

Part 1: Lesson 170 • Memory Lesson: Margaret E. Sangster

MEMORY GEMS • 26PX TRACKS

I wish you a happy New Year, mamma, —
I am sure new things are nice, —
And this one comes with a merry face
And plenty of snow and ice.
But I only wish I had kept awake
Till the Old Year made his **bow**,
For what he said when the clock struck twelve
I shall never find out now.
— MARGARET E. SANGSTER (1838–1912)

• **bow** (/bau/): respectful bending departure (from Lesson 167).

• **sigh** (/saɪ/): silent *gh* contrast with Lesson 171.

• **good-bye**: traditional hyphenated parting wish.

Wheeler Instruction 1: "Copy carefully. Write neatly from dictation on the handwriting tracks:"

Part 2: Lesson 171 • The Sound of /f/, Represented by gh or ph (15 Words)

THE /F/ SOUND • 26PX TRACKS

tough /tʌf/

adj. strong; durable

phlox /flɑːks/

n. bright garden flower

Philip /ˈfɪlɪp/

prop n. boy's name (capital P)

rough /rʌf/

adj. uneven surface

Phoebe /ˈfiːbi/

prop n. radiant girl's name

cipher /ˈsɑɪfər/

n. zero or secret code

cough /kɔːf/

v./n. expel air loudly

phrase /freɪz/

n. small group of words

orphan /ˈɔːrfən/

n. child without parents

laugh /læf/

v./n. express merry mirth

nephew /ˈneɪjuː/

n. son of sibling

sulphur /ˈsʌlfər/

n. yellow mineral substance

enough /ɪˈnʌf/

adj./adv. ample; sufficient

photograph /ˈfotəgræf/

n. picture captured by light

camphor /ˈkæmfər/

n. fragrant aromatic resin

Part 3: Comparative Orthography • Sound of /f/ in Germanic vs. Greek Roots

PHONOLOGICAL LAWS

1. Germanic gh = /f/ vs. Silent gh:
Contrast *cough*, *laugh*, *tough* with silent *bough*, *sigh*:

2. Greek ph = /f/ in Classical Words:
Explain why *photo-graph* has two *ph* spellings:

Part 4: Sentence Composition • Wheeler Instruction 2

SYNTAX • 26PX TRACKS

Wheeler directs: "Use them in sentences of your own." Compose two expressive sentences:

1. Sentence with **laugh**, **enough**, or **rough**:

2. Sentence with **Philip**, **Phoebe**, or **photograph**:

Section 1: Germanic Sound Shift of <gh> & Greek Digamma <ph>

HISTORICAL ORTHOEPEY

The Germanic Labial Shift (<gh> = /f/):

- In Old English, words like *tōh*, *rūh*, *hleahhan* ended in a velar fricative (/x/). As Middle English evolved, this velar sound shifted to a labiodental fricative (/f/) in certain words (*tough*, *rough*, *cough*, *laugh*, *enough*).
- In other words, the sound was completely lost, resulting in silent *-gh* (*bough*, *though*, *through*, *sigh*, *high*). Wheeler systematically contrasts both groups!

Greek Roots & Classical <ph> = /f/:

- Greek Phi (Φ, φ):** Originally an aspirated voiceless bilabial stop (/pʰ/), it spirantized to /f/ in Hellenistic Greek and Latin transcription.
- Classical Vocabulary:** *phlox* (flame), *phrase* (diction), *photograph* (light-drawing), *orphan* (bereaved), *cipher* (Arabic *sifr* via Latin/Greek).
- Proper Nouns:** *Philip* and *Phæbe* require initial capitalization and classical digraph retention.

Section 2: Complete Word Analysis & Phonetic Key (15 Words)

IPA • ORTHOGRAPHY • ETYMOLOGY

Word	IPA	Etymological Origin & Phonological Structure		Word	IPA	Etymological Origin & Phonological Structure	
tough	/tʌf/	OE	tōh; velar fricative shifted to labial /f/	phrase	/freɪz/	Greek	phrasis (speech); digraph ph = /f/; voiced s = /z/
rough	/rʌf/	OE	rūh; vowel shortened to /ʌ/; gh = /f/	nephew	/ˈnefjuː/	OF	neveu; Latin nepos; medial ph pronounced /f/
cough	/kɔːf/	ME	coughen; vowel /ɔː/; final gh = /f/	photograph	/ˈfotəɡræf/	Greek	phos (light) + graphe (writing); two ph = /f/
laugh	/læf/	OE	hleahhan; vowel /æ/; final gh = /f/	Philip	/ˈfɪlɪp/	Proper noun;	Greek Philippos (lover of horses)
enough	/ɪˈnʌf/	OE	genōh; unstressed prefix e-; gh = /f/	cipher	/ˈsaɪfər/	Arabic	sifr (empty, zero); medial ph = /f/
phlox	/ˈflɑːks/	Greek	phlox (flame); initial ph = /f/	orphan	/ˈɔːrfən/	Greek	orphanos (parentless); medial ph = /f/
Phæbe	/ˈfiːbi/	Proper noun;	Greek Phoibe (radiant); ligature æ	sulphur	/ˈsʌlfər/	Latin sulfur /	Greek transcription; medial ph = /f/
camphor	/ˈkæmfər/	Sanskrit	karpura via Arabic/Greek; medial ph = /f/	bow (recap)	/bau/	In Sangster poem:	"Till the Old Year made his bow"

Section 3: Master Oral Dictation Script, Socratic Inquiry & Evaluative Rubric

DICTIONATION • SOCRATIC • 20-POINT RUBRIC

Oral Dictation Sentences:

- "Philip took a clear photograph of the garden phlox."
- "A merry child can laugh even when the road is rough."
- "The kind lady adopted a lonely orphan and his nephew."
- "Phæbe solved the difficult cipher on the blackboard."
- "We had enough warm wood to cure the bad winter cough."

Socratic Inquiry Key:

- Q:** "Why do words like *tough* and *rough* end in *gh* when they sound like *f*?"
A: "Because in Old English, *gh* was sounded like a throat scraping sound (/x/). Over centuries, English speakers shifted that sound into /f/, but preserved the ancient *gh* spelling!"
- Q:** "Where do words with *ph* come from?"
A: "Almost all *ph* words come from the Greek language (like *phlox*, *phrase*, *photograph*)."

Scoring Rubric (20 Pts):

- 1. /f/ Sound Orthography (5 pts):** Flawless spelling of all 15 target words with <gh> and <ph>.
- 2. Etymological Discrimination (5 pts):** Accurate classification of Germanic <gh> vs. Greek <ph>.
- 3. Penmanship (5 pts):** Strict 26px line discipline; ascenders and descenders touching midline.
- 4. Sentence Mechanics (5 pts):** Original sentence composition; proper capitalization of *Philip* and *Phæbe*.
Mastery: 18–20 | Proficient: 15–17 | Developing: 12–14 | Emerging: <12