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The Authors

Philip J. Johnson-Smith, a.k.a. Polyglot in the Saundspel forum, is from Chester, North-West England. He has a Bachelor's degree in Finance and Accounting, an advanced diploma in German and a working knowledge of French and Spanish.
He is currently a student dentist at Newcastle University, North-East England.

Martín Rincón Botero is a composer and conductor from Cali, Colombia, currently living in Lübeck, Germany, where he received his Master's degree in Composition at the Lübeck Music Conservatory (Musikhochschule), where he teaches Music Theory.

Gregory H. Bontrager earned his Bachelor's degree in Spanish from Florida Gulf Coast University in 2010 and his Master's degree in Linguistics from the University of Florida in 2015. He is now pursuing his Doctorate in Linguistics.
He also has a solid foundational knowledge of French, Italian, Latin, classical Greek, and German.

The English Spelling Society

The object of the Society is to raise awareness of the problems caused by irregularity of English spelling; and to promote remedies to improve literacy, including spelling reform.

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MÓDIFAID PÓLIYGLOT'S STAENDARDSPEL (M-PSS)
By Philip Johnson-Smith, Martín Rincón Botero & Gregory Bontrager

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The System

Poliyglot's Staendardspel (PSS) is a re-Romanization of broadcast English and was first proposed by Philip Johnson-Smith in 2015. The following is the result of a collaboration with Martín Rincón Botero and Gregory H. Bontrager, in an attempt to make the system more readable at first sight for present readers without compromising its easiness of learning and number of rules. Modifications to PSS include using the letter <ù> for /ʊ/ before a consonant which makes room for using <u> for /ʌ/. This allows for an exclusive schwa assignment <a>, as well as for a more proportionate use of this letter. Another innovation is using the letter <ü> for /jʊ/ and /ju:/. Other changes are <ch> for /tʃ/, <oe> for /ɜː/, <uu> for /u:/ and <üu> for /ju:/ before a consonant.

Contents

A. Design Principles

The following aims guided the design of M-PSS:

1. Typability on the standard keyboards of English-speaking countries, keeping the use of diacritics to a minimum.

2. Sound-to-letter and sound-to-digraph reassignments should be made only where necessary to facilitate clarity of unambiguous spelling, such that some traditional spelling patterns can be maintained where they fall into line with re-Romanization of vowels or produce more legible results without compromising coherency in the system.

3. Positional rules should help to maintain phonemic clarity while achieving some brevity.

4. Stress rules should be kept simple, making stress-marking virtually unnecessary for the vast majority of words. These rules are to be used whenever possible.

5. Any unique sequence of phonemes should have only one possible spelling.

6. Any unique sequence of graphemes should have only one possible pronunciation, given the positional and stress rules.

B. ESS Questionnaire

1. Is this a new original idea or is it adapted from one developed by the writer or someone else?

Módifaid Póliyglot's Staendardspel (M-PSS) is a revision of PSS which shares some similarity to other schemes advocating re-Romanization such as RLS and Spelrait.

2. Is it an initial step to learning literacy, a step to TS, or is it for permanent adult use?

M-PSS is intended to replace TS in the long term, while in the short to medium term, it is intended to be used alongside TS as a simplified spelling and pronunciation guide for ESOL and dictionary keys.

3. Are there any supplementary rules? If so, please detail.

Schwa, represented by 'a' is exempted from being long before another vowel or in terminal position. Use of a hyphen or interpunct is obligatory to separate two letters when keeping their individual monographic sounds, so that they are distinguished from their usual pronunciation as a digraph. Rhoticity is distinguished on vowel length between US and UK pronunciations and is specially marked (see M-PSS Tutorial.)

4. Does your system cater for schwa and stress?

M-PSS always spells schwa as <a>. Only 4 stress rules are described which cover all possible English words while keeping stress marking to the minimum.

5. If this is a phonemic system, which accent of English is it based on? Would you cater for other accents of English? How?

M-PSS can represent both UK and US standard broadcast dialects as well as a hybrid of both. The phonemic roster of M-PSS is a broad superset of which the UK and US dialect rosters are subsets.

6. Is the scheme based on assumed knowledge of English/TS or is it independent? That is, could people who had learned the spelling rules pronounce a text correctly even though they had no knowledge of English?

M-PSS is based partly on TS, where this falls into line with high phonemicity and re-Romanization. Some TS patterns are used in M-PSS, but the user does not need to know any TS before becoming fully proficient in reading and writing M-PSS.

Most words with 'u' for /ju:/ in TS will certainly be spelled as 'müuzik', 'üuz', etc. However, many TS-adepts may prefer spelling 'youth' with a 'y' or will do it automatically. The pairs 'ü' and 'yu' for 'you' are also probable. It is envisageable that a few words will have alternative spellings.

7. How does a running text in the scheme compare in length with TS (i.e. how many characters compared to TS)?

It is estimated that M-PSS will on average be about the same length as TS.

8. How big is the change from TS? To what extent does the scheme defer to the appearance of TS? Give an estimate of the percentage of words that would need to be changed from TS.

M-PSS keeps similarity to TS patterns where this is possible while keeping in line with re-Romanization and high phonemicity. The authors estimate that about 75% of spellings would be different from TS, but many changes would be slight and therefore would not be visually disruptive. It is expected that the big change from TS comes from its simplicity, keeping letter re-assignments to the bare minimum and thus maximizing the use of the basic alphabet for which re-Romanization is essential.

9. Outline how the authors envisage the scheme being used. How would it be introduced and existing publications dealt with?

The authors envisage M-PSS being used as a dictionary key, pronunciation guide, and simplified English spelling for ESOL, children, and anyone who struggles with TS. M-PSS could be used for international English communication between non-native English speakers and could be trialed and adopted by the European Union (E.U.) or other supra-national organizations. For electronic publications, an online converter plug-in could be used to transition between TS and M-PSS at the click of a mouse.

10. Do you regard homophones as a problem and does your system indicate them in any way?

No. Context and grammar indicate the meaning just as well in M-PSS's strictly phonological writing as in speech, where there is no distinction in sound. Some TS homographs adopt corresponding spellings if they are heterophones.

11. Could the system be used easily on most computers and word processors?

Yes. M-PSS can be typed on standard keyboards of English-speaking countries without any hardware modifications whatsoever. However, some minimal changes to software settings may be required. We recommend the installation and use of the keyboard layouts United Kingdom Extended or United States International to facilitate easy typing of some diacritics used in the system. This is explained in section F.

12. Is the system used in everyday life by yourself or anyone else?

The authors exchange e-mails using the system.

C. M-PSS TUTORIAL (Rules on one page)

Phonemes (sounds) are shown with International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) symbols between / /.

14 Vowels: Monographic vowels 'a' and 'e' are always short, while monographic vowels 'i', 'o' and 'u', are short before consonants and long elsewhere. The 14 simple vowels are spelled according to these rules:

Monograph	Position and Phoneme		Digraph	Phoneme	Position Where Used
	Before Consonant	Elsewhere			
a	/ə/		aa	/ɑː/	Used anywhere
e	/ɛ/		ae	/æ/	
i	/ɪ/	/iː/	oe	/ɜː/	
o	/ɒ/	/ɔː/	iy	/iː/	Used only before consonants. (<iy> before <a> = /iːə/)
ù	/ʊ/	[never occurs]	oo	/ɔː/	
u	/ʌ/	/uː/	uu	/uː/	
ü	/jʊ/	/juː/	üu	/juː/	

Use <ü> or <üu> (not <yù>, <yu> or <yuu>) e.g. "you" = ü, "cue" = kü, "use" = üuz/üus, "youth" = üuth.

9 Diphthongs: When forming the end of a pre-vocalic diphthong, 'i' and 'u' change respectively to 'y' and 'w.'

ai/ay = /aɪ/   oi/oy = /ɔɪ/   ia = /ɪə/   iya = /iːə/ (split 'ia')
au/aw = /aʊ/   ou/ow = /oʊ/   ua = /ʊə/   uwa = /uːə/ (split 'ua')
ei/ey = /eɪ/   ea = /ɛə/   üa = /jʊə/   üwa = /juːə/ (split 'üa')

All digraphs' and diphthongs' sounds override the sounds of their component monographs.
Hence when 'y' is part of the digraph <iy>, the digraph sound overrides the <y> monograph sound.

25 Consonants: 18 monographs and 7 digraphs ('q' and 'x' not used)

b = /b/   n = /n/ (/ŋ/ before <k>)   ng = /ŋ/ (ngg = /ŋg/)
d = /d/   p = /p/   ch = /t͡ʃ/
f = /f/   r = /ɹ/   sh = /ʃ/
g = /g/   s = /s/   zh = /ʒ/
h = /h/   t = /t/   th = /θ/   **Note:** <dh> is used to distinguish
j = /d͡ʒ/   v = /v/   dh = /ð/   the TS voiced 'th' in 'then' from
k = /k/   w = /w/   kh = /x/   the unvoiced 'th' in 'thin'.
l = /l/   y = /j/
m = /m/   z = /z/

Supplementary Rules:

Consonant Doubling: 1. Compound words; 2. '-ngg' when /ŋ/ followed by /g/ sound; 3. Prevocalic rhotics.

Rhoticity: 1. Single 'r' between vowels does not result in rhotacization: maeri, wuri, feri, sori; 2. Single 'r' before a consonant or at the end of a word does cause rhotacization: staar, foer, stoor, linggar; 3. Rhotacization before another vowel is marked by R-doubling: staarri, foerri, stoorri, linggarring (U.S. rhotic dialect); staari, foeri, stoori, linggaring (U.K. non-rhotic dialect.) (See Section D. Rhoticity Explained.)

Digraph Separator: Use an obligatory hyphen or interpunct between letters in words such as "aedult·hùd" (TS adulthood) to distinguish them from their usual pronunciation as a single unit digraph.

Regular Past Endings: Add '-id,' '-d,' or '-t' according to the verb's final sound: aedid, leid, laeft.

Regular Plurals and Verb Endings: Add '-iz,' 'iyz', '-z,' or '-s' according to the noun or verb's final sound: hoorsiz, hauziz, cheinjiz, wishiz, miraazhiz, wichiz, hóbiyz, webz, weivz, gunz, vauz, bùks, jiraefs.

Regular Unmarked Primary Stress: This falls in priority order on the:

1. First <ü>, if present: sikürati, poersiküushan, üunivoers, aembigüwati, müuzik, müumü.

2. Last or only diphthong present: abaut, agou, aplai, araund, autkum, ikspiarriyans, modifikeishan, unaveilabal, praimari, daigraef, rikwayar, foutagraef, meintein, meintanans, aarbitreishan, paeranoya, aeplikeishan, toermineishan, ooldhou, oolrait, oorganaizeishan.
(Note that 'aa', 'ae', 'oe', 'iy', 'oo', 'uu' and 'üu' are digraphs, not diphthongs, while the trigraphs 'iya', 'uwa' and 'üwa' are not diphthongs, but split diphthongs. Only 'iya' and 'uwa' have no effect on stress.)

3. Last or only non-diphthong digraph present ('aa', 'ae', 'oe', 'iy', 'oo' and 'uu'): aensar, imaejin, (dis)imbaark, toerminal, biniyth, tekniyk, maeksimam, agriymant.

4. First non-schwa vowel: apon, abuv, atempt, majishan, fatografar, fatografi, silabal, agri, minimam, militeri.

Irregular stress marking: Use acute vowels á é í ó ú: áardvaark, ikspékt, aidíya, aembígüwas, óolsou, bikúm, inúf, üunivóersiti. Use circumflex <û> to stress mark greiv <ù>: undarstûd, wûmanaizar, wûlfhaund.

D. INNOVATIVE DESIGN FEATURES

Dialectal Flexibility

M-PSS is dialectally flexible, able to represent differing pronunciations in the two main broadcast dialects of English, being General American (GA) and Received Pronunciation (RP). It also can be written in a hybrid notation (HB) as a proposed international compromise between GA and RP. Switching between GA, RP and HB only requires changing one or two letters in M-PSS spelling, as the table below shows with four examples.

Spellings in GA, RP and HB Dialects			
Traditional Spelling	M-PSS Spelling		
	GA	RP	HB
last	la**e**st	la**a**st	la**e**st
fair	fe**r**	fe**a**	fe**ar**
military	mil**a**teri	mil**i**tri	mil**i**teri
tune	t**u**un	t**ü**un	t**u**un

Reduced Visual Disruption from Traditional Spelling (TS)

M-PSS has several design features which aim to reduce visual disruption from TS without compromising on system phonemicity. These can be considered as selling points of the M-PSS system over its precursor, PSS.

Innovative Use of <ü>

The phonemes /jʊ/ aend /ju:/, commonly associated with the letter 'u' in TS, have been made into a special vowel letter in its own right in M-PSS, the letter <ü>. This has two significant advantages. By not using the consonant <y> = /j/ before /ʊ/ or /u:/, M-PSS achieves brevity of spellings containing those sounds and avoids some visual disruption that would possibly result from words not starting with a type of letter 'u' as in TS. Instead, words starting with /ju:/ are spelled with <ü>, a type of 'u', and thus they resemble TS. For example, united = üunáitid, use = üuz/üus, and universe = üunivoers. Thus the well-known abbreviations UN, US and UK in M-PSS = ÜN, ÜS and ÜK, respectively, will maintain some continuity with TS.

The sequence /jʌ/ does not occur in more than a few common English words such as 'yuck' and 'young', spelled in M-PSS with <yu> as 'yuk' and 'yung'. Consequently, the sequence <yu> will be rarely spelled. However, the sequence /ju:/ is much more frequent. For the relatively few related words in TS starting with the letter 'y', such as 'young' and 'youth', spelled in M-PSS as 'yung' and 'üuth', the consequential loss of their visual connection that they have in TS is relatively minor compared to the obvious advantages of universally using <ü> for /ju:/. The words 'young' and 'youth', apart from the initial 'y', in reality contain very different phonemes than their spellings in TS would have us believe, so there is no phonetic justification for them to be spelled with the same vowel sequence. Although many TS-adepts unfamiliar with M-PSS may at first automatically write 'yuuth' for 'youth' and 'yu' for 'you', due to TS habits, the brevity of 'üuth' and 'ü' and the consistency of using <ü> for /ju:/ everywhere in the system may eventually win out, even if alternative spellings exist for these words for some time.

The stress rules for regular unmarked primary stress dictate that the first long <ü>, if present in a word, takes priority over other vowels so that it is not subject to irregular stress marking. (Remember: to mark irregular stress, vowels <a e i o u> take the acute diacritic as <á é í ó ú> and the vowel <ù> takes the circumflex <û>.)

Use of <u> for /ʌ/ and <ù> for /ʊ/

Using two types of 'u' in M-PSS, normal <u> for the frequently occurring phoneme /ʌ/ and grave diacritic <ù> for the far less common phoneme /ʊ/ is highly advantageous. Unnecessary visual disruption from TS, which spells 'u' for both phonemes, is greatly reduced, and use of diacritic <ù> is minimized. A further direct consequence is that use of circumflex diacritic <û> to mark irregular stress on <ù> is also minimized.

Use of <ch> for /t͡ʃ/ and <oe(r)> for /ɜ:/

Use of <ch> for /t͡ʃ/ in M-PSS is less visually disruptive compared to use of <c> for /t͡ʃ/ in PSS. This is because the sequence <ch> is seen as a complete unit digraph in many words in TS and so in M-PSS it cannot be confused with the conventional usual sound of <c>. Similarly, use of <oe(r)> for /ɜ:/ in M-PSS maintains more continuity with TS compared to use of <ee(r)> in PSS. This is because most words in TS containing /ɜ:/ have it spelled with either 'e' or 'o' before 'r' (e.g. k**e**rnel, w**o**rk), and additionally, <oe(r)> cannot be confused with the conventional usual sound of <ee(r)> (/i:(əɹ)/).

E. RHOTICITY EXPLAINED

In English linguistics, rhoticity refers to how underlying codal /ɹ/ (any /ɹ/ that immediately follows a vowel within the same syllable) manifests itself. In rhotic dialects, it is audibly pronounced in one way or another and maintains a role in distinguishing between words which would otherwise be homophones (e.g. "spas" versus "spars"). In most or all such varieties, it blends into the preceding vowel via rhotacization (or "r-coloring"). The result is a vowel whose sound is quite noticeably influenced by the simultaneous articulation of a very /ɹ/-like element.

There are four rhotacized vowels in North American English, which is the only major branch of the modern English language that is still rhotic. They are /ɑ˞/ as in "park," /ɔ˞/ as in "pork," /ɜ˞/ as in "perk," and /ə˞/ as at the end of "copper." The difference between the latter two is subtle, and even many native speakers are apt to perceive them as one and the same. They relate to each other in a way that is somewhat analogous to the relation between /ʌ/ and /ə/, another pair that even natives may tend to conflate. While /ʌ/ and /ɜ˞/ are almost always stressed, /ə/ and /ə˞/ are never stressed. One good example might be the word "further" (/ˈfɜ˞ðə˞/), in which the stressed syllable contains /ɜ˞/ while the unstressed syllable contains /ə˞/. The same rule is what makes the difference between /ʌ/ and /ə/ in "tundra" (/ˈtʌndɹə/).

In rhotic English, rhotacization only ever occurs if the /ɹ/ is underlyingly in the same syllable as the preceding vowel. If the vowel and the /ɹ/ are in different syllables, then it does not happen, and both sounds remain separate and independently pronounced. For example, the schwa is rhotacized in "cauterize" (/ˈkɔː.tə˞.aɪz/) but not in "arise" (/ə˞ˈɹaɪz/). While both /ˈkɔː.tə˞.ɹaɪz/ and /ə˞ˈaɪz/ would be recognizable to a rhotic speaker, he/she would at best find the latter and possibly even the former to be a bit oddly pronounced. It would not quite sound natural to him/her. This is the main reason why a few spelling reformers advocate for the explicit marking of rhotacization. Unless the spelling system takes the unprecedented step of explicitly marking syllable boundaries as a general rule, words like "arise" and "cauterize" will present some ambiguity with respect to any 'r' that is stuck between two vowels. To rhotacize or not to rhotacize; that is the question.

The proposed solution exploits the fact that consonant length in English virtually never makes any difference in word identity or meaning. Unlike in some languages, the forms /ˈpoʊ.lə˞/ and /ˈpoʊl.lə˞/, for instance, are not two distinct words, but rather alternate pronunciations of the same word: "polar." This means that, in the case of a word like "cauterize," an extra R can be inserted into the phonemic spelling. Whether or not the reader actually pronounces the second R, neither the identity nor the meaning of the word is altered. Both /ˈkɔː.tə˞.aɪz/ and /ˈkɔː.tə˞.ɹaɪz/ are valid pronunciations of "cauterize." What the second R does do, however, is occupy the slot that the first R might otherwise be tempted to fill. In "kóotaraiz," the 'r' may serve as the end of the middle syllable or the onset of the final syllable, but in "kóotarraiz," the second 'r' suggests that the final syllable already has an onset, so the first 'r' is compelled to remain in the middle syllable, where it then triggers rhotacization of the preceding vowel. In "araiz," on the other hand, there is only one R, because parsing it as the start of the second syllable is the appropriate interpretation in this case, and the first vowel is thus left un-rhotacized.

If a single R follows a vowel but either precedes another consonant or marks the end of a word, then rhotacization is inevitable, and the ambiguity addressed by R-doubling never arises. Hence, the words "star," "starlight," and "starry" are rendered respectively as "staar," "staarlait," and "staarri," with only the last one requiring two R's. The spelling "staari" would be correct only if the writer were transcribing a non-rhotic rendition of the word.

In non-rhotic speech, /ɹ/ is completely prohibited from surfacing in pronunciation unless it is immediately followed by a vowel. Also, if an /ɹ/ that follows one vowel also precedes another vowel, it must be treated as the start of the second syllable rather than the end of the first. On the other hand, if the /ɹ/ is either followed by a consonant or stranded at the end of a word, it falls away entirely. R-doubling will never be seen in a transcription of non-rhotic speech, because no vowel is ever rhotacized in such dialects.

F. HOW TO TYPE DIACRITICS

M-PSS uses 8 diacritics. These are the regular vowels ù and ü, and the stress marked vowels á, é, í, ó, ú and û. As previously mentioned, <û> is used to stress mark <ù>. It is important to be able to type these easily using your keyboard. If your computer does not have a keyboard installed which permits easy typing of these diacritics, then we recommend that you install and use one of the following keyboard layouts:

United Kingdom Extended (UKX)
United States International (INTL)

Install an additional keyboard layout in MS Windows 8.1
click *Control Panel*.
click *Language*. (You will then see *Change your language preferences*, with a list of input languages including English – it does not matter what variety of English, e.g. United States, United Kingdom, etc.)
click *Options* on the right hand side of the screen. (You will then see a menu *Windows Display Language*, *Input method* and *Handwriting*.)
click *Add an input method*. (You will then see a long list of keyboards – scroll and select the desired one e.g. United Kingdom Extended.)
click *Add*. (You will then be taken back to the previous list of input languages – the new keyboard layout should now be listed.)
click *Save*. (You will be taken back to the previous screen, *Change your language preferences*.)
click X in top right corner to close Control Panel. (Your chosen keyboard is now installed and ready for use.)

Select an installed keyboard layout in MS Windows 8.1
Hold down the start button (windows key) and press space bar. (A list of installed keyboards will appear in a menu on the right hand side of the screen.)
Press space bar once to toggle to the next keyboard in the list.
When the one you want is highlighted, release the keys and your chosen keyboard is selected for use.

Diacritics' Shortcuts Guide in MS Windows
Shortcuts are shown below for three countries' keyboards. Although they will assist the typing of many diacritics used in European languages, the diacritics needed for M-PSS are highlighted in green.

United Kingdom Extended (UKX)
ALT GR (CRTL+ALT)+aeiouy = **á é í ó ú** ý
ALT GR+"2 then aeiouy = äëïö**ü**ÿ
`¬ (top left next to 1!) then a e i o u y=à è ì ò **ù** ỳ
ALT GR + ^6 ki then a e i o u y = â ê î ô **û** ŷ

United States International (INTL)
' (mid right next to ;:) then a e i o u y = **á é í ó ú** ý
SHIFT + ' then a e i o u y = ä ë ï ö ü ÿ
`~ (top left of 1!) then a e i o u = à è ì ò **ù**
SHIFT `~ then a o = ã õ
SHIFT + ^6 then a e i o u = â ê î ô **û**
ALT GR + a e i o u q p y = á é í ó ú ä ö **ü**
Special Characters: ALT GR + d t z w ,< l = ð þ æ å ç ø

Germany (DE)
`´ (top right next to ß) + a e i o u y = **á é í ó ú** ý
SHIFT + `´ then a e i o u = à è ì ò **ù**
ä ö **ü** keys are located on the right hand side of the keyboard
°^ + a e i o u = â ê î ô **û**

Diacritics' Shortcuts Guide on Mac

To switch to US International Layout:

Launch System Preferences, open the Language & Text pane, and then click the Input Sources tab. In the list of input methods on the left, scroll down and enable *U.S. International - PC*. Enable, in the same Input Sources tab, the option to Show Input Menu In Menu Bar, and then choose from that menu the U.S. International - PC layout.

' (mid right next to ;:) then a e i o u y = **á é í ó ú** ý
` (top left of 1!) then a e i o u = à è ì ò **ù**
" then a e i o u y = ä ë ï ö **ü** ÿ
^ (caret) then a e i o u = â ê î ô **û**

On a UK keyboard:

à \<Alt+`\> \<a\>	á \<Alt+e\> \<a\>
è \<Alt+`\> \<e\>	é \<Alt+e\> \<e\>
ì \<Alt+`\> \<i\>	í \<Alt+e\> \<i\>
ò \<Alt+`\> \<o\>	ó \<Alt+e\> \<o\>
ù \<Alt+`\> \<u\>	ú \<Alt+e\> \<u\>

Option+u + u = ü
Option+i + u = û

G. SAMPLE TEXTS

The texts below are transcribed into a "neutral" hybrid M-PSS accent between US and UK dialects.

THE STAR
By H. G. Wells

It was on the first day of the New Year that the announcement was made, almost simultaneously from three observatories, that the motion of the planet Neptune, the outermost of all the planets that wheel about the sun, had become very erratic. A retardation in its velocity had been suspected in December. Then a faint, remote speck of light was discovered in the region of the perturbed planet. At first this did not cause any great excitement. Scientific people, however, found the intelligence remarkable enough even before it became known that the new body was rapidly growing larger and brighter, and that its motion was quite different from the orderly progress of the planets.

DHA STAAR
Bai H. G. Wells

It woz on dha foerst dei ov dha Nu Yiar dhaet dhi anaunsmant woz meid, óolmoust saimalteiniyasli from thri abzóervatoorriyz, dhaet dha moushan ov dha plaenit Néptuun, dhi áutarmoust ov ool dha plaenits dhaet wiyl abaut dha sun, haed bikúm veri iraetik. A riytaardeishan in its valosati haed bin saspektid in Disémbar. Dhen a feint, rimout spek ov lait woz diskúvard in dha riyjan ov dha partoerbd plaenit. Aet foerst dhis did not kooz eni greit iksaitmant. Sayantífik piypal, hawevar, faund dhi intélijans rimaarkabal inúf iyvan bifoor it bikeim noun dhaet dha nu bodi woz raepidli growing laarjar aend braitar, aend dhaet its moushan woz kwait difrant from dhi oordarli prougres ov dha plaenits.

BRITTEN WHEN YOUNG
By Frank Kermode

We may nowadays be chary about using the word "genius," but we still have a good idea what is meant by it. For example, there are great numbers of very gifted musicians who are admired but not called geniuses. But there are others, manifestly prodigious, performing often at extraordinary ages, a variety of feats so complex that the layman could hardly imagine, even with the most desperate labour, accomplishing any of them, while even musicians are astonished: and we then reach for the good, handy, vague, Enlightenment word and call them geniuses. The list includes Mozart and Mendelssohn; and despite all limiting judgments, it includes Benjamin Britten.

BRITTEN WEN YUNG
Bai Frank Kermode

Wi mei náwadeiz bi chearri abaut üuzing dha woerd "jiyniyas," but wi stil haev a gùd aidíya wot iz ment bai it. Foor igzaempal, dhear aar greit numbarz ov veri giftid müuzíshanz hu aar admayard but not koold jiyniyasiz. But dhear aar udharz, maenifestli pradijas, parfoorming ofan aet ikstroordineri eijiz, a varayati ov fiyts sou kompleks dhaet dha leiman kùd haardli imaejin, iyvan widh dha moust desparrat leibar, akumplishing eni ov dhem, wail iyvan müuzíshanz aar astonisht: aend wi dhen riych foor dha gùd, haendi, veig, Inlaitanmant woerd aend kool dhem jiyniyasiz. Dha list inkluudz Mozart aend Mendelssohn; aend dispait ool limiting jujmants, it inkluudz Benjamin Britten.

ODE TO A NIGHTINGALE
Bai John Keats

'Tis not through envy of thy happy lot,
But being so happy in thine happiness.
That thou, light-winged Dryad of the trees
In some melodious plot
Of beechen green, and shadows numberless,
Singest of summer in full-throated ease.

FUZZY OPAQUE
ORTHOGRAPHIC VISIONS
By Christopher Upward

There was a poor boy who couldn't spell
Half the words in our language too well.
His teachers thought: "Brain-sick!"
Mum and Dad hoped: "Dyslexic?"
Yet the child rashly jeered:
"What the hell!"

OUD TU A NAITINGGEIL
Bai John Keats

'Tiz not thru envi ov dhai haepi lot,
But biing so haepi in dhain haepinas.
Dhaet dhau, lait-wingd Drayaed ov dha triyz
In sum meloudiyas plot
Ov biychan griyn, aend sháedouz numbarlas,
Singast ov sumar in fùl-throutid iyz.

FUZI OUPEIK
OORTHAGRAEFIK VIZHANZ
Bai Christopher Upward

Dhear woz a poor boi hu kùdn't spel
Haef dha woerdz in awar laenggwij tu wel
Hiz tiycharz thoot: "Brein-sik!"
Mum aend Daed houpt: "Disléksik?"
Yet dha chaild raeshli jiard:
"Wot dha hel!"

H. WORD LIST

TS	M-PSS	TS	M-PSS
pen, copy, happen	**pen**, kopi, haepan	lot, odd, wash	lot, od, wosh
back, bubble, job	baek, bubal, **job**	strut, bud, love	**strut, bud,** luv
tea, tight, button	ti, tait, butan	foot, good, put	fùt, gùd, pùt
city, better	siti, betar	fleece, day, streak	fliys, dei, striyk
day, ladder, odd	dei, laedar, od	price, high, try	prais, hai, trai
key, cock, school	ki, kok, skuul	choice, boy	chois, boi
get, giggle, ghost	**get**, gigal, goust	goose, two, blue	guus, tu, blu
church, match, nature	choerch, maech, neichar	goat, show, no, cold	gout, shou, nou, kould
judge, age, soldier	juj, eij, souljar	mouth, now	mauth, nau
fat, coffee, rough, move	faet, kofi, ruf, muuv	near, here, serious	niar, hiar, siarriyas
thing, author, path	**thing**, oothar, paeth	square, fair, various	skwear, fear, vearriyas
this, other, smooth	dhis, udhar, smuudh	start, father	staart, faadhar
soon, cease, sister	suun, siys, sistar	thought, law	thoot, lo
zero, zone, roses	ziarrou, zoun, rouziz	north, war	noorth, woor
ship, sure, station	**ship**, shuar, steishan	cure, poor, jury	küar, **poor**, juarri
pleasure, vision	plezhar, vizhan	nurse, stir	noers, stoer
hot, whole, behind	**hot**, houl, bihaind	courage	kurij
more, hammer, some	moor, haemar, sum	happy, radiation, glorious	haepi, reidieishan, gloorriyas
nice, know, funny, sun	nais, nou, funi, **sun**	about, comma, common	abaut, koma, koman
ring, long, thanks, sung	**ring, long**, thaenks, **sung**	influence, situation, annual	influwans, sichueishan, áenüal
light, valley, feel	lait, vaeli, fiyl	intend, basic	inténd, beisik
yet, use, beauty	yet, üuz/üus, büuti	stimulus, educate	stimülas, éjuukeit
wet, one, when, queen	**wet**, wun, wen, kwiyn	kit, bid, hymn	**kit, bid**, him
dress, bed	dres, **bed**	trap, bad	traep, baed
Total Characters (TS)	635	**Total Words**	135
Total Characters (M-PSS)	627	**Total Words Changed**	118