



Bengali: High Beginner

Consonants (n = 7)

Phonemic Contrast	Example	% Correct	Functional Load	# of Items
/p/ - /b/ (INIT.)	pill / bill	100%	98%	4
/p/ - /b/ (FIN.)	cap / cab	79%	14%	4
/p/ - /f/ (INIT.)	pan / fan	89%	77%	4
/p/ - /f/ (FIN.)	cup / cuff	89%	17%	4
/v/ - /b/ (INIT.)	vote / boat	68%	29%	4
/v/ - /w/ (INIT.)	vet / wet	96%	22%	4
/f/ - /v/ (INIT.)	fan / van	93%	23%	4
/f/ - /θ/ (INIT.)	free / three	96%	15%	4
/θ/ - /t/ (INIT.)	thin / tin	82%	18%	4
/θ/ - /t/ (FIN.)	bath / bat	82%	27%	4
/θ/ - /s/ (INIT.)	think / sink	100%	21%	2
/θ/ - /s/ (FIN.)	faith / face	93%	17%	2
/ð/ - /d/ (INIT.)	they / day	93%	19%	2
/t/ - /d/ (FIN.)	cart / card	82%	72%	4
/n/ - /l/ (INIT.)	nap / lap	96%	61%	4
/n/ - /l/ (FIN.)	bone / bowl	100%	75%	4

Phonemic contrasts include both syllable-initial ("INIT.") and syllable-final ("FIN.") sounds. Syllable-medial sounds were not incorporated because no functional load information was available. Functional Load Source: Catford, 1987, pp. 89-90.



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Phonemic Contrast	Example	% Correct	Functional Load	# of Items
/l/ - /r/ (INIT.)	lice / rice	96%	83%	4
/s/ - /z/ (FIN.)	ice / eyes	68%	38%	4
/s/ - /ʃ/ (INIT.)	sip / ship	86%	53%	2
/ʃ/ - /tʃ/ (INIT.)	shin / chin	86%	26%	2
/ʃ/ - /tʃ/ (FIN.)	wash / watch	93%	12%	2
/tʃ/ - /dʒ/ (INIT.)	choke / joke	57%	19%	2
/dʒ/ - /y/ (INIT.)	jail / Yale	100%	20.5%	2
/k/ - /g/ (INIT.)	coat / goat	100%	50%	4
/k/ - /g/ (FIN.)	tack / tag	75%	29%	4

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