

# Numbers

In this hand-out, the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) is used. To hear the sounds that go with the characters of the IPA, click on the symbols in one of the following IPA charts.

- [www.internationalphoneticassociation.org/IPAcharts/inter\\_chart\\_2018/IPA\\_2018.html](http://www.internationalphoneticassociation.org/IPAcharts/inter_chart_2018/IPA_2018.html)

- <http://www.yorku.ca/earmstro/ipa/> or

- [www.seeingspeech.ac.uk/](http://www.seeingspeech.ac.uk/) click on [IPA charts]

## Cardinal Numbers

|         |  |           |              |
|---------|--|-----------|--------------|
| 1       | one  | 11        | eleven       |
| 2       | two  | 12        | twelve       |
| 3       | three  | 13        | thirteen     |
| 4       | four   | 14        | fourteen     |
| 5       | five   | 15        | fifteen      |
| 6       | six  | 16        | sixteen      |
| 7       | seven  | 17        | seventeen    |
| 8       | eight  | 18        | eighteen     |
| 9       | nine   | 19        | nineteen     |
| 10      | ten  | 20        | twenty       |
| 21      | twenty-one   | 10        | ten          |
| 22      | twenty-two   | 20        | twenty       |
| 23      | twenty-three   | 30        | thirty       |
| 24      | twenty-four  | 40        | forty        |
| 25      | twenty-five  | 50        | fifty        |
| 26      | twenty-six   | 60        | sixty        |
| 27      | twenty-seven   | 70        | seventy      |
| 28      | twenty-eight   | 80        | eighty       |
| 29      | twenty-nine  | 90        | ninety       |
| 100     | one hundred, a hundred   | 1,000     | thousand     |
| 200     | two hundred  | 2,000     | two thousand |
| 300     | three hundred  | 1,000,000 | million      |
| 2586    | two thousand five hundred and eighty-six                           |           |              |
| 278,549 | two hundred and seventy-eight thousand five hundred and forty-nine |           |              |

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## Ordinal numbers

Enfos

|                       |   |                         |             |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------------|-------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup>       | first   | 11 <sup>th</sup>        | eleventh    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>       | second  | 12 <sup>th</sup>        | twelfth     |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>       | third   | 13 <sup>th</sup>        | thirteenth  |
| 4 <sup>th</sup>       | fourth  | 14 <sup>th</sup>        | fourteenth  |
| 5 <sup>th</sup>       | fifth   | 15 <sup>th</sup>        | fifteenth   |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>       | sixth   | 16 <sup>th</sup>        | sixteenth   |
| 7 <sup>th</sup>       | seventh   | 17 <sup>th</sup>        | seventeenth |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>       | eighth  | 18 <sup>th</sup>        | eighteenth  |
| 9 <sup>th</sup>       | ninth   | 19 <sup>th</sup>        | nineteenth  |
| 10 <sup>th</sup>      | tenth   | 20 <sup>th</sup>        | twentieth   |
| 21 <sup>st</sup>      | twenty-first  | 10 <sup>th</sup>        | tenth       |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup>      | twenty-second   | 20 <sup>th</sup>        | twentieth   |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup>      | twenty-third  | 30 <sup>th</sup>        | thirtieth   |
| 24 <sup>th</sup>      | twenty-fourth   | 40 <sup>th</sup>        | fortieth    |
| 25 <sup>th</sup>      | twenty-fifth  | 50 <sup>th</sup>        | fiftieth    |
| 26 <sup>th</sup>      | twenty-sixth  | 60 <sup>th</sup>        | sixtieth    |
| 27 <sup>th</sup>      | twenty-seventh  | 70 <sup>th</sup>        | seventieth  |
| 28 <sup>th</sup>      | twenty-eighth   | 80 <sup>th</sup>        | eightieth   |
| 29 <sup>th</sup>      | twenty-ninth  | 90 <sup>th</sup>        | ninetieth   |
| 100 <sup>th</sup>     | (one) hundredth   | 1.000 <sup>th</sup>     | thousandth  |
| 300 <sup>th</sup>     | three hundredth   | 1.000.000 <sup>th</sup> | millionth   |
| 2586 <sup>th</sup>    | two thousand five hundred and eighty-sixth                          |                         |             |
| 278,549 <sup>th</sup> | two hundred and seventy-eight thousand five hundred and forty-ninth |                         |             |

# Nothing

Strangely, in English, there are several words for nothing, no quantity, the quantity **zero**, the quantity **0**. The independent number **0** is often pronounced as **nought** or **zero**. As a part of a figure it can also be pronounced as **nil**. Water freezes at 0C In sports like football the word **nil** is used for **0**, in tennis it is **love**. In American sports **nothing** can be used. In code numbers, telephone and room numbers, the number **0** is normally pronounced as the letter **O**.

Secret agent **Double O Seven**, [ dʌbl əv sevən ] (**007**).

## Repeating digits in code numbers

As you can see from the secret code for James Bond, repeated digits in code and telephone numbers are normally said as **double** plus the repeated digit. 3377.2436 [ dʌbl ] 3  
[ dʌbl ] 7 2436

## Years and Round Numbers

In English years are pronounced in two parts one indicating the century, the other indicating the year in the century. The part indicating the century can be omitted when speaking and substituted by an apostrophe when writing.

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 1986 | nineteen eighty-six, you normally say: eighty-six ('86), you do not say: <del>one thousand nine hundred and eighty-six</del>                             |
| 1999 | nineteen ninety-nine, you normally say: ninety-nine ('99)  |
| 1743 | seventeen forty-three  |
| 2003 | two thousand and three (the first decennium of a millennium is an exception, saying twntythree would be understood as '23 possibly meaning 1923 or 2023) |
| 2012 | twenty twelve  |

If you say 'one thousand nine hundred and eighty-six' or 'one thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine', people will think of a number, a quantity, not of a year.

## Round multiples of hundred

1100 eleven hundred (more common); (one)thousand one hundred (less common)

Round multiples of hundred from 1100 to 1900, are often pronounced as such.

1400 fourteen hundred (more common); (one)thousand four hundred (less common)

3500 thirty-five hundred; three thousand five hundred (less common)

But this is not done with round thousands.

2000 two thousand, not: ~~twenty~~-hundred

5000 five thousand

Examples:

2800 twenty-eight hundred

3000 three thousand

4780 four thousand seven hundred and eighty

## Fractions

|                 |                 |                      |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| $\frac{1}{2}$   | half            | [ ha:f ]             |
| $\frac{1}{4}$   | a quarter       | [ ə 'kwɔ:(ɪ)tə(ɪ) ]  |
| $\frac{2}{3}$   | two third       | [ tu:' θə(ɪ)d ]      |
| $\frac{1}{8}$   | one eighth      | [ wʌn 'eitθ ]        |
| $\frac{1}{5}$   | one fifth       | [ wʌn 'fifθ ]        |
| $\frac{3}{8}$   | three eighth    | [ θri: 'eitθ ]       |
| $5 \frac{1}{2}$ | five and a half | [ ,faɪv ən ə 'ha:f ] |
| $\frac{3}{4}$   | three quarters  | [ θri: 'kwɔ:təɪz ]   |

## Decimals

0.1 one tenth / point one

0.01 one hundredth / point nil one (GB) / point zero one (US)

10.37 ten point thirty seven

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