

Phonological Segmentation of Initial Sounds: Instructions for Use

All the materials in this task are monosyllabic words and nonwords of CVC structure. They are designed for use in conjunction with word and nonword minimal pair tasks (eg. [1] and [2]). This task provides information about a person's ability to segment at least the initial sound of a heard string. By including nonwords as well as words, auditory analysis skills can be tested independently of lexical phonological processes. The ability to carry out phonological segmentation has been considered to be relevant to remedial work on reading in some cases (eg. Mitchum, C. & Berndt, R. (1991) *Journal of Neurolinguistics*, 6, 103 - 137).

Special Points:

Before using this task, check that the patient can not only recognise written letters but also match them with heard sounds (eg. [18], [19], [20], [23]).

Mask all the lines of written letters except the one you want the patient to attend to.

To avoid confusion, do not present this task in the same session as Phonological Segmentation of Final Sounds [17].

Descriptive Statistics (for 25 control subjects):

Initial Sounds of Words:

n = 30	Mean = 29.36	Std. Dev. = 0.86
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Initial Sounds of Nonwords

n = 15	Mean = 14.24	Std. Dev. = 1.01
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Suggestions for Where to go next: If the patient performs poorly on this task, check auditory processing abilities (eg. the ability to carry out nonword discrimination [1]). If the patient can carry out same-different judgements with nonwords successfully, then this suggests that there may be a specific problem to do with segmenting the string rather than 'hearing' it. In this case, one might also anticipate a problem in phonological segmentation of final sounds [17] and auditory rhyme judgements [14, 15], though not necessarily in judgements of word homophony [28]. Also try Digit Span tasks [13].

Error analysis should help to identify patients who make sound-based errors (of voice, manner and place) and those who make visual confusion errors such as u for n and t for f (coded as 'c' errors on the score sheet).

Phonological Segmentation of Initial Sounds:

Presenter's & Marking Form

Name:

Date:

Instructions to Subject: I'm going to say some items. Some are real words. Some are 'made-up' words. Say the words after me. Listen for the **first sound** in the word. Find it here. **Prevent subject from lipreading. Use the words 'date' and 'pill' as practice items.**

Marking Instructions: Tick correct answer in Target column. Circle wrong choice in appropriate column: 1, 2, 3 or 4. Adjacent letters in bold type indicate what the error is: an error of voicing (**v**), manner (**m**) or place (**p**), 2 or more distinctive features different (**d**), or a visual error (**c**).

Target	1	2	3	4	Target	1	2	3	4
P date					22 niz	d	m	p	t
P pill					23 cap	g	v	t	p
1 tin	d	v	p	p	24 need	m	p	d	m
2 nose	d	m	m	p	25 sown	z	v	t	m
3 rarg	l	p	w	m	26 varg	f	v	z	p
4 pem	b	v	t	p	27 bad	p	v	d	p
5 lock	n	m	r	p	28 goaf	k	v	d	p
6 mane	w	m	n	p	29 coat	g	v	t	p
7 baf	p	v	d	p	30 pit	b	v	t	p
8 tip	d	v	p	p	31 dife	t	v	b	p
9 face	p	m	s	p	32 lead	n	m	r	m
10 veal	f	v	z	p	33 might	w	m	n	p
11 gale	k	v	d	p	34 safe	ch	m	f	p
12 tafe	d	v	p	p	35 lov	r	p	n	m
13 zif	s	v	v	p	36 dab	t	v	b	p
14 lane	r	p	n	m	37 fail	v	v	s	p
15 ball	p	v	g	p	38 sarl	z	v	f	p
16 pan	b	v	t	p	39 pack	b	v	c	p
17 farl	v	v	s	p	40 kep	g	v	t	p
18 toad	c	p	d	v	41 road	l	p	n	m
19 jug	d	m	ch	v	42 jeg	d	m	ch	v
20 marf	w	m	n	p	43 god	c	v	d	p
21 zeal	s	v	d	m	44 doubt	t	v	b	p
					45 nod	m	p	d	m

Words	/30	place	/40	2+ dist feat	/45
Nonwords	/15	voice	/30	visual	/45
		manner	/20		

Name: _____

Date: _____

Find the letter that stands for the first sound in the word

P. t p l d g

P. b p m h f

1. p r t d b

2. u d n m t

3. l r f w m

4. b q t p d

5. m n l i r

6. l w n u m

7. d b p t q

8. d f l p t

9. f p t s l

10. u f z v s

11. t g k y d

12. t b r p d

13. s v x f z

14. l m n r i

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Name: _____

Date: _____

- | | | | | | |
|-----|----|---|---|---|---|
| 15. | p | g | t | b | q |
| 16. | t | q | p | b | m |
| 17. | f | z | v | s | t |
| 18. | c | g | t | d | f |
| 19. | ch | i | d | j | t |
| 20. | n | m | u | l | w |
| 21. | z | f | d | x | s |
| 22. | u | d | t | m | n |
| 23. | t | g | e | c | m |
| 24. | d | n | b | u | m |
| 25. | z | e | t | s | c |
| 26. | u | f | v | s | z |
| 27. | q | l | d | p | b |
| 28. | k | g | t | d | y |
| 29. | c | d | e | t | g |
| 30. | l | b | t | q | p |

Name:	Date:
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Find the letter that stands for the first sound in the word

- | | | | | | |
|-----|---|----|---|----|---|
| 31. | t | q | b | p | d |
| 32. | m | l | n | r | i |
| 33. | w | l | u | m | n |
| 34. | e | ch | s | f | w |
| 35. | l | m | n | i | r |
| 36. | b | d | q | l | t |
| 37. | s | l | v | f | h |
| 38. | z | f | v | e | s |
| 39. | q | c | s | p | b |
| 40. | g | t | k | h | d |
| 41. | r | i | n | l | m |
| 42. | d | t | i | ch | j |
| 43. | c | g | h | d | y |
| 44. | d | b | p | t | q |
| 45. | d | m | n | p | u |