

SILENT LETTERS

1. 'DPSTXZ' at the end
ans / deux
except when followed by vowel sound -
in the next word, i.e. les oranges

2. 'ENT' end of
ils/elles verb
ils aiment
elles regardent

3. 'H' first & middle
les haricots
cahier

4. 'U' after
'G' or 'Q'
quel, quatre
guerre

5. 'E' at the end
elle adore
cinquante

11. ui
'WEE'
Like 'wheat' in English
nuit / bruit

12. ch
'SHH'
Like 'shape' in English
chaise/chat

13. é/ez/er/et
'AY'
Like 'say' in English
fiancée

14. ai/aient/est
'EH'
Like 'elephant' in English
ils aimaient

15. ère
'AIR'
Like 'fair' in English
frère / père

16. oi
'WAH'
Like 'wacky' in English
moi / trois

17. au/eau/o
'OH'
Like 'rose' in English
beau

18. eu/œu/œ
'UH'
Like 'early' in English
bleu / sœur

19. ou/ue
'OOO'
Like 'loop' in English
coup / rue

20. final u
'EEW'
Like 'you' in English
attendu

21. ille
'EEE'
Like 'me' in English
famille/Camille
exceptions: mille then like 'EEL' in English

22. gn/gne
'NYUH'
Like 'lasagne' in English
montagne

23. une
'OON'
Like 'moon' in English
lune

24. ç
'SSS'
Like 'soon' in English
ça va?

LETTER COMBINATIONS

FRENCH PRONUNCIATION TRICKY SOUNDS GUIDE

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NASAL SOUNDS

6. ien
Like 'meander' in English
le chien/ bien

7. on/om
Like 'song' in English
bon/le nom

8. un/um
Like 'sung' in English
brun/parfum

9. in/im/aim/ain
Like 'sang' in English
faim/inviter

10. an/am/en/em
Like 'wrong' in English
emporter

* Remember, it's French so there are additional variations & exceptions