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| **Pronunciation Practice:**  **/p/ and /b/** | |
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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Symbol** | **Examples** | **Pronouncing the Sound** | | /p/  /b/ | **p**ig, **p**izza  **b**ig, **b**all | For both sounds: both lips make a closure to stop air flow, then air is suddenly released. /p/ is unvoiced (no vibration of vocal chords) and /b/ is voiced (vibration of vocal chords). When these sounds occur at the end of a word, they are not strongly pronounced. Rather, they are distinguished by the length of the preceding vowel. Before voiced consonants, vowels are almost double in length. Ex. c**ap** c**ab** (The “a” in cab is longer.) | | |

*A. Contrast /p/ with /b/.*

*1. Listen and repeat.*

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|  | /p/ | / b / |
| A. | pig | big |
| B. | cup | cub |
| C. | cop | cob |
| D. | par | bar |
| E. | cap | cab |
| F. | pen | Ben |
| G. | pup | pub |
| H. | sop | sob |
| I. | nap | nab |
| J. | pest | best |

*2. The teacher will say one word from each pair. Circle the words you hear.*

*3. Work with a partner. Your partner will say one word from each pair. Circle the word you hear, then switch roles and repeat the exercise.*

*B. These sounds also occur in the middle of words. Fill in the chart with examples for each sound.*

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| **/p/ in middle**  Ex. ha**pp**y | **/b/ in middle**  Ex. dou**b**le |
| 1. | 1. |
| 2. | 2. |
| 3. | 3. |
| 4. | 4. |