of these elements is shown in the following chart:

First Consonant	Second Consonant		
	ຮ	ລ	ວ
ປ	ປງ	ປລ	—
ຜ	—	ຜລ	—
ພ	ພງ	ພລ	—
ຕ	ຕງ	—	—
ກ	ກງ	ກລ	ກວ
ຂ	ຂງ	ຂລ	ຂວ
ຄ	ຄງ	ຄລ	ຄວ

In this case the tone mark is placed over the second consonant although the tone is still determined by the class of the first consonant in the normal manner. For example:

ກວາງ	/kwâang/	wide
ຕຽວ	/truād/	to check
ເປົ້າ	/plaaw/	empty, no

It should be noted that when ງ comes immediately after the first consonant, without a vowel, it is always acting as a vowel itself with the sound of ങ /uə/ and not as a second consonant. In this case the tone mark (if any) will be placed over the first consonant in the normal manner:

ขวด	/khùad/	bottle
ป่วย	/pùaj/	sick
ม่วง	/mûang/	purple

Other example of consonants clusters:

ปลา	plaɑ	fish
กลาง	klaɑŋ	middle
กรง	kroŋ	cage
เพลง	phleenŋ	song
คลอง	khɔŋ	canal
ตรง	troŋ	straight
พรุน	phrom	rug
ครู	khruu	teacher
กว่า	kwàa	(more/ less) than
หวาน	khwǎan	ax
ผลิ	phli	to bud
พระ	phrá?	monk
ขลาด	khlàad	cowardly
ขรุขระ	khrù?khrà?	bumpy (e.g. a street)

II. Consonant Groupings: Initial consonant with any combination of two consonants other than clusters and share the same vowel.

1. There are implied vowels /ɑ/ or /ɔɔ/ in between the two consonants when pronounced.

1.1 With vowel /ɑ/ in between

ทวีป thawîib continent

พยายาม phajaaajaam to try

จราจร caraacooon traffic

In some words the vowel /ɑ/ is represented in writing by the symbol -়

สะอาด sa?াাad to be clean

สะดวก sadুাগ to be convenient

สะพาน saphaan bridge

1.2 In a few words which have র as the second consonant, it is usually pronounced with an inherent /ৱ/ between the two consonants.

มรสุม moɔrasum season of wind and storm

มรกต moɔrakod emerald

บริเวณ bɔɔriween neighborhood

บริษัท bɔɔrisad company

บริบูรณ์ bɔɔribuuŋ plentiful, complete

জরাখে় coɔrakhêe crocodile

2. Tone of the syllable with consonant groupings:

2.1 The class of the first consonant determines the tone of the first syllable; the class of the second consonant determines the tone of the second syllable.

ทหาร thahăan soldier

สบาย sabaaj to be comfortable

อนุญาต ?anújâad permission

สภาพ saphâab condition

อธิบาย ?athíbaaj to explain

2.2 There are two exceptions to the above rule:

- If the first consonant is a high consonant and the second consonant is a low consonant, the low consonant changes to a high consonant and is pronounced according to the rules for high consonants:

สมัย samáj time, period, era

สมุด samùd notebook

สนุก sanùg enjoyable

สงบ sañòb peaceful

สรุป sarùb to summarize

- If the first consonant is a middle consonant and the second consonant is a low consonant, the low consonant changes to a middle consonant and is pronounced according to the rules for middle consonants:

ตลาด talàad market

อร่อย ?aròj delicious

จมูก camùug nose

Tip of the Day

There are many special cases in which long vowels are read short or short vowels are read long. The following general statements will help you recognize the length of the vowel in some irregular words.

The irregular length of the vowel symbols

1. The long vowels ㅔ- /ee/, ӕ- /ɛɛ/, ㅗ- /oɔ/, ㅏ- /aa/, ㅓ- /əə/, ㅡ- /əm/, ㅚ- /aj/, ㅟ- /ɑj/, and ㅕ- /aw/ are usually pronounced short in a syllable that has a final consonant plus tone marks.

เล่น	lēn	แผน	phèn	ท่าน	thān	เงิน	ñən
ໄປ	paj	เช่น	chēn	ແໜ່ງ	hɛ̄ŋ	ມັກ	hōŋ
ເປົ່ນ	pèn	ໃນ	naj	ເວັນ	wén	ສອງ	sòŋ
ຕອງ	tōŋ	ເຂົາ	khâw	ເກົ່າ	kèŋ	ນ້ອຍ	bòj
ແຈ້ງ	cɛw	ທໍາ	tham				

2. Vowel ㅓ- When this form occurs with two consonants in the middle, it is not always easy to tell whether it is to be considered as the compound vowel or as the two simple vowels ㅓ- or ㅓ-. Apart from knowing the word there is no way of determining which of the two possible pronunciations is the correct one in these cases.

ㅓ- is treated as a compound vowel if the two consonants in the middle are consonant clusters:

เปล่า /plàcw/ no, empty

เครา /khraw/ beard

If the two consonants are consonant groupings, they are pronounced with an inherent /ɑ/: เฉล้า /chalǎw/ beautiful

In other cases, ㅓㅓ is treated as two separate simple vowels ㅓ and ㅓ

เวลา /weelaɑ/ time

เสา /səemaa/ boundary stone of temple

3. The following words vary in pronunciation:

Used alone

นำ náam

ไม้ máaj
májkhiid

Final syllable

แม่น้ำ mɛnáam

ผลไม้ phónlamáaj

First syllable

นำตาล námtaan

นำชา námchaa

ไม้ชีด

There is only one word whose vowel symbol ㅓㅓ /aw/ is always pronounced long when it has the low tone: เปลา /plàaw/

4. In a few common words in which the final consonants are double:

สามารถ sǎcamâad able to

มิตร míd friend

เครื่องจักร khrŷaŋcág machine

Or the vowels ㅓ and ㅡ though written, are not sounded.

ญาติ jâad relative

ชาติ /châad/ nation

ภูมิ /phuum/ earth, place (chiefly in compounds)

เหตุ /hèed/ cause

Spelling peculiarities

- a) Certain Thai consonants when written together have a sound different to that of either of them by themselves.

ທ ຕ ສ are usually pronounced as /s/

ທຣາບ	/sâab/	to know
ທຣາຍ	/saaj/	sand
ທຣັພຍ	/sáb/	wealth
ສີ	/síi/	splendor
ສັງ	/sâanj/	to build

except in

ນິທຣາ	/níd thraa/	to sleep
ຈັນທຣາ	/can thraa/	moon
ສີຣະ	/sàriirá?/	bodily strength
ສຽບ	/sarùb/	to summarize

- b) **Consonant ສ used in special cases**

In final position: ສ is read /-n/ when in syllable-final position and when **preceded** by a written vowel.

ອາຫາຮ	/?aahčaan/	(food)
-------	------------	--------

In word-medial position: ສ can be final or an initial, read /-n/ or /rá?/ but cannot have both functions.

ມາຮດາ	/maanda/	(mother)
ວາຮສາຮ	/waara?sčan/	(magazine)
ສາຮບານຢ	/sáara?baan/	(table of contents, index)

Exception:

ເຈຮຈາ	/ceenra?caa/	(to negotiate)
-------	--------------	----------------

In final position ສ is read /-ວອນ/ in a syllable in which **no** written vowel occurs.

นคร	/ná?khວອນ/	(city)
ราชภูมิ	/râadsa?dວອນ	(populace)

Exception: The following word is to be memorized, as it is the only word with silent ສ behind ຄ.

จริง	/cínj/	to be true
------	--------	------------

c) **The double consonant ສສ** is sometimes used in place of the vowel ະ -.

พรรດ	/phág/	a political party
สรรพ	/sàb/	altogether

If there is no final consonant in the syllable a final unwritten /n/ is understood.

บรรทุก	/banthúg/	to load
พรรษา	/phansăa/	rain season

d) Sometimes one consonant in the middle of a word acts as the final consonant of one syllable and the initial consonant of the next and thus carries both its final and initial sounds.

ผลไม้	/phõnlamáaj/	fruit
พลเมือง	/phonlamyাং/	population

Here the ລ is the final consonant of the first syllable containing the inherent /o/ and therefore has the final sound of /n/. But it is also considered as the initial consonant of the second syllable and therefore has the initial sound of /l/ and is followed by the short inherent /ায়/. Again in the word:

ภรรยา	/phanrajaa/	wife
-------	-------------	------

Here the ຮຣ takes the place of the vowel ະ, but the final ສ also acts as the initial consonant of the second syllable followed by an inherent /ায়/.

SPECIAL SYMBOLS

- 1) THE REPETITION SYMBOL: ຍ ຍມກ /jamóg/

It is used to show that the previous word or group of words is to be repeated.

A space is to be left before and after 『

Ex. บ่อย /bɔ̄j/ (often)
บ่อย ๆ /bɔ̄jbɔ̄j/ (very often)

- 2) THE ABBREVIATION SYMBOL: ฯ ໄປຢາລນ້ອຍ /paj jaan nōj/

It is used to abbreviate long names.

A space is to be left before and after “”

Ex.	กรุงเทพฯ	/krungthêep/	(Bangkok)
	กรุงเทพมหานคร	/krungthêepmahānakhōɔn/	

- 3) THE “ETC” SYMBOL: ແລ້ວ ໄປຢາລໃຫຍ້ /pa(j)jaanjàj/

When spoken it is pronounced very short ລະ /lāʔ/

A space is to be left before and after ၁၈၁

- #### 4) THE SILENCE SYMBOL การันต์ /kaaran/

It is often used above a consonant to show that the letter is not pronounced. Then the letter does not interfere in the tone of the syllable. The symbol usually occurs on the word final consonant.

Generally it cancels the consonant over which it is placed:

พิมพ์	phim	to print
อาจารย์	accaan	professor, teacher

But sometimes it cancels the last two consonants or consonants and vowel,

พระจันทร์	phrá?can	the moon
บริสุทธิ์	bɔɔrísùd	pure

5. THE SHORT VOWEL MARKER: ּ (máaj tāj khúu)

This symbol is added to two simple vowels: ֶ-ָ and ֹ-ָ. The vowels have to be changed when words have final consonants. For example:

ເດັກ	=	ເດືອກ
ແຂ່ງ	=	ແຂ້ງ

There is one word to memorize as it is built up of a single consonant carrying the short vowel marker: ກົ້ /kôw/ meaning ‘then, consequently’.

6. CONSONANT + VOWEL COMBINATION: ຄ ຄາ ກ ກາ

ຄ is the only one remain in use. ຄ can have three different pronunciations depending on the word in which it is met:

/rí?/ as in ອັງກຽດ /?oŋkriàd/ (English)

/rý?/ as in ດຸ /rýduu/ (season)

ຄື່ /rysíi/ (hermit)

/rəə/ as in ຄົກຊີ້ /rêəg/ (auspicious time)

ຄ occurs between ຮ and ລ in the consonant alphabetical order.

THAI HANDWRITING

Although Thai letters are printed and handwritten in different sizes and styles, the basic form is always the same. The following cartoon excerpts show Thai hand written text. Below the cartoon, a printed version of the text is provided for comparison. At this stage in your training you probably will not be able to read the text, but the hand written form is being introduced to you to increase your familiarity with it.

Exercise 30

Divide the class into two groups. When the teacher says begin, each group will try to identify as many Thai words as possible from the hand written version. The group that finds the most words is the winner.

A:



ผู้ใหญ่มา กับ ทุ่ง หมา เมิน

“ครม.มีมติ	“ เรามีแต่รถคัน	“มีซี	“รถเล็ก	“เล็กซ์สไ...โน”
ให้รัฐมนตรี	ใหญ่ๆแพงๆ	มีรถเล็ก	ใหญ่ครับ?”	
ใช้รถเล็ก	ทั้งนั้น ไม่มีรถ	อยู่คัน”		
เพื่อการประ	เล็กเลยครับ”			
หยัด วันนี้				
เอารถเล็ก				
ออก”				

B:



ผู้ใหญ่มา กับ ทุก หมา เมิน

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| “คุณหมออคค
โทรสั่งพิมพ์ถือ
มีอันตรายต่อผู้ใช้
จริงหรือค่ะ?” | “เป็นความจริง
มีผู้ได้รับอันตราย
ถึงขั้นเสียชีวิต
เกิดขึ้นแล้วใน
เมืองไทย” | “เสียชีวิต
เพราะมะเร็ง
สมองหรือ
คง?” | “เสียชีวิตเพราะ
โกรหานเพื่อนแก้
เหงาในรายการ
เพื่อนกัน ๑๗๐๐” |
|--|--|---|---|

C:



ผู้ใหญ่มา กับ ทุ่ง หมา เมิน

“ตลาดหลักทรัพย์
รายงานว่า มีสัญญาณ
ส่อว่าตลาดหุ้น
อุปกรณ์ภาวะกำลัง
ไปหัวข้อนี้อีกครั้ง”

“อะไรมัน... ตั้งแต่
กระแสติดอุปกรณ์
300 มาเป็นปีๆ
นะ เอาอะไรมาก
วัดว่ากำลังจะตีขึ้น?”

“มีนักลงทุน
หน้าใหม่ๆ เข้า
มาสู่ตลาดหุ้น
เบนคนใช้
คนขับรถ และ
คนเฝ้ายานม”

Tip of the Day

Cognates: There are no cognates in the Thai language. This is because the Thai language belongs to a different ‘language family’ of English. However, many new technological inventions have appeared during these ‘modern times’ and the Thai language has simply borrowed many English words even though technological Thai words exist.

English used in Thai

A foreign word in Thai is usually pronounced as a Thai word, for example: the words “apple” will be pronounced as ?ébpén, “Central, Department Store” as senthân, “Shell Gas” as cheen géed, “Christmas” as kridsamâad, etc. That is the *l* sound is replaced by the *n* sound, the *s* sound at the end of the word is replaced by the *d* sound, and the tones are added. All of these are changed to conform to the Thai system of pronunciation. Thais who know some English are likely to pronounce English loan-words in a more proper way.

Recognize borrowings

Even though borrowings are numerous in Thai, they are often hard to recognize. Students should always pay attention to the consonants, vowels, and syllabification. Writing foreign words in the Thai alphabet, every letter from the original word will be retained. But if some letters are not pronounced (released), the silent mark will be posted above that letter.

Example: Cartoon > การ์ตูน

‘r’ as final consonant of the first syllable in the English word “cartoon” which is not pronounced in Thai, so the silent mark is posted above the letter ‘ร’

Daily News > เดลินิวส์
“News”
silent

‘s’ as final consonant of the English word which is not pronounced in Thai, so the mark is posted above the letter ‘ສ’

Exercise 31

Look at the label below. Can you tell what product is advertised here? What is the brand name of the product?



Exercise 32

Look at the image below. What are the same words in English?



Exercise 33

Write the English words for the following borrowings written in Thai:

Thai	English
คอมพิวเตอร์	
ฟาร์ม	
แฮนเบอร์เกอร์	
วอชิงตัน	
เกมส์	
โอลิมปิก	
แสตมป์	
เทป	
ซีดี	
โน้ต	
ไข่นี่	
ไดโนเสาร์	
เลนส์	

Exercise 34

Below is a news excerpt from a Thai newspaper. All the foreign names in the text are printed in bold. Copy the names down and write them in English in the space provided. The first line has been completed as an example.

เมื่อ ๑๗ ก.ย. ทหารรักษาดินฟิลิปปินส์กว่า ๔,๐๐๐ คน ยังเดินหน้าคล่ม กบฏ อาบู ไซยาฟ
บนเกาะโซโลทางภาคใต้ ทั้งทางภาคพื้นดิน และอากาศอย่างหนักเป็นวันที่ ๔ คนสูนทของ
ประธานาริบดีโจเซฟ เอสตราดา เพย์ว่า ทหารเห็นนายเจฟฟ์รี ชิลลิง
ตัวประกันชาวอเมริกัน

ยังมีชีวิตอยู่ ส่วนนายริคาร์โด บูโน โฉษกของเอสตราดาเพย์ว่า
ทหารเห็นตัวประกันคนอื่นๆ

บางส่วนในทั้งหมด ๒๒ คน ซึ่งรวมทั้งชาวฟรังเศส ๒ คน ชาวมาเลเซีย ๓ คน
ยังมีชีวิตอยู่ เช่นกัน

และเชื่อว่า ตัวประกันยังไม่ตาย เพราะยังไม่พบศพ

Thai	English
ฟิลิปปินส์	Philippines
อาบู ไซยาฟ	
โซโล	
โจเซฟ เอสตราดา	
เจฟฟ์รี ชิลลิง	
อเมริกัน	
ริคาร์โด บูโน	
ฟรังเศส	
มาเลเซีย	

The general arrangement of a simple Thai sentence is Subject-Verb-Object as in English. As Thai has the object following the verb, it has the features that correlate with this position of verb and object as shown below.

Verb + Adverb + Intensifier:	r̄ian k̄eŋ māag Study well very
Noun + Adjective:	taa s̄uaj Eyes beautiful
Noun + Relative Clause:	s̄amùd th̄ii j̄uu bon t̄o? Notebook that be on table
Noun + Possessive:	dinsōo khōoŋ chān Pencil of I
Noun + Numeral + Classifier:	d̄eg s̄āam khon Child three classifier

There are no articles for use with nouns.

There is no inflection of nouns, pronouns or verb; case, gender, number, tense, etc. being indicated where considered necessary by the addition of other words. Therefore we can call the Thai language “The Isolating Language”.

Possession may be indicated by adding the word /khōoŋ/ (of, belonging to) in front of the noun or pronoun but this is often omitted.

Plurality if not indicated by the text of the sentence may be indicated by adding numeral words.

Inanimate objects have no gender, and where it is necessary to indicate gender in relation to animate objects this is usually done by the addition of extra words.

Adjectives come after the noun they qualify.

Affirmative and interrogative sentences are of the same form; the interrogative sentence being indicated by the addition of an interrogative word, usually at the end of the sentence. When an interrogative sentence contains words such as ‘who’, ‘why’, ‘when’, ‘where’ etc. no other interrogative word is needed.

Being polite: /khráb/ and /khâ?/

An important way of making your speech sound polite in Thai, is to add a polite particle- for which there is no exact English translation- at the end of statements and questions. male speakers say /khráb/ at the end of both questions and statements, while female speakers say /khâ?/ at the end of a question and /khâ?/ at the end of a statement. Thais use these particles when talking to strangers, people of senior status, and in formal situations. For the foreigner, at first, it is probably best to use polite particles when talking to any adult, and risk sounding too polite. When you are more familiar with the language you will see when and with whom you can omit polite particles without appearing rude. /khráb/ and /khâ?/ can also be used on their own as a response, meaning, ‘Yes’, ‘Right’, or ‘O.K.’

/mâj pen raj/

/mâj pen raj/ is how you should respond if someone thanks you. It can be translated as “ You’re welcome”, “It’s a pleasure”, or by any other standard response to thanks. It can also mean “It doesn’t matter”, “Never mind”, “Don’t worry about it”, so it is also an appropriate response to apologies and excuses.

Activity 1

The instructor will show you some flash cards with consonants on them. Pronounce each letter with its name on the card aloud as a class. Always associate the sound with the script.

Activity 2

The instructor will show a chart of the Thai consonants in alphabetical order, then call on individuals randomly to read them aloud. As they are read, repeat them to yourself.

Activity 3

There are three sounds represented by four consonants that don't have equivalents in English. Repeat after the instructor. Then write them down in the space provided. Feel free to repeat this exercise as many times as needed. Remember to associate the sound with the script.

Activity 4

Listen to the following words as your instructor reads them. Then pronounce the first consonant in the word. Listen to the sound that each of the first consonants make. Associate the sound with the script.

ป บ ด ต จ ช ก ง น ห ร

Activity 5

Listen to the following words as your instructor reads them. Then pronounce the final consonant sound in the word (/b, d, g, m, n, ɳ, j, or w/).

ต ล น ท บ ว น น ภ ร

Activity 6

Below are ten Thai words with hyphens where consonants have been removed. Listen as your instructor reads the ten words. As your instructor reads each word, try to fill in the missing consonant.

-ານ -ນ -ງ -າມ -າ ແ-ກ ລ ໃ- -ນ ໄ-

Activity 7

Below is a headline from a Thai newspaper. Look for the middle class, low class, and high class consonants in each word or syllable (if any). Write them down in the space provided.

‘ນັກພະລັດ.’ ຜູ້ຕ່າງ
ວິຄະລ້ານ!
ນາຍທ້າງພາຫຼາ

Middle class										
Low class										
High class										

Activity 8

Listen to a group of Thai words pronounced slowly by the teacher. Then divide the words into two syllables by writing them separately in the space provided.

1.		2.		3.		4.		5.		
6.		7.		8.		9.		10.		

Activity 9

Listen to the words as the instructor pronounces them. Write down the vowel of each word in the space below.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____

6. _____ 7. _____ 8. _____ 9. _____ 10. _____

Activity 10

For each word below fill in the missing vowel to match the spoken word:

1. กง 2. กน 3. กน 4. กบ 5. ต

6. สน 7. ลย 8. ชง 9. กง 10. ต

Activity 11

Below is a headline from a Thai newspaper. Look for the special symbols used in the written text.

เป็นประวัติศาสตร์
มือสองเก่าฯ
ชีวหายใจ

Activity 1

The 42 consonants are placed in the chart below. Separate the middle class consonants, high class, and low class consonants from each other. Write each class of consonants in the blank chart provided below this one. Pronounce each consonant to yourself as you write it.

ກ	ຂ	ຄ	ງ	ງ	ຈ	ຈ
ຂ	ຂ	ຜ	ຜ	ງ	ງ	ງ
ທ	ຜ	ຜ	ດ	ດ	ດ	ທ
ນ	ນ	ນ	ປ	ປ	ຜ	ຜ
ພ	ກ	ນ	ຍ	ຮ	ລ	ວ
ສ	ໝ	ສ	ຫ	ຟ	ອ	ອ

Middle Class Consonants:

High Class Consonants:

Low Class Consonants:

Activity 2

In the chart below, the consonants are ordered alphabetically but several were omitted. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate consonant. Your instructor will check your progress.

ก		ค	ຂ	ງ		ຈ
ຂ	ຂ		ງ			ຈ
	ງ			ດ	ດ	
ດ		บ	ປ		ຜ	
ຜ	ກ		ຍ	ຮ		ຈ
	ຂ	ສ		ຟ	ອ	

Activity 3

Divide the class into two groups. One person from the first group will start off by saying the first letter of the Thai consonants. One person from the other group will say the second letter of the Thai consonants. Continue alternating back and forth between the two groups until someone says the wrong letter. The group with the least amount of wrong letters is the winner. You can make this game as competitive as you want. Feel free to challenge each other at will. (The instructor will post the consonant chart on the board)

Activity 4

Divide the class into two groups. Listen to your instructor say the Thai consonants in a random order. Individually write the script as your teacher says the consonant. Exchange papers with the other group and grade the papers. Give the results to your instructor for a final review. The instructor will declare one of the groups as the winner, based on the least number of errors.

Activity 5

Listen carefully as your instructor reads the designated Thai names of the consonants (as in B is for Boy). Write down the first consonant you hear in each word. Also identify the class of each consonant (middle, high, or low). (Key)

ໄກ ໄຂ គាយ ុ ឃាង មា ເຕັກ ຈານ ເຮືອ ຜິ້ງ ພິນ ຝາ
ធន បລາ ຍັກຫົ່ວ ុ່ូ ແຫວນ ໂឹ່ ຊິ່ງ ເສືອ ອ່າງ ຄຸງ ເຕ່າ ແຫຼິງ

Activity 6

Divide the class into two groups. One person from the first group will start off by saying a short vowel. One person from the second group will say the long vowel of the same pair. Then another person from the second group will say a different short vowel and someone from the first group will say the long vowel of the same pair. Continue alternating back and forth between the two groups until someone says the wrong vowel. The group with the least amount of wrong vowels is the winner. You can make this game as competitive as you want. Feel free to challenge each other at will. (The instructor will post the vowel chart on the board)

Activity 7

Divide the class into two groups. Listen to your instructor say the Thai vowels in a random order. Individually write the script as your instructor says the vowel. Exchange papers with the other group and grade the papers. Give the results to your instructor for a final review. The instructor will declare one of the groups as the winner, based on the least number of errors.

Activity 8

Below are words written with the wrong vowels. Listen to the teacher read these words correctly. Then correct the wrong vowels by copying the words in the space provided with the appropriate vowels.

ກາ ຈານ ລະ ມື ປູ ດ ເຮີຍນ ແຂນ ເກເກ ແກກ

Activity 9

Look at the newspaper article below. Try to find (and circle) one example of every vowel. The first person that finishes with the most vowels is the winner. Also declare the second, third, and fourth place winners. The winner must stand up in front of the class and state what line of text each vowel is in (identify the location of the script).

ศ.ดร.อุทุมพร จำรمان จากภาควิชาวิจัยการศึกษา
คณะครุศาสตร์ จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย ในฐานะประธาน
คณะทำงานศึกษา พัฒนาระบบ การคัดเลือกนักศึกษา
(เงินทรานช์) เปิดเผยว่า คณะทำงานฯ จะเสนอ รายงาน
การศึกษาพัฒนา ระบบคัดเลือก นักศึกษาซึ่งได้สรุปเบื้องต้น
จำนวน 2 หน้าต่อที่ประชุมอธิการบดีแห่งประเทศไทย (ทปอ.)
วันที่ 7 ต.ค.นี้ และจะส่ง รายงานฉบับ สมบูรณ์ปลายเดือน พ.ย.นี้
ซึ่งในรายงาน จะระบุถึงข้อดีข้อเสีย
ของการสอบเงินทรานช์ที่ผ่านมา รวมทั้งเสนอ แนวทาง
แก้ไขทั้งระยะสั้น ระยะกลาง และระยะยาว ทั้งนี้ การเปลี่ยนแปลง
ขึ้นอยู่กับการตัดสินใจของ ทปอ. ซึ่งถ้ามีการเปลี่ยนต้อง^ก
ประกาศล่วงหน้า อย่างน้อย 3 ปี อย่างไรก็ตาม
การคัดเลือกนักศึกษา ในอนาคตคงต้อง มีการปรับทั้งระบบ
โดยวิธีการคัดเลือก สามารถทำได้หลากหลายทั้ง วิธีการสอบ
การสัมภาษณ์ พิจารณาจากผลงาน หรืออาจจะ พิจารณา
จากกิจกรรมที่เต็กเข้าร่วม แนวโน้มมหาวิทยาลัย จะคัดเลือก
นักศึกษา ตรงความต้องการ มากขึ้น โดยให้ทบทวนฯจัดสอบ
กลางแล้ว นำคะแนน ไปพิจารณา หรืออาจจะคัดเลือกเองโดย
ตรง เพื่อให้ได้เต็กลง ตามศักยภาพ และมีความยุติธรรม

Activity 10

A game “make a word”

What does a Thai word look like? Work in groups of two or three. The instructor brings three groups of cards of the Thai alphabet : consonants, vowels and tone marks, placing them on the desk face down. Each student pulls two cards from each group. Each group of students will have a total of at least 12 letters. The group tries to make a word and shows it to the instructor. The first group to be successful wins.

Activity 11

Can you recognize these cognates? Listen as the instructor reads some words and write the cognates or borrowings you hear. (Twenty words from different areas including geographical and biographical names). Provide English equivalents.

Activity 12

Map activity. Word recognition. Fluency circle.

Country/Capital. The class forms two circles, one inside the other. Each student is given a card with the name of a country and its capital written in Thai. When the instructor says **เริ่ม** - start, the students show each other their cards. The students forming the outer circle begin to read the cards of the students of the inner circle, then the students in the inner circle will read the cards of the students of the outer circle. When the instructor says **หยุด** - stop, the outside circle will move clockwise one space, and the activity will continue with a new partner.

Activity 13

Look at the blank contours of the continents. Label the continents in Thai.



Activity 14

Listen and recognize

- A. The instructor will read the names of logos of American, European and Japanese cars to you relatively fast. Try to associate the names you think you heard in English. Note the difference in pronunciation of the Thai and English names
- B. Listen again and write. Now listen to the instructor slowly read the previous list of car makes again. Write them down in the space provided.

- C. Work in pairs. Compare your answers with your partner.
The instructor will circle around the classroom checking for correct spelling.

Activity 15

Shopping on the web.

You are an office manager and you made a list of items you want to purchase. Read your list and then read the authentic Internet announcement. Compare them. If you find an item both in our shopping list and in the announcement, put a check next to the item in the shopping list.

<u>Your shopping list:</u>	<u>The store sells the following items:</u>	
Stationery	ดึกดำริไทย	ไปสการ์ด
Souvenirs		
Pens	คอมพิวเตอร์ ซอฟแวร์	
Software		
Music	เพลงคลาสิค	แผนที่แอตแลส
Atlases		
Poetry	ดินสอ และเครื่องเขียน	
Video		หนังสือร้อยกรอง

Activity 16 (Pair Work)

Read and speak. Continuation of Activity 15. Now go through the Announcement again and find all the cognates. Then make a purchase of two items from the announcement and read them to your partner. He/she will mark them on his/her copy of the announcement and read your purchase back to you. Reverse the roles.

Activity 17

Guessing from context. Find the Thai words which are cognates in the announcement. Then find the Thai words which are not cognates in the announcement and try to guess their meaning from context. Compare your guesses first with those of your partner and then with the rest of the class. The person who guesses the largest number of words wins the title of a Linguistic Whiz.

Activity 18 (Pair Work)

Guessing meaning from context. Read the job announcement below and provide English equivalents for the advertised position.

โรงพยาบาลพิษณุโลก招
ต้องการรับสมัครบุคคลเข้าทำงานในตำแหน่ง ดังต่อไปนี้:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|----|---------|
| ผู้จัดการแผนกมาร์เก็ตติ้ง | ๑ | ตำแหน่ง |
| ฟอร์แมน | ๕ | ตำแหน่ง |
| เชฟเคี่ยว์ริตี้การ์ด | ๑๐ | ตำแหน่ง |

Activity 19

If you ever traveled in a foreign city you have no doubt observed that it is often very difficult to understand the names of the streets when you are riding the subway and the stations are being announced.

Metro riding simulation game



Step 1. All students come to the middle of the class. They will play the role of the passengers, while the instructor will play the role of the station announcer.

Step 2. Each student chooses one of the lines (routes) indicated on the map of BTS Sky Train and his/her destination.

Step 3. The names of the lines (routes) are written on the board by the instructor. The students come to the board and write their names, point of departure, and their destinations.

Step 4. The students pretend that they are riding different trains. The instructor reads the names of the stations in a random order taking into account the stations the students chose as their destination, as well as the stations which the students did not choose. For example, two students choose their destination stations อโศก and อารี. The instructor reads:

สยาม ชิดลม เพลินจิต นานา อโศก (a student exits)

ราชเทวี พญาไท อนุสาวรีย์ฯ สนามเป้า หม้อชิต (nobody exits)

สะพานควาย เสนาร่วม สนามเป้า อารี (a student exits)

Step 5. When the student hears his/her station he/she exits the train. The game is over when all the students exit. Those who did not exit when their station name was called keep riding until they notice that they missed their station.

Winners are those who exited at their destination. Losers are those who missed the most stations. The game is played several times with different lists of the stations.

Learning a new script

You can only learn to read and write Thai by regular practice. Ten to fifteen minutes practice everyday is much more effective than one hour twice a week, and as long as you stick to daily practice you should find that you make rapid progress. You might, for example, try some of the following ‘learning strategies’: copy each letter and each word several times until you can write it quickly and accurately; look at the passages in Thai script and see how many letters, and how many parts of words you can recognize. Get into the habit of doodling in Thai so as to improve your handwriting, or making up sentences with the Thai words you can spell.

Activity 1

Listen to the sounds of the Thai consonants while looking at them and then without looking at the table of consonants in your textbook, pronounce after the speaker and try to imitate; read the **Description** section. Read the letters on your own from top down and from bottom up.

Activity 2

Listen to the recording of the following pairs of words. Concentrate on the consonant sounds of each pair (especially the aspirated and unaspirated). Use the alphabet table to name the letters of each pair correctly.

Activity 3

In your work notebook practice writing letters by hand using the model. Pronounce each letter out loud while you write.

Activity 4

In the following table, read the phonetic transcriptions of Thai words in the first column; write down the initial Thai consonants in the second column; and if the Thai word has a final consonant, then write the final Thai consonant in the third column. Note: It is understood that you do not know how to spell Thai words at this stage, but you should be able to recognize the correct consonant sound.

Phonetic transcription	Initial consonant	Final consonant
/?im/		
/paጀ/		
/sùub/		
/rian/		
/kaan/		
/súaj/		
/hag/		
/pen/		
/tó?/		
/khrua/		

Activity 5

Write a vowel in the right hand column to match its sound in the left hand column. Pronounce each sound as you write the script. Repeat this activity until you feel you know how to pronounce and write each script.

Sound	vowel
/a/	
/aa/	
/i/	
/ii/	
/y/	
/yy/	
/u/	
/uu/	

/e/	
/ee/	
/ɛ/	
/ɛɛ/	
/o/	
/oo/	
/ɔ/	
/ɔɔ/	
/ə/	

Sound	vowel
/əə/	

/iɑ?/	
/iɑ/	

/yɑ?/	
/yɑ/	
/uɑ?/	
/uɑ/	
/ɑm/	
/ɑj/	

/ɑw/	
------	--

Activity 6

The practices below will help you hear and pronounce short and long vowels. Listen carefully while the speaker pronounces the word and try to imitate him as exactly as you can.

Activity 7

Listen to the recording of the following words. After each pause, write down the vowel in the space provided.

Vowel
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.

Activity 8

Listen to the recording of ten words. You can listen as many times as you need. After each pause, try to write down the words in Thai in the space provided.

Word	Word
1.	6.
2.	7.
3.	8.
4.	9.
5.	10.

Activity 9

This activity will help you remember how vowels change in words with final consonants.

Listen to the recording and write the words you hear.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____
6. _____ 7. _____ 8. _____ 9. _____ 10. _____

Activity 10

Try to write the first and last names of your classmates in Thai. Try to write your name and your instructor's name.

Activity 11

Listen to the recording of geographic areas spoken in Thai and try to write the words in English in the spaces below.

Activity 12

Listen to the recording of the names of famous people spoken in Thai and try to write the names in English.

Activity 13

Tone Exercises: High Class Consonants.

Read through the following words you have already studied in class and work out the correct tone for yourself. Pronounce the words aloud. Read the words in different sequences so you do not end up memorizing them. Check for accuracy from the answer key and the recording.

เสร็จ	เขี๊ม	พีน	ถ້າວ	สวຍ
ผัก	ແຂັງ	ຫາຍ	ສົດວ	ຂີ
ຄ້າ	ຂວານ	ສາຍ	ໜຸມ	ເສື່ຍ
ສວນ	ໜັດ	ໜັງ	ຄ່ານ	ສູງ
ທ່ຽງ	ຈລາດ	ທ່ອ	ເໜືອ	ໜລາຍ
ແພລ	ສີບ	ຫາວ	ຖຸ	ສົຮງ
ຜ້າວ	ຄ້າຍ	ເຂີຍນ	ພອນ	ໜຶ່ງ
គຸນຍໍ	ສີ	ຂາວ	ຫຄູງ	ຫອນ

Activity 14

Tone exercises Middle Class consonants.

Read through the following words you have already studied in class and work out the correct tone for yourself. Pronounce the words aloud. Read the words in different sequences so you do not end up memorizing them. Check for accuracy from the answer key and the recording.

อย่าง	ตลาด	เป็น	กัด	ปีน
แต่	อื่นๆ	แบ่ง	ใจ	เดือน
แตก	จัง	กี	อาบ	เด็ก
จ่าย	ปลูก	บุตร	กระป่อง	กัน
แบบ	อย่าง	ดีม	อ้วน	ปู
กิน	เจ็ด	ปีด	เต็ม	ปลาย
นำย	กิ่ง	อ่อน	อ่าน	ตู้
เก็บ	เปลี่ยน	เกิน	ออก	เกิด

Activity 15

Tone exercises High and Middle Class consonants.

Read through the following words you have already studied in class and work out the correct tone for yourself. Pronounce the words aloud. Read the words in different sequences so you do not end up memorizing them. Check for accuracy from the answer key and the recording.

กล่าว	ส่วน	เจ้าของ	ปา	หนี้
ขณะ	แก้ว	ปฏิบัติ	สั้งขยาย	ถ้า
ศึกษา	สิ่ง	อืม	บิดา	หนึ่ง
สัดว	ด่าง	บุบ	แจ้ง	ปรกติ
แผ่นดิน	ปฏิเสธ	ฝรั่ง	เผา尸	สนับ

ต้ม	ถ้ำ	หมวด	ผุน	ตำบล
ถึง	บวม	ห่าง	อาศัย	ตีไข่
ปลัง	อ้วน	ศาสตร์	หอม	ปีง

Activity 16

Tone exercises Low Class consonants.

Read through the following words and work out the pronunciation for yourself. Check for accuracy from the answer key and the recording.

คน	ครึ่ง	ฆ่า	งาน	เงียบ
ขอน	ไข่	ทราย	เยี่ยม	เชื่อ
ธุระ	ทา	นั้น	นี	พัน
เย็บ	พื้น	ฟัง	ไฟ	ฟ้า
มัน	ไม้	ล้อ	เชิญ	ร่อง
โทรศัพท์	เมือง	ลง	ลวด	ยุง
และ	วัน	ว่า	เรียก	เลือก
โถ	เมื่อ	มุ้ง	เข็ด	นีก
นาน	เล่น	ญาติ	นำมัน	ชีวิต

Activity 17

Practicing consonant clusters.

Listen to the recording and write what you hear.

- | | | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ | 3. _____ | 4. _____ | 5. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 8. _____ | 9. _____ | 10. _____ | | |

Activity 18

For each word below fill in the missing vowel to match the spoken word from the recording.

กบ	กบ	กบ
จด	จด	จด
พด	พด	พบ
ป	ปล	ปลม
ข	ท	คร

Activity 19

Try to work out where one word ends and the next begins in the sentences below:

1. ขนนมอบกรอบ
2. ยามลารวมา
3. มาลีรอนนาน
4. นางลاناຍ
5. ယายรำคယ

Activity 20

How would you dial these Bangkok telephone numbers?

- a) ๒๓๖-๔๕๘๐
- b) ๕๕๐-๗๓๕๙
- c) ๒๒๕-๗๓๗๑
- d) ๖๙๗-๒๑๔๔
- e) ๓๗๑-๙๕๔๔