

# A B C D . . . E F . . . X Y Z

## DO YOU KNOW YOUR PHONETIC ALPHABET?

When police officers talk to each other on the radio, they have to make sure that the person they are talking to understands what they say. Sometimes they need to spell out words or a car number plate.

It can be difficult to hear the name of a letter over the radio, especially if the reception is bad and there is a crackling noise. To make it easier for the person listening, the police officer will use words instead of letters, because these are easier to hear and none of the words sounds alike. Instead of saying A, the officer will say ALPHA.

The Phonetic Alphabet is also used by the Fire Service, the Ambulance Service, airline pilots, the armed forces and other organisations.

Letter	Clue	Cover the end column and test yourself here!	Phonetic
A	a greek letter		Alpha
B	Well done!		Bravo
C	A cheeky man's name		Charlie
D	The mouth of a river opening into the sea		Delta
E	a sound that bounces back		Echo
F	an old fashioned dance		Foxtrot
G	Sport played with clubs		Golf
H	A little red piece on a monopoly board		Hotel
I	A hot country - home to Taj Mahal		India
J	Romeo's girlfriend		Juliet
K	A measurement of weight		Kilo
L	Capital of Peru		Lima
M	You sing into one for Karaoke		Mike
N	A winter month		November
O	Status awarded in film industry		Oscar
P	He's married to Mama		Papa
Q	A province in Canada		Quebec
R	Juliet's boyfriend		Romeo
S	Name of a Ford Motor car		Sierra
T	An orange fizzy drink		Tango
U	Police officers wear this		Uniform
V	Boy's name or winner		Victor
W	Famous Scottish drink		Whisky
X	Used in hospital to see your bones		X-ray
Y	This doodle dandy rode to town on a donkey		Yankee
Z	An African Warrior		Zulu

If a police officer wanted to say Y553 LNO he would say:



YANKEE - FIVE - FIVE  
- THREE - LIMA -  
NOVEMBER - OSCAR

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