

English Voiced-Voiceless Minimal Pairs Database

Voicing Pair – **/p/** (voiceless) ↔ **/b/** (voiced): Bilabial stops

- base-pace, bad-pad, bear-pair, bane-pain, bane-pane, bee-pea, bet-pet, bark-park, billow-pillow, pillow-below, bit-pit, beep-peep, bound-pound, bay-pay, beer-pier, backs-packs, backs-pax, back-pack, black-plaque, ban-pan, blank-plank, bar-par, cap-cab, crap-crab, flap-flab, gap-gab, lap-lab, nap-nab, tap-tab, bat-pat, bath-path, lobe-lope, robe-rope, bloom-plume, beach-peach, beech-peach, breach-preach, breech-preach, bleed-plead, beak-peak, beak-peek, beak-pique, pub-pup, sub-sup, cub-cup, beg-peg, belt-pelt, bent-pent, bride-pride, best-pest, breast-pressed, nib-nip, rib-rip, big-pig, brig-prig, bill-pill, bob-bop, cob-cop, hob-hop, slob-slop, mob-mop, sob-sop, swab-swap, bond-pond, bail-pail, bail-pale, bale-pail, bale-pale, bang-pang, bounce-pounce, buy-pie, by-pie, pie-bye, bowl-pole, bowl-poll, boll-pole, boll-poll, bull-pull, bump-pump, bun-pun, bunk-punk, bus-pus, buss-pus, bop-pop, bush-push, balm-palm, brood-prude, batch-patch, bower-power, bin-pin, buck-puck, but-putt, butt-putt, backer-packer, burl-pearl, cymbal-simple, symbol-simple, blotter-plotter, ben-pen, nibble-nipple, ballad-pallid, bass-pass, pallet-ballot, ballot-palette, bowler-polar, bosh-posh, beck-peck, paste-based, pulley-bully, bears-pairs, plunder-blunder

Voicing Pair – **/t/** (voiceless) ↔ **/d/** (voiced): Alveolar stops

- add-at, cad-cat, bad-bat, had-hat, dad-tad, mad-mat, pad-pat, sad-sat, boat-bowed, note-node, wrote-road, wrote-rode, aid-ate, aid-eight, grade-grate, grade-great, wade-wait, wade-weight, laid-late, drain-train, court-chord, court-cord, sort-sword, fort-ford, hurt-heard, hurt-herd, bet-bed, threat-thread, let-lead, let-led, ret-read, ret-red, set-said, wet-wed, dung-tongue, font-fond, pont-pond, door-tore, bit-bid, hit-hid, kit-kid, lit-lid, skit-skid, slit-slid, mound-mount, cart-card, dart-tart, heart-hard, dot-tot, got-god, knot-nod, not-nod, pot-pod, brought-broad, wheat-weed, seat-seed, neat-need, beet-bead, feet-feed, dear-tear, deer-tear, dag-tag, dune-tune, two-dew, true-drew, brute-brood, root-rood, root-rude, route-rood, route-rude, doom-tomb, dean-teen, dub-tub, dread-tread, dime-time, beetle-beadle, doe-toe, doe-tow, dough-toe, dough-tow, chateau-shadow, bend-bent, lend-lent, mend-meant, send-cent, send-scent, send-sent, tend-tent, trend-trent, wend-went, descend-descent, spend-spent, dent-tent, bide-bite, bide-byte, bride-bright, dyed-tide, hide-height, lied-light, ride-right, ride-write, side-cite, side-sight, side-site, slide-sleight, slide-slight, tide-tight, wide-white, eyelid-islet, drill-trill, cold-colt, bold-bolt, mold-molt, render-renter, bud-but, bud-butt, mud-mutt, dyer-tire, dale-tail, dale-tale, clout-cloud, drought-trout, tie-die, tie-dye, try-dry, medal-metal, pedal-petal, peddle-petal, meddle-metal, down-town, dug-tug, build-built, billed-built, killed-kilt, done-ton, dun-ton, drunk-trunk, dab-tab, damp-tamp, dine-tine, dope-tope, dour-tower, tin-din, dip-tip, drip-trip, doze-toes, duck-tuck, dam-tam, damn-tam, dipper-tipper, dome-tome, droop-troop, droop-troupe, dense-tense, den-ten, dizzy-tizzy, writer-rider, ballad-ballot, pallid-pallet, pallid-palette, ladder-latter, deck-tech, dummy-tummy

Voicing Pair – **/k/** (voiceless) ↔ **/g/** (voiced): Velar stops

- goat-coat, crane-grain, gain-cane, flock-flog, frock-frog, hock-hog, smock-smog, crater-greater, crater-grater, cater-gaiter, get-kit, anchor-anger, angle-ankle, ground-crowned, cot-got, crate-grate, crate-great, gait-kate, gate-kate, brick-brig, wick-wig, pick-pig, rick-rig, trick-trig, back-bag, flack-flag, hack-hag, shack-shag, knack-nag, lack-lag, rack-rag, sack-sag, sac-sag, slack-slag, snack-snag, stack-stag, tack-tag, whack-wag, wrack-rag, chord-gourd, cord-gourd, card-guard, crease-grease, crease-greece, can-gun, car-gar, grew-crew, glue-clue, cap-gap, casket-gasket, come-gum, cat-gat, beg-beck,

peg-peck, grow-crow, gill-kill, cold-gold, curd-gird, cob-gob, could-good, cage-gauge, coal-goal, cave-gave, crave-grave, bug-buck, dug-duck, mug-muck, plug-pluck, tug-tuck, lug-luck, cutter-gutter, cab-gab, crab-grab, calf-gaff, calf-gaffe, came-game, camp-gamp, cram-gram, cut-gut, caps-gaps, cotton-gotten, crouch-grouch, curl-girl, craft-graft, classes-glasses, class-glass, goalie-coli, guilt-kilt, gilt-kilt, gander-candor

Voicing Pair – /f/ (voiceless) ↔ /v/ (voiced): Labiodental fricatives

- feign-vain, feign-vein, file-vile, five-fife, fault-vault, fan-van, view-few, leaf-leave, very-fairy, fest-vest, fender-vendor, fail-vale, fail-veil, shelf-shelve, save-safe, waive-waif, wave-waif, fuse-views, fine-vine, feud-viewed, fast-vast, serve-surf, feel-veal, shuffle-shovel

Voicing Pair – /θ/ (voiceless) ↔ /ð/ (voiced): Dental fricatives

- sheath-sheathe, teeth-teethe

Voicing Pair – /s/ (voiceless) ↔ /z/ (voiced): Alveolar fricatives

- dace-days, lace-lays, mace-maize, mace-maze, pace-pays, race-raise, race-rays, race-raze, loss-laws, zee-see, zee-sea, zing-sing, moose-moos, loose-lose, cease-sees, niece-knees, said-zed, sink-zinc, sync-zinc, knees-nice, bus-buzz, buss-buzz, fuss-fuzz, eyes-ice, prize-price, rise-rice, spies-spice, sip-zip, tense-tens, racer-razor, fussy-fuzzy, muscle-muzzle

Voicing Pair – /ʃ/ (voiceless) ↔ /ʒ/ (voiced): Post-alveolar fricatives

- None

Voicing Pair – /tʃ/ (voiceless) ↔ /dʒ/ (voiced): Alveolar affricates

- jeep-cheap, badge-batch, cherry-jerry, ridge-rich, chump-jump, chunk-junk, chin-gin, choice-joyce, choke-joke, edge-etch, jello-cello