## The Sounds of English

Basic English pronunciation
-Why is English pronunciation so difficult?-

Why is English pronunciation so difficult?

- English comes from many different languages

- English has 26 letters but 44 sounds


- English words do not sound the way they are spelled


A cute little brown animal

## The Sounds of English

Why is English pronunciation so difficult?

That crazy English language

| their too plain |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| there | two | plane |

- Different spellings
- Same sounds
- Different meanings


## The Sounds of English

Why is English pronunciation so difficult?

That crazy English language

| bow | dove | tear |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| bow | dove | tear |

- Same spellings
- Different sounds
- Different meanings


## The Sounds of English

Why is English pronunciation so difficult?

## That crazy English language

## Silent letters

Silent "c"

| muscle |
| :--- |
| scissors |

Silent "g"
Silent "b"
design
sign
comb womb

## The Sounds of English

Why is English pronunciation so difficult?

## That crazy English language

Same spellings
-ough
6 different pronunciations
Letter combination

| though | $/ \mathrm{ov} /$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| through | $/ \mathrm{u} /$ |
| rough | $/ \mathrm{sf} /$ |
| cough | $/ \mathrm{kof} /$ |
| thought | $/ \mathrm{ot} /$ |
| bough | $/ \mathrm{av} /$ |

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