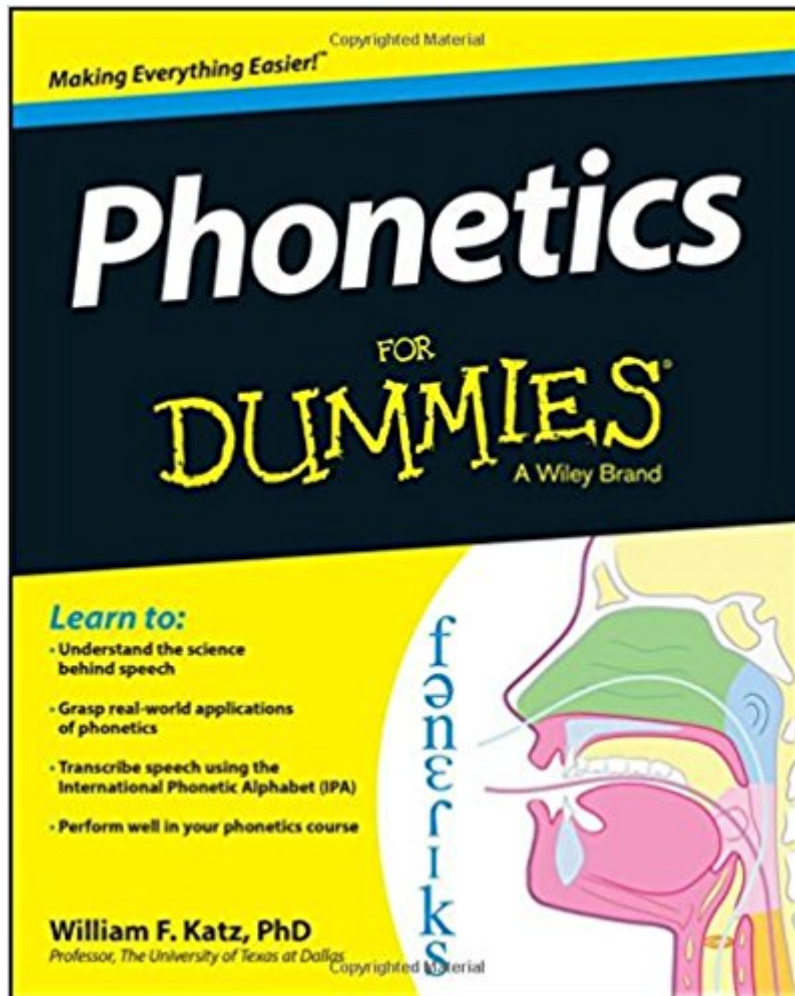




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# Phonetics For Dummies



## Synopsis

The clear and easy way to get a handle on the science of speech The science of how people produce and perceive speech, phonetics has an array of real-world applications, from helping engineers create an authentic sounding Irish or Canadian accent for a GPS voice, to assisting forensics investigators identifying the person whose voice was caught on tape, to helping a film actor make the transition to the stage. Phonetics is a required course among students of speech pathology and linguistics, and it's a popular elective among students of telecommunications and forensics. The first popular guide to this fascinating discipline, *Phonetics For Dummies* is an excellent overview of the field for students enrolled in introductory phonetics courses and an ideal introduction for anyone with an interest in the field. Bonus instructional videos, video quizzes, and other content available online for download on the [dummies.com](http://dummies.com) product page for this book.

## Book Information

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: For Dummies; 1 edition (September 5, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1118505085

ISBN-13: 978-1118505083

Product Dimensions: 7.3 x 0.8 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #65,925 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 in [Books > Reference > Words, Language & Grammar > Phonetics & Phonics](#) #20826 in [Books > Textbooks](#)

## Customer Reviews

Learn to: Understand the science behind speech Grasp real-world applications of phonetics Transcribe speech using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) Perform well in your phonetics course The clear and easy way to understand the science behind speech! This detailed guide helps you comprehend the process of how speech is produced, how to transcribe speech using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), how to read a sound spectrogram, and so much more. Written in plain English, and accompanied by dozens of helpful illustrations and a free online resource, this is your go-to guide to the fascinating world of phonetics! Start with Phonetics 101; understand the basics of speech, fixed and movable articulators, and speech sound classifications Meet your "secret code"; find out how to use the IPA to transcribe speech Get

a primer on speech acoustics &#151; explore the fundamental frequency of phonation, harmonics, and formant frequencies Delve into practical transcribing situations &#151; become familiar with how to transcribe accents, dialects, children&#39;s speech, and disordered speech Learn the real-world applications of phonetics &#151; discover the role phonetics plays in speech language pathology, audiology, language teaching, forensics, telecommunications, acting, voice coaching, and more Open the book and find: The fundamentals of phonetics and phonology How speech is produced Tips on reading a sound spectrogram How to understand the melody of language Ways to transcribe emotion in speech How to avoid ten common mistakes beginner transcribers make Practical experience transcribing vowels, consonants, and phonological processes with the online resource

William F. Katz, PhD, is Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences at the University of Texas at Dallas, where he teaches and directs research in linguistics, speech science, and language disorders. He has pioneered new treatments for speech loss after stroke, and he studies an unusual disorder known as "foreign accent syndrome."

Interesting and helpful for an English teacher to second language students.

Very well presented for speech communication students!

Very helpful book for class (it may have helped primarily because the author is my professor). Arrived quickly.

It is just what I needed and more.

An amazing book!!

Excellent book.

Excellent.

Phonetics for Dummies is the text I have been waiting for. I teach Phonetics at the undergraduate

level and know the available texts on the market pretty well. They are all fine. They are all over \$100. They all go unbought by my students. Author William Katz is a phonetician, researcher, and teacher. This is the right combination. His book is inviting, engaging, and useful to students. AND it is affordable. The only concern I have is "overcoming" the "...for Dummies" trademark with students who would look down on an entry in the series as not being serious scholarship. More's the pity, for this book is smart. It lays out the foundations of articulatory phonetics, and it covers nicely that sweet spot of articulation's connection to acoustic properties and listener perceptions. It shows why Phonetics is useful/important/fun, and it offers hands-on practice for students to apply what they just read. Absolutely, this is the required text for all my future Phonetics courses. I will also suggest it to those language-geek friends of mine. Best of it, it isn't too English-centric (as some books can be), yet it never loses the typical American English reader. Thank to the author for writing this book.

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