

The Consonant Sounds

English letters are divided into two groups: vowels and consonants. The letters *a, e, i, o,* and *u* are vowels; all other letters are consonants. The letter *y* is a consonant at the beginning of a word or syllable but a vowel when it occurs in any other position within a word or syllable.

The letter *q* is always followed by the letter *u*. The letter team *qu* is classified as a consonant letter team and represents two combined sounds. The letter *u* is not considered a vowel when it is part of the letter team *qu*. In English we use the consonant letter team *qu* to represent the sounds /kw/; the letters *k* and *w* are never used for this purpose: *qu* = /kw/ as in *quilt*.

Students underline all consonant teams found in words during dictation.

The letter *x* represents two sounds blended together: *x* = /ks/ as in *box*.

The letters *c* and *k* form a consonant team. The letter team *ck* is never used at the beginning of a word and must come directly after a short vowel: *ck* = /k/ as in *rock*.

The letter *s* makes two sounds: *s* = /s/ as in *sun* and *s* = /z/ as in *his*. Words that begin with the sound /z/ are always spelled with the letter *z*, never with the letter *s*. **Students double underline a letter when it represents its second sound.**

Lesson 2

1.	<i>z</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>w</i>	<i>v</i>
2.	<i>p</i>	<u><i>qu</i></u>	<i>t</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>z</i>
3.	<i>f</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>d</i>	<u><i>ck</i></u>	<i>h</i>
4.	<i>p</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>w</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>y</i>
5.	<i>g</i>	<i>m</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>k</i>	<i>j</i>
6.	<u><i>s</i></u>	<u><i>ck</i></u>	<i>l</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>s</i>
7.	<i>b</i>	<i>z</i>	<i>m</i>	<i>t</i>	<u><i>ck</i></u>
8.	<u><i>qu</i></u>	<i>r</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>x</i>
9.	<i>v</i>	<i>j</i>	<u><i>s</i></u>	<i>n</i>	<i>l</i>
10.	<i>h</i>	<i>k</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>r</i>	<i>c</i>
11.	<i>z</i>	<i>t</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>f</i>
12.	<i>m</i>	<i>w</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>v</i>
13.	<i>b</i>	<i>z</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>l</i>	<u><i>s</i></u>