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STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

# *Pronunciation Guide*

*to*

# *Names of Places*

*and State Office-holders*

# *In Iowa*

Iowa
910.3
B26

Iowa unb.
910.3 Barnes
B26 Pronunciation guide to names of places and state office-holders in Iowa

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# *Pronunciation Guide*

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# *Names of Places*

*and State Office-holders*

# *In Iowa*

**Second Edition, Copyright 1959**
**Price: $1.00**

*Prepared by*
**Professor Arthur M. Barnes**
**SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM**
**Iowa City, Iowa**

**In Cooperation with the**
**Iowa Radio-Television News Association**

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## FOREWORD

The first edition of the State University of Iowa Pronunciation Guide, published in 1948, was not only widely used but served also as a pattern for similar guides in many other states.

Now Prof. Arthur M. Barnes, head of research and graduate study in the SUI School of Journalism, has produced a new edition which follows closely on the pattern of the first, which he also compiled. He has included the names of Iowa towns, counties, rivers, lakes, and state parks, and of state office-holders. Only those names thought to present pronunciation difficulties are included; the pronunciations given are those in use by natives of the localities, and by the office-holders themselves.

The Iowa Radio-Television News Association has cooperated in the production of both the first and the second editions, and this cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.

Leslie G. Moeller, Director,
School of Journalism,
State University of Iowa

# KEY

## VOWEL SOUNDS

| Symbol | Examples |
|---|---|
| @ | fat; Allison—@llison. |
| ay | pay; Adel—Aydel; Arcadia—Arcaydia. |
| ah | father; Onawa—Ahnawa; Kamrar—Kamrahr. |
| aw | awful; Alden—Awlden; Aspinwall—Aspinwawl |
| ee | tree; Albia—Albeea; Anita—Aneeta, |
| e | bet; Alburnett; Chelsea. |
| eh | there, care; Clarion—Clehrion; Meriden—Mehriden. |
| i | sit; Minden; Pisgah; Salix. |
| eye | ice; Varina—Vareyena; Viola—Veyeola. |
| o | so; Woden; Wiota. |
| oh | fort; Decorah—Decohrah; Fostoria—Fostohria; Lorimore—Lohrimohre. |
| oo | food; Dumont—Doomont; Newhall—Noohall. |
| yoo | pewter; Pulaski—Pyoolaski; Dubuque—Dubyooque. |
| oi | boy, boil; Lamoille. |
| ow | house, how; Dows; Douds—Dowds; Gowrie. |
| u | foot; Woolstock—Wulstock; Truro; Turin. |
| UH* | but; Bussey—BUHssey; Luxemburg—LUHXemburg. |
| UHR* | burn; Meservey—MeSUHRvey; Pershing—PUHRshing. |
| uh* | sofa, above, paper, company, nation; Amana—uhmanuh Dubuque—duhbuque; Cedar—Ceduhr; Akruhn; Audubon—Auduhbuhn. |

*Note: UH and uh have approximately the same sound, but the upper-case form, UH, is used in stressed syllables, the lower-case form, uh, in unstressed syllables.
Ottumwa is represented by uh-TUHM-wuh.

# KEY

## CONSONANTS

1. The letter "c" is not used in the sound-spellings since it is always pronounced either s or k.
2. g is always used for the g sound in gun. Where "g" spelling indicates the so-called soft sound (as in gee whiz) j is used.
3. "q" is not used. The sound is represented by kw, thus, quick—kwik.
4. s is always soft, as in soft; where "s" is pronounced z, it is so indicated: busy—bizee.
5. w as in wine; wh as in whine.
6. ch as in church; where pronounced as if sh, it is so spelled; Chariton—Shariton.
7. sh as in cash.
8. j as in jump or badger—b@juhr.
9. th as in thin. (No names in which th has the sound in then appear in the Guide.)

Stressed syllables are capitalized: K@P-i-tuhl-EYEZD.

# Cities and Towns

A

Adair—uh-DEHR
Adaza—uh-DAY-zuh
Adel—ay-DEL
Akron—@-kruhn
Albia—@L-bee-uh
Albion—@L-bee-uhn
Alburnett—@L-buhr-NET
Alden—AWL-duhn
Alleman—AHL-uh-muhn
Allerton—@L-uhr-tuhn
Allisŏn—@L-i-suhn
Alta—@L-tuh
Alton—AHL-tuhn
Altoona—@l-TOO-nuh
Alvord—@L-vuhrd
Amana—un-M@N-uh
Anamosa—@n-uh-MO-suh
Andover—@N-DO-vuhr
Angus—@NG-guhs
Anita—uh-NEE-tuh
Ankeny—@NG-kuh-nee
Anthon—@N-thuhn
Arcadia—ahr-KAY-dee-uh
Ardon—AHR-duhn
Aredale—AHR-dayl
Aspinwall—@S-pin-wawl
Atalissa—@t-uh-LIS-uh
Athelstan—@TH-uhl-st@n
Avery—AY-vuhr-ee
Avoca—uh-VO-kuh
Audubon— AW-duh-buhn
Ayrshire—EHR-shuhr

B

Bassett—B@S-uht
Bayard—BAY-uhrd
Belmond—BEL-mahnd
Beloit—buh-LOIT
Bernard—buhr-NAHRD
Berwick—BUHR-wik
Bode—BOD
Bonaparte—BON-uh-pahrt
Bondurant—BAHN-duh-r@nt
Botna—BAHT-nuh
Bouton—BOW-tuhn
Brazil—bruh-ZIL
Breda—BREE-duh
Bremer—BREE-muhr
Bristow—BRIS-to
Brunsville—BRUNZ-vil
Burchinall—BUHRCH-in-uhl
Bussey—BUHS-ee

C

Calamus—K@L-uh-muhs
Calendar—K@L-uhn-duhr
Calmar—K@L-muhr
Calumet—K@L-yoo-MET
Camanche—kuh-M@NCH
Cambria—KAYM-bree-uh
Cambridge—KAYM-brij
Carbon—KAHR-bahn
Carlisle—KAHR-leyel
Carnarvon—kahr-NAHR-vuhn
Castalia—k@s-TAYL-yuh
Castana—k@s-TAY-nuh
Chapin—CHAY-pin
Chariton—SHEHR-i-tuhn
Charlotte—shahr-LAHT
Chelsea—CHEL-see
Cherokee—CHEHR-O-kee
Chillicothe—chili-KAHTH-ee
Churdan—shuhr-D@N
Cleghorn—KLEG-hohrn
Clemons—KLEM-uhnz
Clio—KLEYE-o
Cleves—KLEEVZ
Clive—KLEYEV

Clutier—kloo-TEER
Coggon—KAW-guhn
Colfax—KOL-f@x
Colo—KO-lo
Colwell—KAHL-wel
Coppock—KAHP-uhk
Cordova—kohr-DO-vuh
Corydon—KOHR-i-duhn
Coulter—KOL-tuhr
Curlew—kuhr-LOO
Cushing—KUSH-ing
Cylinder—SIL-in-duhr

D

Dana—DAY-nuh
Dawson—DAW-shun
Decorah—duh-KOHR-uh
Dedham—DED-uhm
Delhi—DEL-heye
Deloit—duh-LOIT
Delphos—DEL-fuhs
Derby—DUHR-bee
Des Moines—duh-MOIN
Dewar—DOO-uhr
Donahue—DAHN-uh-hyoo
Donnan—DAHN-uhn
Donnellson—DAHN-uhl-suhn
Dorchester—DOHR-ches-tuhr
Douds—DOWDZ
Dougherty—DOHR-uh-tee
Dows—DOWZ
Dubuque—duh-BYOOK
Dumont—DOO-mahnt
Duncombe—DUHNK-uhm
Dunlap—DUHN-l@p
Durango—doo-R@NG-go
Durant—DUR-r@nt
Dysart—DEYE-zuhrt

E

Earlham—UHRL-uhm
Elberon—EL-buh-rahn
Eldora—el-DOHR-uh
Eldorado—el-duh-RAY-do
Elkader—el-KAY-duhr
Ellston—ELS-tuhn
Elma—EL-muh
Ely—EE-lee
Erling—UHR-ling
Estherville—ES-tuhr-vil
Everly—EV-uhr-lee
Exira—eks-EYE-ruh

F

Farnhamville—FAHR-nuhm-vil
Farrar—fuh-RAHR
Faulkner—FAWLK-nuhr
Fayette—fay-ET
Fernald—fuhr-NAHLD
Fertile—FUHR-til
Festina—fes-TEYE-nuh
Floris—FLOHR-uhs
Fontanelle—FAHN-tuh-NEL
Fostoria—faws-TOHR-ee-uh
Frazer—FRAY-zhuhr
Fredericka—fred-REE-kuh
Fredericksburg—FRED-riks-buhrg
Froelich—FRAY-lik
Fruitland—FROOT-luhnd

G

Galt—GAWLT
Garnavillo—gahr-nuh-VIL-o
Gaza—GAY-zuh
Geneva—juh-NEE-vuh
Gerled—guhr-LED
Gillette Grove—JIL-uht grov
Gilmore City—GIL-MOHR si-tee
Givin—GIV-in
Goodell—gu-DEL
Gowrie—GOW-ree
Graettinger—GRET-in-juhr
Graf—GR@F
Grafton—GR@f-tuhn
Granger—GRAYN-juhr
Granville—GR@N-vil
Gravity—GR@V-i-tee
Griswold—GRIZ-wuhld
Guttenberg—GUHT-uhn-buhrg

H

Halbur—H@L-buhr
Hamline—H@M-lin
Hanlontown—H@N-luhn-TOWN
Hansell—H@N-suhl
Harcourt—HAHR-kohrt
Haskins—H@S-kinz
Havelock—H@V-lahk
Haverhill—H@V-uhr-HIL
Hawarden—HAY-wohr-duhn
Hedrick—HED-rik
Herndon—HUHRN-duhn
Holbrook—HOL-bruk
Holstein—HOL-steen
Hospers—HAHS-puhrz
Houghton—HOW-tuhn
Humeston—HUHM-uh-stuhn

I

Imogene—IM-uh-jeen
Ionia—eye-O-nee-uh

J

Jessup—JES-uhp
Jolley—JAH-lee

K

Kalona—kuh-LO-nuh
Kamrar—K@M-rahr
Kanawha—kuh-NAH-wah
Kensett—KEN-suht
Keokuk—KEE-o-kuhk
Keosauqua—kee-o-SAHK-wah
Keota—kee-O-tuh
Kesley—KES-lee
Keswick—KEZ-wik
Kilbourn—KIL-buhrn
Kimballton—KIM-buhl-tuhn
Kinross—KIM-raws
Kiron—KEYE-ruhn
Klemme—KLEM-ee
Knierem—kuh-NEER-uhm
Knoke—kuh-NOK

L

Lakota—luh-KO-tuh
Lamoille—luh-MOIL
Lamoni—luh-MON-eye;
luh-MON-ee
Laurens—luh-RENZ
Ledyard—LED-yuhrd
Leon—LEE-uhn
Lineville—LEYEN-vil
Liscomb—LIS-kuhm
Lohrville—LOHR-vil
Lorimore—LOHR-uh-muhr
Lovilia—lo-VIL-uh
Luana—loo-AY-nuh
Luton—LOOT-uhn
Luxemberg—LUHKS-uhm-buhrg
Luzerne—loo-ZUHRN
Lynville—LIN-vil
Lytton—LIT-uhn

M

Macedonia—M@S-i-DO-nee-uh
Madrid—M@D-rid
Mallard—M@L-uhrd
Maloy—muh-LOI
Malvern—M@L-vuhrn
Maquoketa—muh-KO-kuh-tuh
Marengo—muh-RING-go
Marne—MAHRN
Martelle—mahr-TEL
Massena—muh-SEE-nuh
Massillon—M@S-i-lahn
Maurice—MOHR-is

Mediapolis—mee-di-@P-olis
Melbourne—MEL-buhrn
Melcher—MEL-chuhr
Meriden—MEHR-i-duhn
Meservey—muh-SUHRV-ee
Milo—MEYE-lo
Minden—MIN-duhn
Mineola—min-ee-O-luh
Modale—MO-dayl
Mondamin—mahn-DAY-min
Moneta—mo-NEE-tuh
Monmouth—MAHN-muhth
Monona—muh-NO-nuh
Monteith—mahn-TEETH
Montour—mahn-TOOR
Montpelier—mahnt-PEEL-yuhr
Moorland—MOOR-luhnd
Moran—mohr-R@N
Moscow—MAHS-kow
Moulton—MOL-tuhn
Mount Ayer—Mownt EHR
Mount Hamil—Mownt-H@M-il

N

Napier—nuh-PEER
Nashua—N@SH-yoo-uh
Nemaha—NEE-muh-hah
Neola—nee-O-luh
Nevada—nuh-VAY-duh
New Albin—noo-@L-bin
Newhall—NOO-hawl
Nodaway—NAH-duh-way

O

Ocheyedan—o-CHEE-duhn
Oelwein—OL-weyen
Okoboji—o-kuh-BO-ji
o-kuh-BO-juh
Ollie—AHL-ee
Onawa—AHN-uh-wah
Oneida—o-NEYE-duh
Onslow—AHNZ-lo
Oran—OHR-uhn
Orleans—ohr-LEENZ
Osage—o-SAYJ
Osceola—O-see-O-luh
AH-see-O-luh
Osgood—AHZ-gud
Oskaloosa—AHS-kuh-LOO-suh
Ossian—AH-shuhn
Osterdock—AHS-tuhr-dahk
Otho—O-tho
Otley—AHT-lee
Oto—O-to
Otranto—o-TRAHN-to
Ottosen—AH-tuh-suhn
Ottumwa—uh-TUHM-wuh
Owasa—o-WAH-suh
Oyens—O-uhnz

P

Palo—PAY-lo
Panora—puh-NOHR-uh
Parnell—pahr-NEL
Paton—PAY-tuhn
Paullina—paw-LEE-nuh
Pekin—PEE-kin
Peosta—pee-AH-stuh
Pershing—PUHR-zhing
Pisgah—PIZ-guh
Plano—PLAY-no
Plover—PLUHV-uhr
Pomeroy—PAHM-uh-roi
Popejoy—POP-joi
Portsmouth—POHRTS-muhth
Prescott—PRES-kuht
Prole—PROL
Protivin—PRO-tuh-vuhn
Pulaski—pyoo-L@S-kee

Q

Quasqueton—KWAHS-kwee-tuhn

R

Ralston—R@L-stuhn
Readlyn—REED-lin
Reasnor—REEZ-nuhr
Remsen—REMZ-uhn
Ricketts—RIK-uhts
Rinard—REYE-nuhrd
Roland—RO-luhnd
Rossie—RAHS-ee
Rowan—RO-uhn
Rowley—ROW-lee
Rubio—ROO-bi-o
Rudd—RUHD
Runnels—RUHN-uhlz
Ruthven—RUHTH-vuhn

S

Sabula—suh-BYOO-luh
Saint Donatus—do-NAHT-uhs
Salix—SAY-liks
Schaller—SHAY-luhr
Schleswig—SHLES-wig
Sedan—see-D@N
Sewal—SOO-uhl
Seymour—SEE-mohr
Sheldahl—SHEL-dawl
Shenandoah—SHEN-@n-DO-uh
Sigourney—SIG-ohr-nee
Somers—SUHM-uhrz
Stanhope—ST@N-hop
Strahan—STRAY-uhn
Struble—STROO-buhl
Sully—SUHL-ee
Sunbury—SUHN-behr-ee
Swea City—SWAY SIT-ee

T

Taintor—TAYN-tuhr
Tennant—TEN-uhnt
Thor—THOHR
Titonka—teye-TAHN-kuh
Traer—TRAY-uhr
Traynor—TRAY-nuhr
Tripoli—tri-PO-luh
Truro—TRUR-o
Turin—TUR-in

U

Udell—YOO-del
Ulmer—UHL-muhr
Urbana—uhr-B@N-uh
Ute—YOOT

V

Valeria—vuh-LEER-ee-uh
Varina—vuh-REYE-nuh
Villisca—vuh-LIS-kuh
Vincennes—vin-SENZ
Vincent—VIN-suhnt
Vining—VEYE-ning
Viola—veye-O-luh
Volga—VOL-guh
Voorhies—VUR-heez

W

Wadena—wah-DEE-nuh
Walcott—WAHL-kuht
Walford—WAHL-fuhrd
Wapello—WAHP-uh-lo
Ware—WEHR
Washta—WAHSH-tuh
Waubeek—WAW-beek
Waucoma—waw-KOM-uh
Waukon—waw-KAHN
Waupeton—WAH-puh-tuhn
Wesley—WES-lee
What Cheer—whuht CHEER
Whittemore—WHIT-uh-mohr
Whitten—WHIT-uhn
Wiota—weye-O-tuh
Woden—WO-duhn
Woolstock—WUL-stahk

## Counties

Adair—uh-DEHR
Allamakee—@l-uh-muh-KEE
Appanoose—@P-uh-noos
Audubon—AW-duh-buhn
Bremer—BREE-muhr
Buena Vista—BYOO-nuh VIS-tuh
Cerro Gordo—sehr-uh-GOHR-do
Chickasaw—CHIK-uh-saw
Decatur—dee-KAT-tuhr
Fremont—FREE-mahnt
Kossuth—kuh-SOOTH
Louisa—loo-EYE-zuh
Mahaska—muh-H@S-kuh
Monona—muh-NO-nuh
Osceola—AH-see-O-luh
O-see-O-luh
Pottawattamie—
paht-uh-WAHT-uh-mee
Poweshiek—POW-uh-sheek
Tama—TAY-muh
Wapello—WAHP-uh-lo
Warren—WOHR-uhn
Winnebago—win-uh-BAY-go
Winneshiek—WIN-uh-sheek
Woodbury—WUD-behr-ee

## Rivers, Lakes, Parks

There are, by offical record, 1246 rivers, creeks, and runs in Iowa that have names. The majority of them, however, are described something like this: "Haight Cr. Des Moines county. Rises in T. 71 N., R. 23. Flows two miles into drainage ditch." Fortunately, most flowing streams of any importance have fairly simple names. The following half-dozen seem the only ones apt to cause difficulty.

Maquoketa—muh-KO-kuh-tuh

Nishnibotna—nish-ni-BAHT-nuh

Nodaway—NAH-duh-way

Ocheyedan—o-CHEE-duhn

Volga—VOL-guh

Wapsipinicon—wahp-si-PIN-i-kuhn (frequently referred to as "the Wapsie.")

Lake Ahquabi (Warren)—
ah-KWAH-bee

Keosauqua (Van Buren)—
kee-o-SAHK-wuh

Manawa (Pottawatamie)—
M@N-uh-wah

Minnewashta (Harrison)—
min-ee-WAHSH-tuh

Wanata (Clay and Buena Vista)—
wuh-NAH-tuh

Wabonsie (Fremont)—
wah-BAHN-see

## State Office-holders

Hard-to-pronounce names of state office-holders are presented in a single alphabetical list. Party affiliation and office are indicated in parentheses following the name, the office-holder's home town comes next, and then the pronunciation: e.g., Congress—Coad, Merwin (D, Cong., 6th) Boone; State Senate—Dewell, Duane E. (R, 49th) Algona; State House of Representatives—Halling, Eugene (R, Adair) Orient.

Balch, Bernard R. (R, Black Hawk) Waterloo—BAWLCH

Baumhover, John A. (D, Carroll) Carroll—BAHM-ho-vuhr

Bohi, William (D, Pocahontas) Havelock—BO-HEYE

Chalupa, LeRoy (R, Jefferson) Pleasant Plain—kuh-LOO-puh

Christophel, Clarence (R, Bremer) Waverly—kris-TAHF-uhl

Coad, Merwin (D, Cong. 6th) Boone—KOD

Darrington, W. E. (R, Harrison) Persia—DEHR-ing-tuhn

Den Herder, Elmer H. (R, Sioux) Sioux Center—DEN HUHR-duhr

Dewell, Duane E. (R, 49th) Algona—DOO-uhl, DWAYN

Dykhouse, J. T. (R, 24th) Rock Rapids— DEYEK-hows

Edelen, Walter E. (D, 43rd) Garner—EED-luhn

Elijah, Earl (R, 23rd) Clarence—ee-LEYE-juh

Erbe, Norman A. (R, Atty Gen) Boone—UHR-bee

Eveland, Raymond (D, Boone) Kelley—EEV-luhnd

Frommelt, Andrew G. (D, 35th) Dubuque—FRUHM-uhlt

Fuelling, K. W. (D, Clayton) Farmersburg—FYOO-ling

Gillespie, Raymond R. (D, 16th) Dexter—gil-LES-pee

Gordy, Royce (D, Davis) Bloomfield—GOHR-dee

Grassley, Charles E. (R, Bulter) New Hartford—GR@S-lee

Hagedorn, Merle W. (D, Clay) Royal—H@G-uh-DOHRN

Halling, Eugene (R, Adair) Orient—H@L-ing

Hoeven, Charles B. (R,Cong. 8th) Alton—HOO-vuhn

Hoschek, Carl (D, 9th) Burlington—HO-shek

Hoth, Elmer A. (R, Allamakee) Postville—HOTH

Houston, Harold (D, Crawford) Dow City—HOWS-tuhn

Johannes, W. J. (D, Osceola) Ashton—jo-H@N-uhs

Kluever, Lester L. (R, Cass) Atlantic—KLEE-vuhr

Lucken, J. Henry (R, Plymouth) Akron—LOO-kuhn

Lynes, J. Kendall (R, 39th) Plainfield—LEYENZ

Maule, Elroy (D, Monona) Onawa—MAWL

Mueller, Harold (D, Worth) Manly—MYEW-luhr

Mensing, A. L. (R, Cedar) Lowden—MEN-sing

Naden, Robert (R, Hamilton) Webster City—NAY-duhn

O'Malley, Geo E. (D, 30th) Des Moines—o-M@L-ee

Rapson, George P. (R, Cherokee) Cherokee—R@P-suhn

Ringgenberg, Carl H. (R, 31st) Ames—RING-uhn-buhrg

Schroeder, Jack (R, 21st) Davenport—SHRAY-duhr

Sersland, Hillman R. (R, Winneshiek) Decorah—SHURS-luhnd

Schwengel, Fred (R, Cong. 1st) Davenport—SHWENG-guhl

Shaff, David (D, 22nd) Clinton—SH@F

Shoeman, John D. (R. 18th) Atlantic—SHOO-muhn

Steenhisen, Peter (D, Shelby) Irwin—STEEN-hoo-sin

Summa, Dewey (D, Calhoun) Rockwell City— SUHM-uh

Synhorst, Melvin D. (R, Sec State) Orange City—SEYEN-hohrst

Weber, George W. (R, 20th) Columbus Jct.—WEB-uhr

Weik, Charles (D, Dickinson) Spirit Lake—WEYEK

Wier, Fred E. (R, Louisa) Letts—WEER

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