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The Latin alphabet AaBbCcDdEeFfGgHhIiJjKkLlMmNnOoPpQqRrSsTtUuVvWwXxYyZzH is the eighth (number 8) letter in the English alphabet. The uppercase letter for H name is "haitch" (/het/), also known as simply "'aitch" (/et/).In chemistry, H is the symbol for hydrogen.In music, H is a note in the German system, meaning "B natural".In particle physics, H is the symbol for the Higgs boson. Media related to H at Wikimedia Commons The dictionary definition of h at Wiktionary This short article can be made longer. You can help Wikipedia by adding to it.Retrieved from " letter of the Latin alphabetNot to be confused with Shha, , or En (Cyrillic).This article is about the letter of the alphabet. For other uses, see H (disambiguation).HH hUsageWriting systemLatin scriptTypeAlphabeticLanguage of originLatin languageSound values[h][x][][][][][][][][][]/et//het/InUnicodeU+0048, U+0068Alphabetical position8HistoryDevelopment H hTime periodc. 700 BCE to presentDescendantsh H {\displaystyle \mathbb {H} } Sisters OtherAssociated graphsh(x), ch, gh, nh, ph, sh, h, th, wh, (x)hWriting directionLeft-to-rightThis article contains phonetic transcriptions in the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA). For an introductory guide on IPA symbols, see Help:IPA. For the distinction between [], // and , see IPA Brackets and transcription delimiters.ISO basicLatin alphabetAaBbCcDdEeFfGgHhIiJjKkLlMmNnOoPpQqRrSsTtUuVvWwXxYyZzvteH, or h, is the eighth letter of the Latin alphabet, used in the modern English alphabet, including the alphabets of other western European languages and others worldwide. Its name in English is aitch (pronounced /et/ , plural aitches), or regionally haitch (pronounced /het/, plural haitches).[1]For most English speakers, the name for the letter is pronounced as /et/ and spelled "aitch"[1] or occasionally "eitch". The pronunciation /het/ and the associated spelling "haitch" are often considered to be h-adding and are considered non-standard in England.[2] It is, however, a feature of Hiberno-English,[3] and occurs sporadically in various other dialects.The perceived name of the letter affects the choice of indefinite article before initialisms beginning with H: for example "an H-bomb" or "a H-bomb". The pronunciation /het/ may be a hypercorrection formed by analogy with the names of the other letters of the alphabet, most of which include the sound they represent.[4]The haitch pronunciation of h has spread in England, being used by approximately 24% of English people born since 1982,[5] and polls continue to show this pronunciation becoming more common among younger native speakers. Despite this increasing number, the pronunciation without the /h/ sound is still considered standard in England, although the pronunciation with /h/ is also attested as a legitimate variant.[2] In Northern Ireland, the pronunciation of the letter has been used as a shibboleth, with Catholics typically pronouncing it with the /h/ and Protestants pronouncing the letter without it.[6]Authorities disagree about the history of the letter's name. The Oxford English Dictionary says the original name of the letter was [aha] in Latin; this became [aka] in Vulgar Latin, passed into English via Old French [at], and by Middle English was pronounced [at]. The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language derives it from French hache from Latin haca or hic. Anatoly Liberman suggests a conflation of two obsolete orderings of the alphabet, one with H immediately followed by K and the other without any K: reciting the former's ..., H, K, L,... as [...(h)a ka el ...] when reinterpreted for the latter ..., H, L,... would imply a pronunciation of [(h)a ka] for H.[7]French: ache [a]German: ha [ha]Portuguese: ag [a, aa]Spanish: hache ['ate]Italian: acca [aka]Danish, Norwegian and Swedish: h [ho]Polish: ha [xa]Czech: ha [a]Egyptian hieroglyphfenceProto-SinaiticarPhoenicianHethWestern GreekHetaEtruscanHLatinH The original Semitic letter Heth most likely represented the voiceless pharyngeal fricative (). The form of the letter probably stood for a fence or posts.The Greek Eta '' in archaic Greek alphabets, before coming to represent a long vowel, //, still represented a similar sound, the voiceless glottal fricative /h/. In this context, the letter eta is also known as Heta. Thus, in the Old Italic alphabets, the letter Heta of the Euboean alphabet was adopted with its original sound value /h/.While Etruscan and Latin had /h/ as a phoneme, almost all Romance languages lost the soundRomanian later re-borrowed the /h/ phoneme from its neighbouring Slavic languages, and Spanish developed a secondary /h/ from /f/, before losing it again; various Spanish dialects have developed [h] as an allophone of /s/ or /x/ in most Spanish-speaking countries, and various dialects of Portuguese use it as an allophone of //. 'H' is also used in many spelling systems in digraphs and trigraphs, such as 'ch', which represents /t/ in Spanish, Galician, and Old Portuguese; // in French and modern Portuguese; /k/ in Italian and French.Pronunciation of h by languageOrthographyPhonemesStandard Chinese (Pinyin)/x/Czech//English/h/, silentFrenchsilentGerman/h/, silentPolish/x/PortuguesesilentSpanishsilentTurkish/h/In English, h occurs as a single-letter grapheme (being either silent or representing the voiceless glottal fricative /h/ and in various digraphs:ch representing /t/, //, /k/, or /x/gh being silent or representing //, /k/, /p/, or /f/ph representing /f/rh representing /r/sh representing //th representing // or //wh representing /hw/[8] or /h/The letter is silent in a syllable rime, as in ah, ohm, dahlia, cheetah, and pooh-poohed, as well as in certain other words (mostly of French origin) such as hour, honest, herb (in American but not British English) and vehicle (in certain varieties of English). Initial /h/ is often not pronounced in the weak form of some function words, including had, has, have, he, her, him, his, and in some varieties of English (including most regional dialects of England and Wales), it is often omitted in all words. It was formerly common for an rather than a to be used as the indefinite article before a word beginning with /h/ in an unstressed syllable, as in "an historian", but the use of a is now more usual.In English, the pronunciation of h as /h/ can be analyzed as a voiceless vowel. That is, when the phoneme /h/ precedes a vowel, /h/ may be realized as a voiceless version of the subsequent vowel. For example, the word hit, /ht/ is realized as [t].[9]H is the eighth most frequently used letter in the English language (after S, N, I, O, A, T, and E), with a frequency of about 6.1% in words.[10]In German, following a vowel, it often silently indicates that the vowel is long: In the word erhhen ('heighten'), the second h is mute for most speakers outside of Switzerland. In 1901, a spelling reform eliminated the silent h in nearly all instances of th in native German words such as thun ('to do') or Thr ('door'). It has been left unchanged in words derived from Greek, such as Theater ('theater') and Thron ('throne'), which continue to be spelled with th even after the last German spelling reform.In Spanish and Portuguese, h is a silent letter with no pronunciation, as in hijo [ixo] ('son') and hngaro [au] ('Hungarian'). The spelling reflects an earlier pronunciation of the sound /h/. In words where the h is derived from a Latin /f/, it is still sometimes pronounced with the value [h] in some regions of Andalusia, Extremadura, Canarias, Cantabria, and the Americas. Some words beginning with [je] or [we], such as hielo, 'ice' and huevo, 'egg', were given an initial h to avoid confusion between their initial semivowels and the consonants j and v. This is because j and v used to be considered variants of i and u respectively. h also appears in the digraph ch, which represents /t/ in Spanish and northern Portugal, and // in varieties that have merged both sounds (the latter originally represented by x instead), such as most of the Portuguese language and some Spanish dialects, prominently Chilean Spanish.French orthography classifies words that begin with this letter in two ways, one of which can affect the pronunciation, even though it is a silent letter either way. The H muet, or "mute" h, is considered as though the letter were not there at all. For example, the singular definite article le or la, which is elided to l' before a vowel, elides before an H muet followed by a vowel. For example, le + hbergement becomes l'hbergement ('the accommodation'). The other kind of h is called h aspir ("aspirated 'h'", though it is not normally aspirated phonetically), and does not allow elision or liaison. For example, in le homard ('the lobster') the article le remains unelided, and may be separated from the noun with a bit of a glottal stop. Most words that begin with an H muet come from Latin (honneur, homme) or from Greek through Latin (hcatombe), whereas most words beginning with an H aspir come from Germanic (harpe, hareng) or non-Indo-European languages (harem, hamac, haricot); in some cases, an orthographic h was added to disambiguate the [v] and semivowel [] pronunciations before the introduction of the distinction between the letters v and u: huit (from uit, ultimately from Latin octo), hutre (from uistre, ultimately from Greek through Latin ostrea).In Italian, h has no phonological value. Its most important uses are in the digraphs 'ch' /k/ and 'gh' //, as well as to differentiate the spellings of certain short words that are homophones, for example, some present tense forms of the verb avere ('to have') (such as hanno, 'they have', vs. anno, 'year'), and in short interjections (oh, ehi).Some languages, including Czech, Slovak, Hungarian, Finnish, and Estonian, use h as a breathy voiced glottal fricative [], often as an allophone of otherwise voiceless /h/ in a voiced environment.In Hungarian, the letter represents a phoneme /h/ with four allophones: [h] before vowels, [] between two vowels, [] after front vowels, and [x] word-finally after back vowels. It can also be a silent word-finally after back vowels. It is [x] when geminated. In archaic spelling, the digraph ch represents /t/ (as in the name Szchenyi) and /h/ (as in pech, which is pronounced [px]); in certain environments it breaks palatalization of a consonant, as in the name Bethy, which is pronounced [bti] (without the intervening h, the name Bety could be pronounced [bc]); and finally, it acts as a silent component of a digraph, as in the name Vargha, pronounced [vrg].In Ukrainian and Belarusian, when written in the Latin alphabet, h is also commonly used for //, which is otherwise written with the Cyrillic letter .In Irish, h is not considered an independent letter, except for a very few non-native words; however, h placed after a consonant is known as a "simhi" and indicates the lenition of that consonant; h began to replace the original form of a simhi, a dot placed above the consonant, after the introduction of typewriters.In most dialects of Polish, both h and the digraph ch always represent /x/.In Basque, during the 20th century, it was not used in the orthography of the Basque dialects in Spain but it marked an aspiration in the North-Eastern dialects. During the standardization of Basque in the 1970s, a compromise was reached that h would be accepted if it were the first consonant in a syllable. Hence, herri ("people") and etorri ("to come") were accepted instead of erri (Biscayan) and ethorri (Souletin).As a phonetic symbol in the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), it is used mainly for the so-called aspirations (fricative or trills), and variations of the plain letter are used to represent two sounds: the lowercase form h represents the voiceless glottal fricative, and the small capital form represents the voiceless epiglottal fricative (or trill). With a bar, minuscule is used for a voiceless pharyngeal fricative. Specific to the IPA, a hooked is used for a voiced glottal fricative, and a superscript is used to represent aspiration.Main article: H (disambiguation)Unit prefix h, meaning 100 times.H with diacritics: IPA-specific symbols related to H: [11] Superscript IPA symbols related to H:[12] : Modifier letter capital H with stroke is used in VoQS to represent faucalized voice.: Modifier letter H is used in the Uralic Phonetic Alphabet[13]: Subscript small h was used in the Uralic Phonetic Alphabet prior to its formal standardization in 1902[14]: Modifier letter small h is used in Indo-European studies[15] and : Turned H with fishhook and turned H with fishhook and tail are used in Sino-Tibetanist linguistics[16] : Latin letter hwair, derived from a ligature of the digraph hv, and used to transliterate the Gothic letter (which represented the sound [h]) : Claudian letters[17] : Reversed half h used in Roman inscriptions from the Roman provinces of Gaul[18]: Semitic letter Heth, from which the following symbols derive: : Greek letter Eta, from which the following symbols derive:: Old Italic H, the ancestor of modern Latin H, : Runic letter haglaz, which is probably a descendant of Old Italic H : Cyrillic letter Shha, which derives from Latin H : Cyrillic letter , which derives from the Greek letter Eta: Gothic letter haalArmenian letter ho ()[citation needed]h: Planck constant: reduced Planck constant H {\displaystyle \mathbb {H} } : Blackboard bold capital H used in quaternion notationCharacter informationPreviewHhUnicode nameLATIN CAPITAL LETTER HLATIN SMALL LETTER HFULLWIDTH LATIN CAPITAL LETTER HFULLWIDTH LATIN SMALL LETTER HEncodingsdecimalhexdechexdechexdechexUnicode72U+0048104U+006865320U+FF2865352U+FF48UTF-8724810468239 188 168EF BC A8239 189 136EF BD 88Numeric character referenceHHhh H H h hEBCDIC family200C813688ASCII 17248104681 Also for encodings based on ASCII, including the DOS, Windows, ISO-8859, and Macintosh families of encodings.NATO phoneticMorse codeHotelSignal flagFlag semaphoreAmerican manual alphabet (ASL fingerspelling)British manual alphabet (BSL fingerspelling)Braille dots-125 Unified English BrailleHandshapeAmerican Sign Language grammarList of Egyptian hieroglyphs#H^ a b "H" Oxford English Dictionary, 2nd edition (1989); Merriam-Webster's Third New International Dictionary of the English Language, Unabridged (1993); "aitch" or "haitch", op. cit.^ a b "'Haitch' or 'aitch'? 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Retrieved 17 March 2020.Wikisource has text of the 1911 Encyclopdia Britannica article "H".Listen to this article (21 minutes)This audio file was created from a revision of this article dated 3April2021(2021-04-03), and does not reflect subsequent edits.(Audio help More spoken articles) Media related to H at Wikimedia Commons The dictionary definition of H at Wiktionary The dictionary definition of h at WiktionaryLubliner, Coby. 2008. "The Story of H." (essay on origins and uses of the letter "h")Retrieved from " ImagesUntil the 1700s, it was fashionable for speakers to drop aspirates at the beginning of words, but H enthusiasts preserves the letter's breathy sound (Credit: Getty Images)Throughout history, those with social clout have set the standards for whats the more acceptable pronunciation.This article , and is republished under a Creative Commons licence. The authors are Kate Burridge, senior fellow at the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies and professor of linguistics at Monash University; and Catherine McBride, Marie Curie Fellow of the European Union Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies at University of Freiburg, and professor of psychology at Chinese University of Hong Kong.Like Dr. Seuss Star-Belly Sneetches and Plain-Belly Sneetches, there are two types of creatures haitchers with H on their 8th letter name and aitchers with none upon thars.That H isnt so big. Its really so small. You might think such a thing wouldnt matter at all.But it does the tiny H on (h)aitch divides the nation. The pronunciation has become something of a social password, a spoken shibboleth distinguishing in-groupers from out-groupers. Those with social clout set the standards for whats in and whats out no H has the stamp of approval.The best kind of people are people without!Shibboleths die hard the opprobrium attached tohaitchprobably derives from its long association with Irish Catholic education. Theres no real evidence for this, mind, asSue Butlerpoints out, but never let facts get in the way of a good shibboleth.Getty ImagesWhen the letter H is pronounced beginning with the letter sound it makes, children have an easier time learning its correspondence as they learn to read (Credit: Getty Images)Aitchersreactions are often visceral. Someone once reported to us an encounter withhaitchis like an encounter with fire ants. Weve no doubt that psycho-physiological testing would show thathaitchcan raise goosebumps. Linguistic pinpricks are established early on in the acquisition process (Dont say haitch!) and they arouse emotions like other childhood reprimands (including swearwords).The story of the weakly articulated H is murkily entwined with the story of its name. Long gone from Old English words likehringring,hnecca neck andhldloud, it would have disappeared entirely if writing hadnt thrown out a lifejacket.Few things will the English youth find in after-life more pro-fitable than the right use of the aforesaid letter.It was once usual for speakers to drop aspirates at the beginning of words in fact up until the 1700s, it was fashionable to do so. But a spelling-obsessed 18th century stigmatised the loss of many consonants, including H.R-less pronunciations ofarmandcarmight have snuck under the radar, but H-dropping fell well and truly from grace.In 1873, Thomas Laurence Kington-Oliphant wrote about this revolting habit in his chapterGood and Bad English, advising:Few things will the English youth find in after-life more pro-fitable than the right use of the aforesaid letter.And so, the English youth restored H to words likehat, and even at the start of many French words likehumble, which had entered English H-less (the Romans pronounced their Hs, but the French dropped theirs). Spellers who werent quite sure whether or not to include H added a few extras along the way umble pie(offal pie) turned intohumble pie.Getty ImagesInterestingly, the Italian word for hospital doesn't have an H, yet the H is recognised as symbol for those seeking medical attention (Credit: Getty Images)Theres an ironic wrinkle to this story. The nameaitchmight be a sign of high education in some circles, but is itself an example of H-dropping. Deriving from medieval Frenchhacheor axe (hatchetandhashtagare relatives), it also arrived in English H-less (likehumbleandherb).Its a curious letter name being, as the Oxford English Dictionary describes, so remote from any connection with the sound. In fact theres solid evidence supportinghaitchas the better option. To understand why, we need to appreciate the primacy of initial letter sounds in words.Learning and alliterationEnglish speakers find it easiest to attend to and manipulate the beginning sounds of words. For example, its easier for us (orally, that is - by sound, not spelling) to take away the b sound inbeat(to make iteat) or to replace the b with a p to make itPetethan it is to take away the t sound inbeat(to make itbe) or to replace it with a k to make itbeak.Tongue twisters highlight the special quality of alliteration for learning as well; who can forget Peter Piper and his pickled peppers, Silly Sally and her sheep, or Betty Botter and her butter?Many letters of the alphabet are phonetically iconic; their names represent the sound they make. In places where letter names are learned before letter sounds, such as Australia and the US,these letter names can facilitate childrenin learning letter sounds and, ultimately, word reading. The letter sounds that are easiest to remember are those that begin with their corresponding letter, such as B, D, J, K, P, or T.Research shows its more difficult to learn sounds made by letters that end with their letter sound, such as F, L, and M. Those that have no correspondences to the letter sound are the most difficult. Logically, W should make the d sound (or change its name towubble-u).Haitch vs. aitch, round 2Whatever your visceral reaction to pronouncing H one way or the other,haitchhas definite benefits for letter sound learning.So its not surprisingits taking offin some parts of the English-speaking world. When the letter H is pronounced beginning with the letter sound it makes, children have an easier time learning its correspondence as they learn to read.Dr. Seuss implicitly understood this. We suggest that a follow-up primer for young readers will one day include Horton hearing a Haitch.Facebookpage or message us onTwitter.If you liked this story, sign up for the weekly bbc.com featuresnewslettercalled "If You Only Read 6 Things This Week". A handpicked selection of stories from BBC Future, Culture, Capital and Travel, delivered to your inbox every Friday.Evie: Hello, would you like to learn todays new sound? Oh brilliant!Dodge: I do, I do too Evie!Evie: Thats great Dodge, the sound were learning today is h.Dodge: Oooh, ha! Okay, will you say it with me? h.Evie: Well done! Lets say it again together h. Your turn.Dodge: hEvie: One more time h. Your turn.Dodge: hEvie: One last time h. Your turn.Dodge: hEvie: Brilliant! h is for horse, h is for house, h is for helicopter. Share copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution You must give appropriate credit , provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made . You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation . No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. Though its a high-value letter in Scrabble and Words with Friends, H is a relatively common letter. Statistically speaking, it is the eighth most commonly used letter in the English language. Thats because H is usually paired with other consonants likewh, ch, sh, and gh. H is found in the most common two-letter pair (th) and in the most common three-letter combination (the). (The letter H is typically pronounced aitch.)Where did the letter come from, though? It can be traced back to Northern Semitic languages and today is the English corollary to the Hebrew letter heth, which is pronounced as it is spelled. (Some letters like u and j are relatively new to written language. Who is responsible for the letter J?)Phoenician and proto-Semitic languages are the earliest recorded alphabets that use symbols to represent sounds rather than to represent things like Egyptian hieroglyphics. (Greek is considered the first true alphabet because it uses symbols to represent both consonant and vowel sounds). In proto-Semitic, the letter H was also the word for thread or fence, and if you look at the letter H, it is still clear that it looks like a portion of a fence.Like most stories of the English language, the tale of the H involves scribes in England in the 1000s and 1100s. As the French influence on Middle English began, the letter h kept moving around, coming in and out of words. Take the word author. The word originally entered the language from French as autour, but around the 1500s, scribes started inserting the h and changed it into author. Scribes also put Hs on the beginning of words, even though the Hs remained silent, as in the words honest and historical. So today we often put the article an before words that start with a silent H, as in the phrase, an honest Joe. (Why do we capitalize letters in the first place? Find out.)What other letters of the English language would you like to learn about? Do you have a favorite letter?

Henry cavill. Hitler. Hm. Hltv. Hbo max. Hertz. Hotmail login. Hornbach. Harry potter. Hermes. Hm home. Hotmail. Hunger games. Hemnet. Husqvarna.