

IPA HANGMAN

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WORDS

There are 36 words with every English sound (at least twice)

Selection method:

1. Initial pool: 4,269 words in both the CMU dictionary and COCA's 5,000 most frequent words
2. Trimmed pool 1: 359 words from the initial pool that contained at least one of 6 rare sounds ("rare" = less than 100 tokens: /əv/, /ð/, /ɔɪ/, /θ/, /v/, and /z/)
3. Trimmed pool 2: 182 words from step 2 that contained at least one of a new set of rare sounds ("rare" = less than 20 tokens)
4. All 4 remaining instances of /tʃ/ were preserved. 32 other words were pseudo-randomly selected until the full set of 36 had at least 2 tokens of every sound

SCORING

The word bonus is the Levenshtein distance between each word's orthographic and IPA form

Levenshtein distance: +1 for every sound that must be changed, added, or removed to get from the orthographic form to the IPA form

Orthography: " n o i s e "
 ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓
IPA: /n ɔɪ z /
Levenshtein: 0 +1 +1 +1 +1 = 4

IPA HANGMAN RESOURCES

Blaylock, R. and Harper, S. (2018). IPA Hangman. <http://reedblaylock.com/ipahangman.html>.

MacKichan, P. (2004). /fə'ni:mɪk/ Hangman <http://www.e-lang.co.uk/mackichan/call/phonhang/phonhang.html>.

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Davies, M. (2008). The corpus of contemporary American English. BYU, Brigham Young University.

Levenshtein, Vladimir I. (February 1966). "Binary codes capable of correcting deletions, insertions, and reversals". Soviet Physics Doklady. 10 (8): 707–710.