Cues of American English
with Phonemic Spelling

Consonant Handshapes

Handshape 1
/d/ do
/p/ pea
/zh/ Zsa Zsa

Handshape 2
/k/ cake
/TH/ the
/v/ vie
/z/ zoo

Handshape 3
/h/ he
/r/ rah
/s/ see

Handshape 4
/b/ bib
/n/ no
/wh/ why

Handshape 5
/f/ fee
/m/ me
/t/ to

Handshape 6
/l/ loo
/sh/ she
/w/ we

/TH/ thumb

Handshape 7
/g/ gig
/j/ jeep
/ng/ young

Handshape 8
/y/ you

Vowel Placements & Movements

Mouth (m)
/ee/ eat
/ur/ her

Chin (c)
/aw/ awe
/e/ ebb
/ue/ new

Throat (t)
/a/ at
/i/ it
/oo/ book

move ½”-¾” down
Side-Down (sd)

move 1” forward
Side-Forward (sf)

Chin-Throat (_cSt)

Side-Throat (_sSt)

Side (s)
/ie/ eye
/ou/ how

no vowel after consonant

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