Appendix 2

Pronunciation Guide and Drills

I. VIETNAMESE ALPHABET

Vietnamese alphabet has 29 letters.

A  Ă  Ą  Ą  B  C  D  D  E  Ė  G  H  I  K  L  M
a  ā  Ą  Ą  b  c  d  d  e  ē  g  h  i  k  l  m
N  O  Ô  Ô  P  Q  R  S  T  U  U'  V  X  Y
n  o  ô  ô  p  q  r  s  t  u  u'  v  x  y

II. VIETNAMESE PHONOLOGY

Three major systems of sounds: consonants, vowels, and tones of Vietnamese language will be introduced in this section.

A. Consonants
The following consonant words are listed in alphabetical order.

b  c  ch  d  d  g  gh  gi  h  k
kh  l  m  n  nh  ng  ngh  o  ô  ô'
p  ph  qu  r  s  t  th  tr  v  x

The following table lists consonants that may occur in the initial position of a word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spelling</th>
<th>Sound</th>
<th>As pronounced in English</th>
<th>Example in VN</th>
<th>Meaning in English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b</td>
<td>/b/</td>
<td>buy</td>
<td>bö</td>
<td>father</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c</td>
<td>/k/</td>
<td>can</td>
<td>con cá</td>
<td>fish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k</td>
<td>/k/</td>
<td>king</td>
<td>kim</td>
<td>needle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qu</td>
<td>/k/</td>
<td>quick</td>
<td>qua</td>
<td>to pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ch</td>
<td>/c/</td>
<td>cha-cha</td>
<td>cha</td>
<td>father</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tr</td>
<td>/c/</td>
<td>cha-cha</td>
<td>trả [No. dialect]</td>
<td>to return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d</td>
<td>/z/</td>
<td>zero</td>
<td>dê [No. dialect]</td>
<td>easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gi</td>
<td>/z/</td>
<td>zest</td>
<td>già [No. dialect]</td>
<td>old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>r</td>
<td>/z/</td>
<td>zoo</td>
<td>ra [No. dialect]</td>
<td>to go out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d</td>
<td>/d/</td>
<td>to do</td>
<td>di</td>
<td>to go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Sound</td>
<td>As pronounced in English</td>
<td>Example in VN</td>
<td>Meaning in English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g</td>
<td>/g/</td>
<td>to go</td>
<td>ga</td>
<td>gas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gh</td>
<td>/g/</td>
<td>ghost</td>
<td>ghi</td>
<td>to write down</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h</td>
<td>/h/</td>
<td>hat</td>
<td>ho</td>
<td>to cough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kh</td>
<td>/x/</td>
<td>lock</td>
<td>khi</td>
<td>when</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l</td>
<td>/l/</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>la</td>
<td>to scold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m</td>
<td>/m/</td>
<td>me</td>
<td>me</td>
<td>mother</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n</td>
<td>/n/</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>to be full</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ng</td>
<td>/ŋ/</td>
<td>sing</td>
<td>ngô (no equiv. in EN)</td>
<td>corn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ngh</td>
<td>/ŋ/</td>
<td>sing</td>
<td>nghĩ (no equiv. in EN)</td>
<td>to think</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nh</td>
<td>/ɲ/</td>
<td>canyon</td>
<td>nhà</td>
<td>house</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>p</td>
<td>/p/</td>
<td>piano</td>
<td>pin *</td>
<td>battery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ph</td>
<td>/f/</td>
<td>Philip</td>
<td>pha</td>
<td>to mix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t</td>
<td>/t/</td>
<td>top</td>
<td>to</td>
<td>big</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>th</td>
<td>/tʰ/</td>
<td>thin</td>
<td>thu</td>
<td>autumn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v</td>
<td>/v/</td>
<td>video</td>
<td>và</td>
<td>and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>s</td>
<td>/s/</td>
<td>stay</td>
<td>sư</td>
<td>monk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x</td>
<td>/s/</td>
<td>saw</td>
<td>xa</td>
<td>far</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d</td>
<td>/j/</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>dì [So. &amp; Central dialect]</td>
<td>aunt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gi</td>
<td>/j/</td>
<td>young</td>
<td>gió “</td>
<td>wind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tr</td>
<td>/ʈʂ/</td>
<td>try</td>
<td>trè “</td>
<td>be young</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>s</td>
<td>/ʃ/</td>
<td>shoe</td>
<td>sọ “</td>
<td>to be afraid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>r</td>
<td>/r/</td>
<td>run</td>
<td>ra “</td>
<td>to go out</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The phoneme /p/ usually occurs only in final position, but there few words borrowed from French such as pip (pipe), pok (poker), poplin (poplin) having “p” as initial consonant.

- Only eight consonant can appear in the final position: c, g, h, m, n, p, t, y

- The letter q does not appear by itself but with the vowel u → qu

- Although there are many dialectical variations in Vietnamese language, three main dialectical variations of Hà Nội, Huế and Sài Gòn are illustrated in the above table.

- The last five consonants are typical of the pronunciation of the area of north central Vietnam (Huế dialect) and South Vietnam (Sài Gòn dialect).

- For Huế and Sài Gòn dialects, the “t” in final position or a word sounds like an
unreleased “c” /k/ (máť → pronounced like máć) and the final “n” /n/ sounds like “ng” or /ŋ/ (bán → pronounced like bâng).

-In Sài Gòn dialect, both the “v” and “gi” sound more like “d” /j/ (vô → pronounced more like “dô” and giô sounds more like dô).

-In Hà Nội dialect, the following consonants are pronounced alike:

a. the “tr” and “ch” sound alike.
   They are both pronounced as “ch” /c/ (trà → pronounced like chà).

b. the “r” and “d” sound alike.
   They are both pronounced as “d” /z/ (ròi → pronounced like dố).

c. the “s” and “x” sound alike.
   They are both pronounced as “x” /s/ (sẻ → pronounced like xẻ).

**Practice 1:** c, k, kh

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>c</th>
<th>k</th>
<th>kh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ca (to sing)</td>
<td>ké (to place furniture)</td>
<td>khá (fairly good)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cô (Miss; aunt)</td>
<td>kem (ice cream)</td>
<td>khi (when)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>co (to shrink)</td>
<td>kí (kilogram)</td>
<td>kho (VN salty stew)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Spelling rules:*

Vowels a, o, ô, o, u, u are preceded by c while e, è, i, y have to be preceded by k.

**Practice 2:** ng, ngh, g, gh

**ng and ngh both sounded as /ŋ/**. In initial position, /ŋ/ is perhaps the most difficult consonant sound for English speakers to pronounce because in English this sound exists only in medial or final positions. To pronounce this sound correctly in initial positions, try to release and emphasize the English final /ŋ/ to begin a word in Vietnamese. For example, emphasize the ending consonant ng in wing /…ŋ…ŋ/ to pronounce “ngu” in Vietnamese.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ng</th>
<th>ngh</th>
<th>g</th>
<th>gh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nga (Russia)</td>
<td>nghè (to listen; hear)</td>
<td>ga (train station)</td>
<td>ghè (to stop by)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ngô (corn)</td>
<td>nghí (to doubt)</td>
<td>gö (wood)</td>
<td>ghí (to write down)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ngu (be stupid)</td>
<td>nghê (occupation)</td>
<td>gù (hunch back)</td>
<td>ghì (to hold tight)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Spelling rules:*

-Vowels a, o, ô, o, u, u, à, â are preceded by ng and g, while e, è, i, y have to be preceded by ngh and gh in order to produce the same consonant sound respectively.

**Practice 3:** gi

**g** followed immediately by i and other vowel combinations pronounced like /z/ in Hà Nội dialect and like /j/ in Sài Gòn dialect.

- **gi** (what)    **già** (fake)    **giê** (rag)    **giô** (leg)    **giô** (death anniversary)
Practice 4  c, ch, t, p as ending consonants

Words with c, ch, t, p as ending consonants only can have either sác or nằng tones.

nhạc (music)  bác (uncle)  sách (book)  sách (clean)
tát (to slap)  hát (seed)  ngáp (yawn)  hạp (suitable)

B. VOWELS

Vietnamese language has
-9 single vowels:  front unrounded: i, ê, e  central unrounded: a, o, u  back rounded: u, ô, o
-2 short vowels:  ā, â

The vowel triangle, originally created by Panini - a scholar from India, is an imaginary triangle located in the mouth used to represent graphically the position of the tongue while pronouncing certain vowels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Front</th>
<th>Central</th>
<th>Back</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i</td>
<td>u</td>
<td>u High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ê</td>
<td>ê</td>
<td>å å Mid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e</td>
<td>á o</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ũ</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>u</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ô</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ā</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>â</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spelling</th>
<th>Sound</th>
<th>As pronounced in ENG</th>
<th>Ex. in VN</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i</td>
<td>/i/</td>
<td>city</td>
<td>bi</td>
<td>marbles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e</td>
<td>/ɛ/</td>
<td>end</td>
<td>len</td>
<td>wool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ê</td>
<td>/ê/</td>
<td>fate</td>
<td>lê</td>
<td>pear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>/a/</td>
<td>far, father</td>
<td>ba</td>
<td>three</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ũ</td>
<td>/ŋ/</td>
<td>but</td>
<td>bô</td>
<td>butter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>u</td>
<td>/u/</td>
<td>does not resemble any EN sound</td>
<td>su</td>
<td>monk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o</td>
<td>/ɔ/</td>
<td>bull</td>
<td>thu</td>
<td>autumn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ô</td>
<td>/o/</td>
<td>so</td>
<td>lo</td>
<td>be worried</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ā</td>
<td>/ä/</td>
<td>cut</td>
<td>ô-tô</td>
<td>car</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>â</td>
<td>/æ/</td>
<td>umpire; under</td>
<td>sân</td>
<td>ginseng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>/ɜ/</td>
<td></td>
<td>sân</td>
<td>courtyard</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Front unrounded vowels: i, ê, e
   When pronouncing these vowels, the tip of the tongue is at the lower jaw.

   **Practice 5:** i or y is a close vowel, therefore, the mouth is almost closed. This vowel is almost the same as the English [i] in cheese, tea, key, and so on.
   bi (marble)  khi (when)  thi (test)  ly (glass)  ky (bamboo dust pan)

   **Practice 6:** ê is a close-mid vowel. It is similar to the vowel [ei] as in fate, may, or hay.
   bè (calf)  tê (numb)  phenomenê (to criticize)  dé (goat)  mô (to be infatuated)

   **Practice 7:** e is an open-mid vowel. It has no equivalent in English, but is sounded similar to the vowel in tan, fan, pair, or care.
   xe (vehicle)  me (tamarind)  che (to cover)  de (anvil)  que (stick)

2. Central unrounded vowels: a, ơ, ur
   **Practice 8:** a is an open vowel and has no equivalent in English. Its sound is similar to the vowel in far or farther.
   xa (far)  cha (father)  ma (ghost)  la (to yell)  ta (I, self)

   **Practice 9:** ơ is a close-mid vowel. It is almost the same as the vowel in above, but
   bo (butter)  mo (dream)  to (silk)  do (dirty)  ho (to dry)

   **Practice 10:** ur is a close vowel. It has no equivalent in English and is the most difficult vowel for English speakers to pronounce.
   sur (monk)  tur (fourth)  thu (letter)  hur (naughty)  nhur (as)

3. Back rounded vowels: u, ô, o
   **Practice 11:** u is a close vowel. It is equivalent to the vowel in who, you, sue.
   thu (autumn)  ngu (stupid)  khu (area)  phu (labor worker)

   **Practice 12:** ô is a close-mid vowel as in so, oh
   tô (big bowl)  cô (aunt, Miss)  xô (to push)  ngô (corn)  nô (frolic)

   **Practice 13:** o is an open vowel and almost the same as the vowel in saw, law, bother.
   to (big)  ho (to cough)  lo (worry)  cho (to give)  no (full)
4. **Short vowels: ă, â**. These vowels must be preceded or followed by consonants.

**Practice 14:** ă and a are basically pronounced the same but the vowel ă is much shorter than a.

ăn (to eat)  chấc (solid)  màt (eye)  chăn (blanket)  sän (to hunt)

**Practice 15:** â and ơ are basically pronounced the same but the vowel â is much shorter than ơ.

ân (favor)  tàc (10 cm)  màt (to lose)  cän (scale)  sän (courtyard)

5. **Vowel and consonants**

**Practice 16:** ich, it, in, inh

ich (benefit)  dích (to translate)  ít (little)  bjt (to suppress)

in (to print)  tin (to trust)  xinh (pretty)  dinh (palace)

**Practice 17:** ên, ênh, êch, êt

tên (name)  hên (lucky)  kên (channel)  bênh (sick)

êch (frog)  kêch (coarse)  têt (holiday)  đêt (to weave)

**Practice 18:** en, eng, et, ep

hen (asthma)  sen (lotus)  beng (to cut off)  bêng (immediately)

hét (to yell)  nghệt (to stuff)  chép (to copy)  dép (beautiful)

**Practice 19:** an, ang, anh

an (safe)  tan (to dissolve)  tang (mourning)  banh (ball)

**Practice 20:** ac, ach, at, ap

ác (cruel)  bac (silver)  sạch (clean)  tách (cup)

bát (bowl)  hất (seed)  ngáp (to yawn)  hap (to suit)

**Practice 21:** ot, op, ơc, ơt, ơp, oc, ot, op

ơt (chili)  bót (to reduce)  lớp (class)  lớp (roof)

ơc (snail)  học tủ (drawer)  tốt (good)  bột (flour)

bớp (to plop)  xốp (spongy)  ốc (brain)  học (to study)

ngọt (sweet)  hót (to chirp)  chóp (top)  hop (to meet)

**Practice 22:** on, ong, ôn, ôm, omething, on

con (offspring)  ngon (delicious)  ông (bee)  xồng (complete)

ôn (to review)  hôn (to kiss)  ờm (to hug)  tôm (shrimp)

ông (Mr.)  hòng (hip)  ơn (favor)  sơn (to paint)

**Practice 23:** un, ung, omething

hun (to kiss)  run (to shake)  sung (fig)  chúng (together)

tung (to agree)  sung (swollen)  nhung (but)  bung (to carry)
| Practice 24: | uc, ut, urc, urt |
| Practice 25: | âm, âm, âm, âm |
| Practice 26: | ia, ua, u |
| Practice 27: | iêu, ieu, eo |
| Practice 28: | iêc, iêt, iêp |
| Practice 29: | iën, iêng |
| Practice 30: | ao, au |
| Practice 31: | ai, ay, ây |
| Practice 32: | uroi, uyơ, urơc, urơt, urơp |
| Practice 33: | uрон, uรง, u롬 |
| Practice 34: | uể, uyên, uyt, uyệt, |
| Practice 35: | uy, uynh, uya, uyu |

6. **Vowels clusters and consonants**

| Practice 26: | tia (ray) |
| Practice 27: | tiêu (to spend) |
| Practice 28: | tiẽc, iêt, iêp |
| Practice 29: | hiên (veranda) |
| Practice 30: | ao (pond) |
| Practice 31: | ai (who) |
| Practice 32: | tuor (fresh) |
| Practice 33: | lươn (eel) |
| Practice 34: | thuê (to rent) |
| Practice 35: | tuy (although) |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>chuc (dozen)</th>
<th>hut (to smoke)</th>
<th>hut (to miss sthg.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mực (ink)</td>
<td>buc (be hot)</td>
<td>büt (to take off)</td>
<td>giựt (to pull)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>nhân (to multiple)</td>
<td>xăng (gasoline)</td>
<td>tăng (to increase)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>nhân (wrinkle)</td>
<td>dắng (to offer)</td>
<td>vâng (yes)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>chia (to divide)</th>
<th>mua (to buy)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>mura (rain)</td>
<td>chura (not yet)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>yêu (love)</td>
<td>kêu (to yell)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>yêu (love)</td>
<td>heo (pig)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>việt (to write)</td>
<td>biệt (to know)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>tiếp (to receive)</td>
<td>thiep (card)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>mién (mouth)</td>
<td>sieng (diligent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>hai (two)</td>
<td>hay (interesting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>hai (two)</td>
<td>tây (west)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>uro (stag)</td>
<td>ruğu (alcohol)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>dươc (to get)</td>
<td>urơt (wet)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>lươn (riib)</td>
<td>xuong (bone)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>lươn (riib)</td>
<td>guơm (sword)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>huế (lily)</td>
<td>duyên (charming)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>tuyệt (snow)</td>
<td>quyệt (to decide)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>quyến (panicky)</td>
<td>khuya (late night)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>duy (although)</td>
<td>khuýu tay (elbow)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Let's Speak Vietnamese

Practice 36: ười, uốn, uóm, uông
   duôi (tail)   nuôi (to raise)   lười (often)   bán (to sell)
   buông (sail)  cướp (to steal)   uống (to drink)   buông (to let loose)

Practice 37: àng, uàn, uâng, uạt
   vàng (yes)   luận (essay)   bàng khuâng (melancholy)
   luật (law)   suốt (portion)   khuất (to pass away)

Practice 38: ức, ứột
   cuộc (to hoe)  buộc (to tie)   được (torch)
   ứột (to shallow)  chuột (mouse)   tuột (to slip off)

Practice 39: ọa, ọe, ọo, ọeo
   hoa (flower)  xoa (to rub)   hoe (reddish)   loe (bell-shaped)
   heo (pig)    béo (be fat)      ngòan ngoéo (zigzag)

Practice 40: ọai, oay, oat, oac, oach
   khoai tây (potato)  ngoài (outside)   ngoại (to pick out)   toát (to sweat)
   hoạt động - action  toạc (to rip, torn up)   ngoại (to open wide)
   hoạch định (to plan)

Practice 41: ọan, oanh, oang
   hoàn (to return)  ngoài (well-behave)  oanh (oriole)   loang (be spread)

Practice 42: ọać, ọạt, ọần, ọang, oăm
   hài (or, either)  ngoại (to beckon)   ngoại (turning point)
   hoắc (very sharp)  xoăn (curly)      hằng (deer)   hâm (deep)

C. TONES
Vietnamese is a tonal language. There are 6 tones:

1. Mid-level tone: This tone has a pitch starting at the midpoint of the pronunciation of a syllable and remains the same. It is marked by the absence of any tone marks: ma, bi, le, la

2. High-rising tone: This tone starts slightly higher than the mid-level tone and rises sharply in the middle of the syllable. It is signified by the acute accent placed above the vowel called dấu sắc: má, bi, lé, lá
3. **Low-falling tone:** This tone starts slightly lower than the mid-level tone and trails downward at the end of the syllable. It is signified by the grave accent above the vowel called **dầu huyện** in Vietnamese: mà, bè, lẻ, là

4. **Low-falling rising tone:** This tone starts at the beginning point of the low-falling tone and drop and rises swiftly at the end of the syllable. The accent called **dầu hỏi** looks like the top half of a question mark: mà, bĩ, lẻ, là

5. **High-rising broken tone:** This tone has a pitch which is as high as that of the high rising tone but is accompanied by a glottal stop. It is signified by the tilde above the vowel called **dầu ngã** : mả, bĩ, lẻ, là

6. **Low-falling broken tone:** This tone starts with a low pitch as that of the low-falling tone but it then drops very sharply. It is signified by a dot placed under the vowel called **dầu nằng**: mạ, bị, lề, lả

Each tone gives a different meaning to each word.

![Diagram of six tones](image)

**Diagram of six tones – Nguyễn Dinh Hoà**

**Practice 43:** Tones

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Vietnamese</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ma (ghost)</td>
<td>mà (cheek)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mà (but)</td>
<td>mà (tomb)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mà (horse)</td>
<td>mà (rice seedling)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le (to loll)</td>
<td>lé (cross-eyed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lé (to stick out)</td>
<td>lề (odd)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lề (reason)</td>
<td>lề (rapid)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vọ (to grab)</td>
<td>vọ (sock)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vọ (to pretend)</td>
<td>vọ (notebook)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vọ (be broken)</td>
<td>vọ (be broken)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vọ (wife)</td>
<td>vọ (wife)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Practice 44:** Single vowels and tones

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Vietnamese</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>thi (to take a test)</td>
<td>thi (fee)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>phi (obese)</td>
<td>phi (obese)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chi (to show)</td>
<td>chi (to show)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mỹ (America)</td>
<td>Mỹ (America)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chị (sister)</td>
<td>chẹ (goat)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kê (next to)</td>
<td>kê (next to)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hè (clown)</td>
<td>bè (be broken; sea)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lề (ceremony)</td>
<td>tề (bad)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thu (letter)</td>
<td>thừ (order; rank)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thừ (to try)</td>
<td>thừ (to try)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
chữ (word)         tự (self)         thu (autumn)         thú (animal)
mù (blind)         tủ (dresser; armoire)      cừ (be old –thing)      cử (old person)
cô (aunt; Miss)    có (to try hard)       hồ (lake)             cổ (neck)
cổ (banquet; feast) hô (to help)       cho (to give)          chó (dog)
bò (cow)           bó (to drop)         mỏ (wooden bell)       hớt (last name)

**Practice 45**: Mid-level tone:
Tôi không đi chơi đâu. – *I will not go out at all.*
Cô Chi ăn cơm chiều. – Miss Chi eats fried rice.
Anh em như tay chân (proverb) - *Siblings are as arms and legs.*

**Practice 46**: High-rising tone:
Cá lớn nuốt cá bé (exp.) – *The big one wins.*
Khánh hát, Ánh hét – *Khánh is singing, Ánh is screaming.*
Khúc đó hát khó làm! – *It is very difficult to sing that part/verse.*

**Practice 47**: Low-falling tone:
Thì giờ là vàng bạc (English proverb) – *Time is money.*
Tay làm hàm nhai (proverb) – *Working hands earn food for the mouth.*
Nhà bà Nhàn gần nhà bà Hà. – *Mrs. Nhàn’s house is near Mrs. Ha’s house.*

**Practice 48**: Low-falling rising tone:
Phù chăng hiểu gì cả! – *Phù does not understand anything at all!*
Trẻ em đi Bỉ nghỉ – *The children go to Belgium for holidays.*
Bà chủ của Thúy chỉ ngủ đủ bày tiếng. – *Thúy’s boss only slept 7 hours.*

**Practice 49**: High-rising broken tone:
Để được, để mất (idiom) – *Easy comes, easy goes.*
Nguyễn Vũ sẽ vẽ tranh mãi mãi. – *Nguyễn Vũ will always be an artist.*
Hễ đến trẻ thì lỡ chuyến bay. – *If you come late, then you will miss the flight.*

**Practice 50**: Low-falling broken tone:
Chị Lưu bị đau bụng nặng. – *Lua has a severe stomach ache.*
Tại sao Phùng bị tai nạn xe cơ? – *Why did Phùng have a traffic accident?*
Chị Hạnh học thuộc lòng bài học này. – *Hạnh memorizes this lesson by heart.*

**Practice 51**: Mix tones practices with idioms, proverbs
Nói dễ làm khó (idiom) – *Easier said than done.*
Chỉ lón gặp nhau (idiom)– *Great minds think alike.*
Xa mắt cách lòng (idiom)- *Out of sight, out of mind*
Nhầm mắt mua liều (idiom) - To buy a pig in a poke
Oops gặp lãnh (idiom.) - One good turn deserves another
Bỏ chưa chạy lấy người (idiom) – To flee for one’s life

Practice 52: More practices with a, â, ā
An đang mang khăn tang – An is wearing the mourning band.
Bà Ba đang ăn canh măng – Mrs Ba is eating bamboo shoots soup.
Lâm làm nhà hàng năm tầng – Lâm is building a five-storey restaurant.
Anh Cang đang bị căng thẳng – Cang is stressed out.
Nam đang cắt năm quả cam – Nam is cutting 5 oranges.
Thanh than Lâm làm cả làm cắm – Thanh complaints that Lâm is nuts.

Practice 53: More practices with i/y, ê, e
Minh bênh em. – Minh is defending his brother
Hết Tết thì hết bánh tét. – The New Year holiday has gone and so have the rice cakes.
Đêm đến, dem đến lên – The night has fallen, bring the lamp upstairs.
Lý đi thi để đi Mỹ học - Lý goes for an exam to go study in America.

Practice 54: More practices with o ơ ô ơng ông
Mỗi tối có hội – There is a festival every night.
Loi soi mỗi hỏi tôi. – Loi asks me curiously
Trung mong Đông và Phong. – Trung is waiting for Đông and Phong.
Họ họp trong lớp học – They are having a meeting in the classroom.

Practice 55: More practices with u ư uğ ưng ương
Thu di tu còn Nhưng thì sao?- Thu enters a convent and how about Nhưng?
Thương thương ông cụ đi tự tự. – The old man usually walks slowly.
Đừng đứng đằng đấy – Don’t stand over there.
Xướng ưng dung, Cung thì lúng túng – Xướng is poised while Cung is embarrassed.

Practice 56: More practices with c k kh qu
Kiều khóc khi Khôi không khỏe- Kiều cries when Khôi is not well.
Khuế không kêu khổ khi khó khăn – In hardship Khuế does not complain.
Cá kho khô và canh khổ qua. - Sstewed fish with star fruits and bitter melon

Practice 57: More practices with t th x
Tuấn thích thời tiết mùa thu thơ mộng. – Tuấn likes the romantic autumn weather.
Tháng tám trời mưa thành thơ rơi. – The rain in August drops melodiously. 
Xuân xui xẻo, quần áo xóc xêch – Xuân has been unlucky, her clothes are in a mess.

**Practice 58: More practices with ** **anh** **inh** **ènh**
Anh Thanh lau chanh với Minh và Mạnh. – Thanh is a fuss with Minh and Mạnh.
Bình có thân hình thanh mảnh. – Bình has a slender body.
Lênh đênh trên biển rộng mênh mông. - Floating in the immense sea.

**D. SOUND DISCRIMINATION PRACTICE**
Following are the practices for sound discrimination for both pronunciation and spelling as well. The teachers can start with demonstration, practice, drills, then role plays, and dictation with these sounds written in sentences or paragraphs.

**Practice 59:  e   ê**

1.  e
   bé (little child)
   - Anh có thích bé Vi không?
   *Do you like [the little child] Vi?*
   tể (to fall out)
   - Hôm qua ông Tuệ tể ở đền.
   *Yesterday Mr. Tuệ fell at the temple.*

   che (to block someone’s view)
   - Cô Lê bị nhiều người chế.
   *Miss Lê was blocked by many people.*

dến (lamp, light)
- Người đền này có nhiều đền.
*There are many lamps in this temple.*
- Họ có mua đền cho chiếc xe của anh không?
*Did they buy the lights for your car?*

2.  ê
   bé (to carry a child in one’s arms)
   - Anh có thích bé Vi không?
   *Do you like to carry Vi?*
   tể (to worship and make offerings)
   - Hôm qua ông Từ tể ở đền
   *Yesterday Mr. Từ did worship at the temple.*

   chê (to criticize)
   - Cô Lê bị nhiều người chê.
   *Miss Lê was criticized by many people.*

dến (temple; to compensate)
- Người đền này có nhiều đền.
*There are many lamps in this temple.*
- Họ có mua đền anh chiếc xe khác không?
*Did they buy another car to compensate you?*

   hên (asthma)
   Em có [bệnh] hên há? –
   *Do you have asthma?*
**Practice 59: ao au âu**

1. **ao**
   - báo (newspaper)
   - Tôi thích đọc báo.
   - I like reading newspapers.

2. **au**
   - báu (precious)
   - Tôi thích châu báu.
   - I like precious gems.

3. **âu**
   - bâu (to grasp)
   - Tôi bâu lấy cánh cửa.
   - I have to grasp the door.

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**Practice 60: ai ay ây**

1. **ai**
   - tai (ear)
   - Tai em đau quá!
   - My ear hurts!

2. **ay**
   - tay (arm)
   - Tay em đau quá!
   - My arm hurts!

3. **ây**
   - tay (west)
   - Đi phía tây.
   - Go to the west.

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**Practice 61: an ang**

1. **an**
   - ban (section)
   - Chị học ở ban nào?
   - In which section did you study?

2. **ang**
   - bang (state)
   - Chị học ở bang nào?
   - In which state did you study?

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Appendix 2: Pronunciation Guide and Drills
**Practice 62: an ăn**

1. an
   - An (proper name)
     – Đi gặp An đi. Let’s go see An.
   - cán (to run over)
     – Con chó tôi bị cán.
   *My dog was run over.*
   - ngán (fed up)
     – Tôi ngán ăn cơm rồi.
   *I am fed up with rice already.*

2. ăn
   - ăn (to eat)
     – Đi ăn đi. Let’s go eat.
   - cán (to bite)
     – Con chó tôi bị cán.
   *My dog was bitten.*
   - ngán (short)
     – Cái áo này ngán.
   *This blouse is short.*

**Practice 63: ăn anh**

1. ăn
   - ăn (to eat)
     – Chị có ăn không?
     *Did you eat?*
     – Tôi không có ăn.
     *I did not eat.*
   - chán (blanket)
     – Tôi đi mua chán. – I’ll go buy blankets.
   - sân (to hunt)
     – Hôm qua bà Loan đi sân.
   *Yesterday Mrs. Thanh went hunting.*

2. anh
   - anh (older brother)
     – Chị có anh không?
     *Do you have older brothers?*
     – Tôi không có anh.
     *I don’t have older brothers.*
   - chanh (lemon; lime)
     – Tôi đi mua chanh.
     *I’ll go buy lemon.*
   - sanh (to give birth)
     – Hôm qua bà Thanh đi sanh.
   *Yesterday Mrs. Thanh went to the hospital to give birth.*

**Practice 64: ơn ăn**

1. ơn
   - ơn (paint)
     – Sơn nhà anh đẹp quá!
   *The paint of your house is beautiful!*
   - hơn (more than)
     – Anh thích ở nhà hơn.
   *I’d like to stay home more.*

2. ăn
   - sân (courtyard)
     – Sân nhà anh đẹp quá!
   *The courtyard of your house is beautiful!*
   - Hân (proper name)
     – Anh thích ở nhà Hân.
   *I’d like to stay at Hân’s house.*

**E. ONLINE RESOURCES:**

*Pronunciation Drills:*
http://www.public.asu.edu/~ickpl/lsv/index.htm

*Online Pronunciation and Spelling Practice:*
http://www.public.asu.edu/~ickpl/listening/index.htm