BBC TEXT SPELLING

Written pronunciations are given in a text spelling system based on English spelling conventions.
It is based on English sounds with the addition of some other sounds such as Welsh ll and the front rounded vowels found in French and German.
Syllables are separated by hyphens. Stressed syllables are given in CAPITALS.
Example: the word *pronunciation* would be respelt **pruh-nun-si-AY-shuhn**.

Vowels

a as in *hat*	eer as in *deer*	ow as in *now*
aa as in *father*	i as in *sit*	oy as in *boy*
arr as in *marry*	igh, y as in *high, cry*	u as in *cup*
ar as in *bar*	irr as in *mirror*	uh as in *ago / the*
air as in *hair*	o as in *not*	ur as in *fur*
aw as in *law*	orr as in *sorry*	urr as in *hurry*
ay as in d*ay*	oh as in *no*	uu as in *book*
e as in *get*	oo as in *boot*	oe as in French *peu* or *coeur*
err as in *merry*	oor as in *poor*	oey as in French *fauteuil*
ee as in *meet*	or as in *corn*	ue as in French *vu* or German *fünf*

Consonants

b as in *bat*	kh as in Scottish *loch*	s as in *sit*
ch, tch as in *church,*	or German *ich*	sh as in *shop*
catch	l as in *leg*	t as in *top*
d as in *day*	m as in *man*	th as in *thin*
f as in *fit*	n as in *not*	dh as in *there*
g as in *get*	ng as in *singer*	v as in *van*
h as in *hat*	ng-g as in *finger*	w as in *will*
hl as in Welsh *llan*	nk as in *thank*	y as in *yes*
j as in *Jack*	p as in *pen*	z as in *zebra*
k as in *king*	r as in *red*	zh as in *measure*

(ng) after a vowel indicates nasalization; as in French *un bon vin blanc*: oe(ng) bo(ng) va(ng) blaa(ng).

y between a consonant and a vowel is a glide: e.g. *mute*: myoot; *manual*: MAN-yoo-uhl.

Our respellings acknowledge word-final or pre-consonantal R, as in words like *party* and *hair*, which is pronounced in some accents of English (rhotic) and not in others (non-rhotic). Therefore *Parker* is transcribed as PAR-kuhr, not PAA-kuh, and the rs will be pronounced or not according to the speaker's accent.

The way the words are broken into syllables in the respelling is not an attempt to reflect actual syllabification in a given language. Instead, it is a tool to reinforce vowel pronunciations and to ensure the most intuitive transcription. When a vowel is long, the following consonant will be placed after the hyphen, as in PEE-tuhr for *Peter*. When a vowel is short, the consonant goes immediately after the vowel, before the hyphen, as in JEN-i for *Jenny*.