

CONSORT CHORALE

Pronunciation Guide

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Basic Pronunciation Guides

Latin

Vowels

In general vowel sounds should be clear, open, and pure. No diphthongs.

A is “ah” as in “father”

E is “eh” as in “bed”

I is “ee” as in “machine”

O is “oh” as in “store”

U is “oo” as in “food”

AE should be sung as E (“eh”)

OE should be sung as E (“eh”)

For other vowel combinations, generally, hold the sound of the first vowel, and flip into the second vowel at the very end, before moving to the next syllable. (Example: the word *laudamus* would have its first syllable held on “lá” with a soft “u” sound as you sing through the word—in no case would you pronounce the “au” combination as “ow”)

Consonants

C (before a, ae, oe, i, or y) is “ch” like “change”

CC (before a, ae, oe, i, or y) is “tch” like “catch”

SC (before a, ae, oe, i, or y) is “sh” like shell

G (before a, o, or u) is hard “g” like “gate”

G (before e or i) is soft “g” like “gesture”

GN is “ny” like “canyon”

TI before a vowel or after most letters is “tsee” like “antsy”

TH is “t” like “tall”

XC (before e, ae, oe, i, or y) is “ksh” like “anxious”

R before a vowel, generally, is flipped

R before or after a consonant, generally, is rolled

Italian

Vowels

Italian has more vowel sounds than Latin, but still pure and generally without diphthongs. No vowel in Italian will make a “schwa” sound (the “uh” sound).

A is “ah” as in “father”

E can be open (“eh” as in “bed”) or closed (“ay” like “say”)

I is “ee” as in “machine”

O can be open (“aw” as in “pot”) or closed (“oh” as in “post”)

U is “oo” as in “food”

Vowel combinations are always pronounced separately—but when sung rapidly on the same note may elide, sounding more like a diphthong (as “Cecilia,” when the last syllable is sung more like “lya”)

Consonants

Double consonants should be held slightly longer than their single equivalent—this may sound like a brief pause in the case of unvoiced consonants.

C (followed by o, a, or u) is hard, as in “car” (così)

C (followed by consonants) is hard (clemenza)

C (followed by i or e) is “ch” as in “church” (città)

C (followed by h) is hard (Pinocchio)

C (followed by ia, ie, or io) is “ch” *and* the “i” is silent (so, “pagliaccio” sounds like “AH-cho”)

CH is a hard “c,” as in “car”

G (followed by o, a, or u) is hard, as in “gate”

G (followed by i or e) is soft, as in “gesture”

GH is hard “g,” like “gate”

R between two vowels is flipped

R in most other situations is rolled

RR is generally rolled

T and D are more dentalized (softer)

GN is “ny,” as in “canyon”

GL is “ly,” as in “million”

Pronunciation for Opus 29

Pleni Sunt Caeli Et Terra (Charpentier) - Latin

Pleni sunt caeli et terra
PLEH-nee soont CHEH-lee eht TEH-rah

Majestatis gloriae tuae
mah-yeh-STAH-tees GLOH-ree-eh TOO-eh

Te gloriosus Apostolorum chorus
teh gloh-ree-OH-soos ah-poh-stoh-LOH-room KOH-roos

Te prophetarum laudabilis numerus
teh proh-feh-TAH-room lah-oo-DAH-bee-lees NOO-meh-roos

Te Martyrum candidatus laudat exercitus
teh MAHR-tee-room cahn-dee-DAH-toos LAH-oo-daht ex-EHR-chee-toos

Cecíliada (Wawruk) - Italian

Santa della musica
SAHN-tah DELL-lah MOO-zee-kah (*not MYOO as in English "music"*)

Santa Cecilia, patrona della musica
SAHN-tah cheh-CHEE-lee-yah, pah-TROH-nah DELL-lah MOO-zee-kah

Hands Are Knockin' (Pederson) - Arabic

Naftahhu athhanana, alhamdulillah
NAHF-tah-hoo ath-HAH-nah-nah ("th" as in "that") ahl-HAHM-doo-lih-lah

Naftahhu qulubana, alhamdulillah
NAHF-tah-hoo koo-LOO-bah-nah ahl-HAHM-doo-lih-lah

Namuddu aydeeyana, alhamdulillah
nah-MOO-doo ay-DEE-yah-nah ahl-HAHM-doo-lih-lah

Sikirileke/Koloi - Sotho

Sikirileke eh motho a wela
sih-KEE-ree-leh-keh eh MOH-tsoh ah WEH-lah

Ha re ba pala motho a wela
hah reh bah PAH-lah MOH-tsoh ah WEH-lah

Rene re bapala motho a wela
REH-neh reh BAH-pah-lah MOH-tsoh ah WEH-lah

Koloi hae eme
koh-LOY (hold on "OH") hie (rhymes with "pie) eh-meh

Koloi ea tsamaya
koh-LOY yah tsah-MAH-yah

Thiba koloi
TSEE-bah koh-LOY