

Hello there!

We're going to start by learning about the sounds of the English language.

As you know, there are 26 letters in the alphabet.

This whole set of the letters, from A to Z, is known as the alphabet. Even though everyone starts by learning about the alphabet, and almost everyone knows the ABC song, let's still take some time to make sure that we get the basics right.

Along the way, I'm also going to point out some common mistakes to help you get the sounds right.

NOTE: On the next page, you will see some notes on the letters you need to pay special attention to.

01

The Alphabet

英文筆記

SQUARE ONE: SOUNDS

A: When you say 'A', you want to make sure that you are smiling, so that your mouth is wide.

C: The right way to say this letter is "see" (like when we look at something with our eyes).

F: The letter has only one sound. Sometimes, people make the mistake of saying "e-fu". You should say it as just one sound: "ef". The ending is only air.

G: The shape that you make with your mouth is like when you want to kiss someone. Your mouth is kind of round, unlike when you're smiling.

H: Like 'F', this letter only has one sound.

J: When you say 'J', make sure your tongue is rolled up.

L: This letter is like 'F' and 'H'; it only has one sound. Your tongue should go up to the top of your mouth.

M: When you say this letter, close your mouth.

N: The letter sounds like the word "an". It's important to know that at the very end, your tongue needs to go up and touch the top of your mouth. The ending is a very small sound, but your tongue needs to be there.

R: Your tongue needs to roll up; it needs to go back.

S: Like 'H' and 'L', 'S' is only one sound.

W: This one seems hard, but it's really just the word "Double" and the letter 'U'.

X: It's the same sound as "ex". There's only one sound here — not three sounds. The ending is only air.

Z: This one is a little difficult for some people. The trick is to say "see", then make the beginning vibrate.

One thing we need to understand is that letters often make different sounds when they come together to create words, but it's still important to get the sounds of the letters right because in our lives, we have many words that are made of letters, like "USA", "DKNY" or the company, "ANZ".

I hope you have enjoyed the Square One lesson on the alphabet. I will see you in the next lesson.