

# Pronunciación

## Diphthongs and linking



**hermano**

**niña**

**cuñado**

In Spanish, **a**, **e**, and **o** are considered strong vowels. The weak vowels are **i** and **u**.

**ruido**

**parientes**

**periodista**

A diphthong is a combination of two weak vowels or of a strong vowel and a weak vowel. Diphthongs are pronounced as a single syllable.



**mi hijo**

**una clase excelente**

Two identical vowel sounds that appear together are pronounced like one long vowel.

**la abuela**

**con Natalia**

**sus sobrinos**

**las sillas**

Two identical consonants together sound like a single consonant.

**es ingeniera**

**mis abuelos**

**sus hijos**

A consonant at the end of a word is linked with the vowel at the beginning of the next word.

**mi hermano**

**su esposa**

**nuestro amigo**

A vowel at the end of a word is linked with the vowel at the beginning of the next word.

**Práctica** Say these words aloud, focusing on the diphthongs.

- |              |               |                 |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. historia  | 5. residencia | 9. lenguas      |
| 2. nieto     | 6. prueba     | 10. estudiar    |
| 3. parientes | 7. puerta     | 11. izquierda   |
| 4. novia     | 8. ciencias   | 12. ecuatoriano |

**Oraciones** Read these sentences aloud to practice diphthongs and linking words.

- Hola. Me llamo Anita Amaral. Soy del Ecuador.
- Somos seis en mi familia.
- Tengo dos hermanos y una hermana.
- Mi papá es del Ecuador y mi mamá es de España.

**Refranes** Read these sayings aloud to practice diphthongs and linking sounds.

Quando una puerta se cierra, otra se abre.<sup>1</sup>

Hablando del rey de Roma, por la puerta se asoma.<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> When one door closes, another opens.  
<sup>2</sup> Speak of the devil and he will appear.

recursos

vText

CA

CH

p. 118

p. 35

