

Talk a Lot

Clear Alphabet Dictionary

Hidden Sounds

Here are some good examples of words and phrases in the dictionary which have hidden sounds – sounds which are heard when you say the word, but don't appear in the normal spelling. There are no clues that they exist so students have to learn the hard way – by making mistakes. In the Clear Alphabet, hidden sounds are revealed, because all sounds are written – apart from embedded schwa sounds. Can you think of any more words in each category?

Hidden Sound: y

commuter	k Myoo t
emu	Ee myoo
euthanasia	yoo tt Nei ziy
humiliate	hyoo Mi lii yeit
knew	Nyoo
millionaire	mil y Neir
new	Nyoo
numeral	Nyoo m rl
onion	Un yn
queue	Kyoo
security	s Kyuuw r tii

Hidden Sound: g

Spelling Rule: "gu" can be pronounced: gw e.g. anguish, penguin, languid, etc.

language Lang gwij

Hidden Sound: ch

Spelling Rule: "tu" is often pronounced: ch e.g. tune, attitude, tuna, etc.

expenditure	e Kspen d ch
medical student	Me d kl schoo dnt
punctuation mark	pung kch Wei shn mark
stupid	Schoo pid
Tuesday	Choo zdeii

Hidden Sound: j

Spelling Rule: "du" is often pronounced: j e.g. dune, duty, due, etc.

produce pr Joos

Hidden Sound: ng

Spelling Rule: "nk" is often pronounced: ngk e.g. think, ink, bank, sank, etc.

pink	Pingk
uncle	Ung kl

Talk a Lot

Clear Alphabet Dictionary

Hidden Sounds

Hidden Sound: sh

Spelling Rule: "ch" can be pronounced: sh e.g. parachute, chef, cliché, etc.

machine m Sheen

Hidden Sound: f

Spelling Rule: "ph" can be pronounced: f e.g. phone, photo, Phil, trophy, etc.

phrase Freiz
nephew Ne fyoo
pharmacist Far m sist

Hidden Sound: kw

Spelling Rule: "qu" is usually pronounced: kw e.g. almost every word starting with "q"!

quick Kwik
squash Skwosh