













# The 32 Thai Vowels









## Regular Vowels (short sound)



	<b>a</b> - like <b>u</b> in <b>but</b>
	<b>e</b> - like <b>y</b> in <b>needy</b>
	<b>๓</b> - like <b>u</b> in <b>pure</b>
	<b>u</b> - like <b>oo</b> in <b>book</b>
	<b>a</b> - like <b>a</b> in <b>ache</b>
	<b>a</b> - like <b>a</b> in <b>fat</b>
	<b>o</b> - like <b>oa</b> in <b>boat</b>
	<b>aw</b> - like <b>o</b> in <b>not</b>
	<b>e</b> - like <b>e</b> in <b>her</b>
	<b>ua</b> - like <b>ew</b> in <b>new</b> + a
	<b>ia</b> - like <b>e</b> in <b>free</b> + a
	<b>๓a</b> - like <b>u</b> in <b>pure</b> + a

## Regular Vowels (long sound)

	<b>ah</b> - like <b>a</b> in <b>father</b>
	<b>e</b> - like <b>ee</b> in <b>free</b>
	<b>๓</b> - like <b>u</b> in <b>pure</b>
	<b>u</b> - like <b>oo</b> in <b>too</b>
	<b>a</b> - like <b>a</b> in <b>fame</b>
	<b>a</b> - like <b>a</b> in <b>bad</b>
	<b>o</b> - like <b>o</b> in <b>so</b>
	<b>aw</b> - like <b>aw</b> in <b>saw</b>
	<b>er</b> - like <b>er</b> in <b>her</b> (long)
	<b>ua</b> - like <b>ew</b> in <b>new</b> + a
	<b>ia</b> - like <b>ee</b> in <b>free</b> + a
	<b>๓๓a</b> - like <b>u</b> in <b>pure</b> + a

## Special Vowel Symbols

	<b>um</b> - like <b>um</b> in <b>sum</b>
	<b>ai</b> - like <b>y</b> in <b>my</b>
	<b>ai</b> - like <b>y</b> in <b>my</b>
	<b>ao</b> - like <b>ow</b> in <b>cow</b>
	<b>r๓</b> - like <b>u</b> in <b>pure</b> (short)
	<b>r๓๓</b> - like <b>u</b> in <b>pure</b>
	<b>l๓</b> - like <b>u</b> in <b>pure</b> (short)
	<b>l๓๓</b> - like <b>u</b> in <b>pure</b>
<p>These vowels are special symbols that represent certain vowel consonant combinations. They can be both long and short, but are treated as long vowels for tone rule purposes, except as noted.</p>	

- The symbol **๓** is used to transliterate a special Thai vowel sound that is not easily matched to an equivalent sound in English. It is similar to **u** in pure and **ou** in you. Study the vowel sound files to learn this sound.
-  and  are both used as **ai** like **y** in **my**  
There are just 20 Thai words that use 