

## International English Spelling Congress

The scheme summarised below was one of 35 that passed the sifting process and was forwarded to the Expert Commission following the first session of the Congress. The summary has been revised following comments received during the consultation process.

IESC 9a

Readscript  
by  
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Readscript is a logical and phonetic spelling system that can be learned in a fraction of the time it takes to learn traditional spelling. If desired, it can faithfully represent the many accents and dialects of English. It is intended as a grassroots effort to solve the multiple problems of traditional spelling and its learning, while still retaining the best aspects of it. Here are the basics of how it works:

- You spell words as they are commonly pronounced.
- The letter *r* is, however, always spelled regardless of accent in words such as *girl*.
- Each letter has only one sound of English.
- The only exceptions are: *x* which replaces the sounds *ks* used in words such as *extreme* and *ẋ* which replaces the *gz* sounds in words such as *exam*.
- The letter *ú* is used in words such as *universe* and replaces the three letter word *you*.
- There are no capital letters needed. When names need special indication, a preceding name-dot can be used.
- There are only 26 basic letter forms to learn, but 45+ letters can be made by adding 1 or 2 dots to these.
- There are no silent letters, redundant consonants, confusing vowel patterns or archaic spellings.
- Some of the most common words only require 1 or 2 letters E.g. *th* (the) *tc* (to) *nd* (and).
- An optional 6 punctuation marks are added to the traditional ones.
- *!* or *?* may be used, sparingly, when a writer wants to indicate excitement or inquisitiveness without ending a sentence. E.g. *hö MENè? kUM ON! tel Mè!*
- *?* may be used to make a rhetorical question clear. E.g. *iz th pOp kothalik?*
- *?* when using sarcasm or being insincere. E.g. *hö JÜ ú ölwəz WIN? i hä't ú ?*
- *!* is for an ironic sentence. E.g. *hè çäÿ'J kÖntlæç liÿz, but kəJ nOt çäÿ hiç öN!*
- *!* can be used to clarify the truthfulness of a statement. E.g. *çrülè! i luÿ ú !*
- A Sample Readscript font can be found here:  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/17TRNfUHw-wSF15MGNAifyzvlu79cWwWz/view?usp=sharing>

Traditional Spelling	Scheme Transcription
In a cavern, in a canyon, excavating for a mine, dwelt a miner, forty-niner, and his daughter Clementine.	IN ə kəvɛərn, IN ə kənyən, xkəvə'tɪn yəf ə mɪn, dʒwɛlt ə mɪnəf, yɔrtɛ-nɪnəf, nɪ hɪz dɔtəf 'kleməntɪn.
A north country maid down to London had strayed, although with her nature it did not agree.	ə nɔrθ kʌntɾɛ məd dʌn t' lʌndən həd strəɪd, əlθə wɪθ hɛr nəʃəf ɪt dɪd nɔt əgrɛ.
With glowing hearts, we see thee rise, the true north strong and free!	wɪθ gləʊɪŋ hɑ:rtɪz, wɛ sɛ θi: ri:z, θə tɾu nɔrθ stɾɔŋ nɪ frɛ!
Once a jolly swagman camped by a billabong under the shade of a coolibah tree.	wʌŋz ə gɔlə swəgmən kəmpd bi ə bɪləbɔŋ ʌndəf θə ʃəɪd oʊ ə kʊlɪbɑ tɾi:.
There is not in this wide world a valley so sweet, as that vale in whose bosom the bright waters meet.	θer ɪz nɔt ɪn θɪs wɪð wɛrld ə vɛlə sɔ swɛt, əz θət vɛl ɪn hʊz bɔzəm θə brɪt wɔ:təz mɛt.
I refuse to join any club that would have me as a member.	i rɪfuz t' gəɪn enɛ klʌb θət wʌd həv mə əz ə mɛmbəf.
No man has a good enough memory to be a successful liar.	nɔ mən həz ə gʊd ɪnu: məməri: t' bɛ ə sʌtsɛsɪvəl liəf.

From 'Hamlet' Act 3 Scene 1 (W. Shakespeare)

Traditional Spelling	Scheme Transcription
To be, or not to be, that is the question: whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, or to take arms against a sea of troubles and by opposing end them.	t' bɛ, ɔf nɔt t' bɛ, θət ɪz θə kwɛstɪən: wɛθəf 'tɪz nɔbləf ɪn θə mɪnd t' sʌfəf θə slɪŋz nɪ ɑrɔz oʊ ɔ:trəgəs yərdən, ɔf t' tɛk ɑrmz əgənst ə sɛ oʊ tɾʌbəlz nɪ bi əpəʊzɪŋ ɛnd θem.

ʻn stər (h.g. wɛlz) **The Star (H.G. Wells)**

ɪt wɔz ɒn θə ɪfɛrst dɛ oʊ θə nʊ ɪf θət θə ɔnəʊŋsmənt wɔz məɪ, əlmɔst

**It was on the first day of the new year that the announcement was made, almost**

sɪmɔltənɛəslɛ ɪfrɔm θɪrɛ əbzɛrʃətəreɪz, θət θə mɔʃən oʊ θə plænɪt 'neptʊn, θə

**simultaneously from three observatories, that the motion of the planet Neptune, the**

ɔ:trɛmɔst oʊ əl θə plænɪtɪz θət wɛl əbɔ:rt θə sʌn, həd bɪkʌm ɪfere ɪfətɪk. ə

**outermost of all the planets that wheel about the Sun, had become very erratic. A**

rɪtərdʒən ɪn ɪtɪz ɪvələsɛtɛ həd bɛn sʌspɛktɪd ɪn dɪsɛmbəf. θen, ə ɪənt, rɪmɔt spɛk oʊ

**retardation in its velocity had been suspected in December. Then, a faint, remote speck of**

lɪt wɔz dɪskʌvərd ɪn θə rɛgən oʊ θə pərtɛrbɪd plænɪt, ɔt ɪfɛrst θɪs dɪd nɔt kɔz ɛnɛ

light was discovered in the region of the perturbed planet, At first this did not cause any

յերէ յրճտ իտմանտ. ճիւղտիւկ քէքալ, հաւեյար, յճւնճ ի ինտելաթանց քիւարտաթալ

very great excitement. Scientific people, however, found the intelligence remarkable

ինսյ, էյթան քիյար իտ քիթաՄ ռճն իտաճ ի ռս քոթէ աղ ռաքիլէ յրճին կարթար ռճ

enough, even before it became known that the new body was rapidly growing larger and

քրիտար, ռճ իտաճ իտց ռճթան աղ քուիտ ճիյարանտ յրճաճ ի աթթէրլէ քրճթրէս ռյ ի քլանիտց.

brighter, and that its motion was quite different from the orderly progress of the planets.

#	Longman	TS	ReadScript
1	ɪ	p <u>it</u>	ɪ
2	e	p <u>et</u>	e
3	æ	p <u>at</u>	ɑ
4	ʌ	p <u>un</u>	u
5	ʊ	p <u>ut</u>	ɑ
6	i:	f <u>eed</u>	è
7	eɪ	f <u>ace</u>	ə
8	aɪ	pr <u>ice</u>	i
9	ɔɪ	b <u>oy</u>	ɑj
10	u:	f <u>ood</u>	ü
11	əʊ	f <u>loe</u>	ò
12	aʊ	f <u>owl</u>	ä
13	iə	n <u>ear</u>	ɪr
14	e	b <u>ear</u>	er
15	ɑ:	h <u>ard</u>	ər
16	ɑ:	p <u>alm</u>	əl
17	ɒ    ɑ:	p <u>ot</u>	o    à
18	ɔ:	l <u>aw</u>	ä
19	ɔ:	o <u>rd</u> er	ör
20	ju:	n <u>ew</u>	ü

21	ɜ:	her <u>d</u>	ɛr
22	i	sim <u>pl</u> y	è
23	ə	ab <u>o</u> ut	ə

### Consonants

24	p	<u>p</u> en	p
25	b	<u>b</u> ag	b
26	t	<u>t</u> ea	t
27	d	<u>d</u> ay	d
28	k	<u>k</u> ey	k
29	g	<u>g</u> et	g
30	tʃ	<u>ch</u> urch	tʃ
31	dʒ	<u>j</u> udge	dʒ
32	f	<u>f</u> at	f
33	v	<u>v</u> an	v
34	θ	<u>th</u> ing	θ
35	ð	<u>th</u> at	ð
36	s	<u>s</u> oon	s
37	z	<u>z</u> ero	z
38	ʃ	<u>sh</u> ip	ʃ
39	ʒ	plea <u>s</u> ure	ʒ
40	h	<u>h</u> ot	h
41	m	<u>m</u> ore	m
42	n	<u>n</u> ice	n
43	ŋ	ri <u>ng</u>	ŋ
44	l	<u>l</u> ight	l
45	r	<u>r</u> ight	r
46	j	<u>y</u> et	j
47	w	<u>w</u> et	w

Gettysburg Address, by Abraham Lincoln

ýär skär nj seýæn yirz ægð öir  
ýáthærz brot ýärth, on thig  
kántinænt, æ nú næðæn, kængéýð in  
libærtæ nj dedikætæd t th  
præpæziðæn thæt æl men ær kreætæd  
ætwæl. nöü wæ ær ingægd in æ græt  
siýæl wær, teðtin wæthær thæt  
næðæn, ær enæ næðæn gð kængéýð,  
nj gð dedikætü, kan loin indyær. wæ  
ær met on æ græt batl-ýælj in  
thæt wær. wæ haý kum t dedikæt æ  
pærðæn äý thæt ýælj, æz æ ýinæl  
reðtin-plæð ýær thöz hü hir gæý  
thær liýz, thæt thæt næðæn mit  
liý. it iz oltægethær ýrtin nj  
præpær thæt wæ gaw jü thig, but in  
æ lærgær seng wæ kanæt dedikæt, wæ  
kanæt kængækræt, wæ kanæt haló  
thig græund. th bræý men, liýin  
nj ded, hü gtruglj hir, haý  
kængækrætü it ýær æbuý ær þær  
pæær t æd ær jitrakt. th wærlj  
wil lrtl nóð, nær loin rimembær,  
wut wæ gæ hir, but it kan neýær  
ýærget wut thæ jid hir. it iz ýær  
ug th liýin, rathær, t bæ  
dedikætæd t th græt taðk rimænin  
biýær ug thæt ýrum thæz ænærj  
ded wæ tæk inkræðd jiyóðæn t  
thæt toz ýær wið thæ gæý th  
laðt ýæl meðær äý jiyóðæn - thæt  
wæ hir hilæ rızolý thæt thæz  
ded gal næt haý jid in ýæn,

Excerpt from The Tale of Peter Rabbit, by  
Beatrix Potter

wung æron æ tim thær wær ýær  
lrtl rabrtz, nj thær næmz wær  
ýlopgæ, mopgæ, kotn-tæl, nj  
pætær. thæ liýj wth thær muthær  
in æ sand-bænk, undærneth th rüt  
oý æ ýeræ big ýær-træ. 'nöü, mi  
jirz, ' sej ólj 'mizj rabrt wun  
mærnin, ' ü mæ gð intü th ýæljz  
ær jæn th læn, but jönt gð intü  
mistær mægregærz gærn: ýær ýáthær  
had æn ækðænt thær; hæ woz part in  
æ pi bi 'mizj mægregær.

'nöü run æloin, nj jönt get intü  
mizjny. i am góin ört. ' then ólj  
'mizj rabrt taik æ bagkt nj hær  
umbrela, nj went thü th waz  
t th bakærz. gæ bæt æ löý oý  
bræn bred nj ýriý kurænt bunz.

'ýlopgæ, mopgæ, nj kotn-tæl, hü  
wær gaw lrtl bunéz, went jæn  
th læn t gæthær blækberéz: but  
pætær, hü woz ýeræ nætæ, ran  
gtræt æwæ t mistær mægregærz  
gærn, nj gtwézj undær th gæt!

ýærst hæ æt sum letigæz nj sum  
ýrenæ bænz; nj then hæ æt sum  
radigæz; nj then, ýelin ræthær  
gik, hæ went t laik ýær sum  
pærslæ. but ræund th end oý æ

that this nashan, undar jagd, sal  
hay a nu berth ay yredam, nd that  
guyarnmant ay th pepal, bi th  
pepal, yar th pepal, sal nat  
peris yrum th erth.

Excerpt from Prufrock and Other Observations,  
by T.S. Eliot

Let us go then, u nd i  
wen th eymin is sprej art  
ajengst th ski  
lik a pashant etharidj apom a  
tabal;  
Let us go, thru sერთ  
hay-djartd stréts,  
th mutarin rtréts  
oy restlas nits in wun-nit drep  
hotelg  
nd sadust restarants with  
aistar-šelz:  
stréts that yolo lik a tedéas  
arjumanent  
oy ingidéas intent  
t led u t an oyarwelmin  
twegman...  
o ju not ast, "wot is rt?"  
Let us go nd mat ar yigrt.  
in th rum th wimin kum nd go  
takin oy mitalangaló.  
th yeló yoz that rubz rts bak  
apom th windó-pánz,  
th yeló smók that rubz rts muzal  
on th windó-pánz,  
likd rts tuin intó th karnarj oy

kukumbar yram, hum sal he met  
but mstar mægregar!

mstar mægregar woz on hiz handz nd  
nez plantin art yuin kabagaz,  
but he gumpt up nd ran aytar petar,  
wayin a rat nd kalin art, 'stop  
they!

petar woz most dredyalé yritand;  
he rusj al oyur th garth, yar he  
had yarjotan th wá bak t th  
gat. he lost wun oy hiz súz amuin  
th kabagaz, nd th uthar sú  
amungst th patatóz. aytar lúzín  
them, he ran on yar legz nd went  
yastar, so that i think he mit hay  
got awá áltageinar iy he had not  
unyarmanatle run intú a gúgberé  
net, nd got kat bi th larg  
butnz on hiz gakt. rt woz a blú  
gakt with bras butnz, kwit nu.

Assorted words

pen, kopé, hapən, bak, bubəl, gob, tē, tīt, butn,  
grē, betar, jā, lajar, o, kē, kok, stül, get, jgəl,  
gost, dierd, madh, nādhər, gug, əg, sōlgər, yāt,  
koyē, ruý, müý, thín, āthər, patn, thīs, uthər, smūth,  
sūn, sēs, sīstər, zīrō, zōn, rōzəz, śip, śār, stāšən,  
plešər, yīšən, hot, hól, bhīnd, mār, hamər, sum,  
niš, nō, yunē, sun, rin, loin, thāntš, suin, lit, yalē,  
yél, yet, úz, burtē, wet, wun, wēn, kwēn, jres,  
bej, lot, o, woš, stput, bud, luý, yart, jad,  
part, ylēs, jā, strék, priš, hi, tji, dhois, bai, gūs,  
tū, blū, gót, śó, nō, kólj, mōth, nōi, nij, hij, sīrēas,

th èÿnîn,  
lingarj apon th pûls that stand in  
jranz  
let yäl apon rts bak th sart that  
yälz yrom ðimnèz,  
slipj bi th teris, mäd a sudn  
lep,  
nj seïn that it woz a soÿt oktöbar  
nirt,  
kërlj wung äbü't th häus, nj yel  
aslep.  
nj indèj thef wil bè tim  
yär th yelö smök that slidz  
äloin th strèt,  
rubin rts bak apon th  
windö-pänz; thef wil bè tim, thef wil bè  
tim  
t priper a yäs t mèt th yäsaz  
that ü mèt;  
thef wil bè tim t mërdar nj  
krëät,  
nj tim yär äk th wërts nj jäz  
oÿ handz  
that liÿt nj jrop a kwesñan on yär  
plät;  
tim yär ü nj tim yär mè,  
nj tim yet yär a hundrid  
indisçänz,  
nj yär a hundrid yisçänz nj  
riÿisçänz,  
biÿär th tækin oÿ a töst nj të.

skwer, yer, yereas, stärt, yätnar, thät, lä, närtin,  
wär, kyar, pär, garè, nërç, stër, këræg, hapè,  
rjöäçän, gläreäs, äbü't, komä, komän.

Most common words:

th, a, t, yär, on, thä, hiz, nt, az, kan, wad,  
mät, thef, wën, mè, inrtü, yär, than, then,  
mäf, lait, bilcoz, nö, thïn, önlè, yerè, enè, us,  
wërt, çawj, skül, tü, stät, hi, anuthar, ärt,  
wil, stüdänt, çäm, çëm, wër, stärt, çö,  
pläs, yü, kumpänè, rit, kwesñan, guÿarñmënt,  
oÿ, nirt, balèÿ, hapän, lärg, höm, rit,  
munè, munth, studè, wërd, çid, yär, lrtl, çins,  
arönd, çrt, öf, lin, eÿar, häieÿar, mèt,  
inklüd, kæmünätè, wung, lërn, minät, kd,  
azö, undarstandj, tægetnar, krëät, utnarz, ad,  
helth, suäi, within, ðänng, lö, çj, mómänt,  
yärç, edükätan, yart, täwärd, poläsè, müzik,  
äkuälè, wät, çend, bild, näçän, inrtisçt,  
ixpärèans, kil, üç, käntröl, elç, mägar,  
jÿelapment, betar, çisid, härt, lit, palès,  
rtërn, rparrt, xplän, jÿelap, täin, tÿü,  
jÿaräng, inrtarñaçänäl, modl, päzicän,  
retärd, speçal, çapärt, matar, çit, bäs,  
nèj, ämentän, siñuäçän, yrgyar, rtselÿ, tuÿar,  
praktis, çisçrib, päçänt, müÿè, përsänäl, thërd,  
bäbè, jrä, çärs, ðiüz, point, jÿikält, bilyän,  
pñarj, réaliz, liltè, letar, çingäl, säith,  
kampän, käl, ðiërñ, turänt, inÿolÿ, çitarätè,  
west, pëf, rest, yit, past, ärdar, yötäs, blud,  
näñar, stär, yin, päg, komän, räs, çmalär,  
üçüälè, anämäl, çüt, örtisçt, kærar, thug, xaktlè,  
çiz, äkër, thät, kwolätè, härd, mëtin,

worteyar, partikulare, retagniz, los, herşelý,  
jel, la, bil, ariý, sex, setşan, skil, oparışan,  
ot, jigin, ten, bli, klare, tñiti, diet, public,  
jes, priý, klam, help, netwert, ýarm, jren,  
set, tñal, ýerm, manigmant, tñit, klöz,  
ñiare, mantan, ontü, imloie, hed, apli,  
şak, ñer, ştuşar, wot, top, eýnin, unrt,  
wure, indayigual, neşare, şoldar, jrem