

**Consonants [t] and [d]**  
**[t] as in *tie, two* and *tea***  
**[d] as in *day, do,* and *dough***

*Manner of Production:* alveolar stops

*Voicing:* [t] is voiceless; [d] is voiced

*Features:* Contact is made between the tongue tip and the upper gum ridge – the bump behind the upper teeth. The stream of breath is momentarily stopped and then quickly released. The release results in a puff of breath – a tiny pop or explosion. The sound [d] is accompanied by vocal cord vibration (voicing) and the pop is not as strong as for [t]. Following is a "prescription" for production of these sounds:

1. Make certain that your tongue tip is in contact with your upper gum ridge (alveolar ridge) but not in contact with either the upper or lower teeth.
2. When you break the contact with the gum ridge, do so quickly and completely.
3. When you break the contact, do not permit your tongue tip to slide toward the back of the teeth.
4. Practice this contact – release while you hold your hand a few inches in front of your mouth. You should feel the "plosion," a puff of air, on your hand.

*Common spellings:* The sound [t] is generally spelled with the letters *t* or *tt*. The sound [d] is generally represented by *d* or *dd*.

■ *Practice Materials for [t] (stressed syllable followed by a vowel)*

too	took	atone	intend
tea	tune	attack	intone
take	toil	entire	notary
time	town	Utah	retake
tub	type	utopia	twice
turn	twine	torrent	topical
turf	twins	tongue	teacher

talk of the town	tip of the tail
tea for two	tape the tune
tall tower	tap the tub
tiny tot	Tina and Ted
until tomorrow	intend to tease
take a turn	time and tide
timely tales	right on time
intense student	twenty-two and ten

1. Tom is a talkative student.
2. Time and tide do not wait for the reluctant.

3. To test twice is a prudent investment.
4. Utah, one of the fifty United States, was named for the Ute Indians.
5. Although he was called Tiny Tim, Tim Turner was seven feet and two inches tall.
6. On Tuesdays, Tom and Tina took two-mile strolls through the newly built town mall.

■ *Practice Materials for [t] (unstressed syllables)*

city	batter	fatter
kitty	butter	matter
pretty	chatter	patter
fifty	dated	later
twenty	hated	waited

fifty kittens	thirty letters
went to the city	plenty of butter
bitter but better	written statements
dated chatter	time and tide

1. Marta preferred bread and butter with tea rather than sweet pastries.
2. The pretty, white kitty came from an esteemed litter.
3. Though he studied, Milton fretted that he did not do better on his mid-term tests.
4. Ralston warned: "Time does not wait; it is frequently later than most of us think."
5. Mr. Winston spent his time between his city and country homes.

■ *Selected High Frequency [t] Words for the Elementary Grades*

take	top	spot	about	monster	put
talk	touch	stair	after	mountain	sat
teacher	toy	statue	at	night	sent
tell	tree	step	except	forgot	shut
ten	try	stone	into	get	thought
time	T.V.	store	out	got	want
tired	twenty	stay	without	hit	giant
to	two	stick	yet	hunt	great
took	trouble	pretend	went	left	just

touch the top	tall trees
ten times	tired of television
talk to teacher	too many toys
take a turn	forgot to tell
twelve toys	stop talking
went to the store	stayed to ten