

## International English Spelling Congress

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The scheme summarised below was one of 35 that passed the sifting process and was forwarded to the Expert Commission following the first session of the Congress.

IESC 3
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### Normalized English

by Dr Mario Rodriguez Peña

English speakers are used to Latin alphabet, and although English sounds would need more characters, a reform in the alphabet, although academically more correct, would be surely rejected by the most of population and it would distance English language from other important languages coded by Latin alphabet. So, this present reform will use Latin alphabet, doing its best, and without the use of diacritics, unnatural for English language.

The pronunciation referred in this proposal is the Received Pronunciation (RP), because it is the nowhere standard of English. However, curiously this reform will be closer to American orthography because this is closer to pronunciation than British orthography, thanks to the Noah Webster reform. Although this proposal uses RP and it is closer to American orthography, it has correspondences to other varieties of English, for instance:

1. In this proposal, the digraph <UU> is used to represent the original /U/ sound to distinguish from the caret /V/ sound commonly represented by a single <U>. In Hiberno-English there would not be distinction between <UU> and <U>, both pronounced as /U/.
2. /T/ and /D/ sounds are represented by <TH> and <DH> respectively, giving that H the value to change plosive /t/ and /d/ sounds to non-sibilant fricative ones in the most of English varieties, except Hiberno-English where <TH> and <DH> are pronounced as T and D respectively, because this "H modifier" would not have value in this variety of English.
3. The post-vocalic R before consonant or final E is kept in this proposal regardless it is not pronounced in the standard English and most of the accents, which they are non-rhotic, because this R elongate the sound of the preceding vowel and modifies the sound of <EE> /i:/ to /I@/ and the sound of <EI> /ei/ to /e@/, as Rollings (2004) proposed, and because this letter is still pronounced in rhotic accents such as Hiberno-English.

In no case, different spellings depending on the accent are advised, but a common spelling for all English varieties whose variations can be traced through the spelling is the key, because accents usually are simplifications of the main rule.

For a succesful reform, changes should be minimized as much as possible because people usually do not like changes in the orthography (although orthography is a social convention with changes over time in most of languages) and this makes it readable by any English-speaker with no previous knowledge on this orthography. This minimization in orthographical changes makes this proposal a compromise between a radical and a conservative one.

In order to minimize changes, each sound will be assigned to the most used spelling and the huge amount of exceptions shall be rewritten according to the general proposed spelling rule, thus getting a predictable spelling. This proposal agrees with Noah Webster's spelling and goes beyond orthographies like that of Axel Wijk's "Regularized English", thus reducing irregularities.

Let's go firstly with the easiest part, the consonants. Consonants correlate quite well with spelling. To perform a better analysis, orthographic representation is classified by sounds (SAMPA script, Speech Assessment Methods Phonetic Alphabet, based on IPA but using ASCII non-special characters).

#	/SAMPA/	TS	<1>	<2>	<3>	<4>	<5>
1	p	pen	p				
2	b	bag	b				
3	t	tea	t				
4	d	day	d				
5	k	key	k	c	q	ck	cq
6	g	get	g	gh			
7	tS	church	ch	tch			
8	dZ	judge	dj	dg			
9	f	fat	f	ph			
10	v	van	v				
11	T	thing	th				
12	D	that	dh				
13	s	soon	s	c	sc		
14	z	zero	z				
15	S	ship	sh				
16	Z	pleasure	j	g	zh		
17	h	hot	h				
18	m	more	m				
19	n	nice	n				
20	N	ring	ng				
21	l	light	l				
22	r	right	r	rr			
23	j	yet	y				
24	w	wet	w	u			
25	ks	next, accept	x	cc	xc		
26	5	valley	ll				
27	ts	letovicite, pizza	tz	tc			
28	W	which	wh				

29	x	Khan, loch/lough	kh				
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Now the orthographic proposal for consonants, showing in quotation marks words in Traditional Spelling (TS) and underlining the proposed change:

1. All consonant doublets are suppressed, with the exception of <LL> representing the traditional /5/ sound and <RR> representing the intervocalic /r/ sound.
2. The /g/ sound before e and i shall be written as <GH> (as in word "ghetto") and the /Z/ sound before a, o, u shall be written with <J>. The words that shall be re-written following these rules are: /g/ sound before e and i as <GH>: "get, gig" > ghet, ghig, "guest" > ghest and "dagger, staggering" > daggher, stagghering. <J> with sound /j/ shall be written with <Y>, Halelooya and fyord, and the /h/ sound with <H>, fahita, marihuana, and halapenio (/nj/ sound assimilated as <ni> as in "onion").
3. When the digraph <GH> has the /f/ sound, in order to use a similar orthography and because it is at the end, shall be <PH>: "laugh" > laph, when it sounds /p/ shall be written as <P> such as "hiccough" > "hiccup", and when it sounds /x/ shall be <KH> (such as word "Khan") as "lough" > lokh, the opposite is true in words written with <KH> but /k/ sound shall be written with a single <K> as "Sheikh" > Sheik
4. When <WH> has /f/ sound shall be written as <PH>: "whew" > pheu, and when it has /h/ sound shall be written as ho and hole instead of "who" and "whole".
5. When <PH> has /v/ sound shall be written as <v>: "Stephen" > Steeven (same case when <f> has /v/ sound such as "of" > ov which is resemblant to German "von"), and with /pf/ sound shall be <PF>: "camphor" > camppfor.
6. Distinction between /T/ and /D/ sound (phonetic letters theta and eth), represented currently by the digraph <TH>. In order to distinguish both sounds, this reform proposes different graphemes, the current <TH> for the sound /T/, and <DH> for the sound /D/, orthographically similar to <TH> and giving that H the value to change plosive /t/ and /d/ sounds to non-sibilant fricative ones in the most of English varieties (except Hiberno-English where <TH> and <DH> are pronounced as T and D respectively). To avoid confusion, the word "dharma" with /d/ sound is darma, and the word "Thyme", with /t/ sound, is Tyme.
7. <C> before e and i has /s/ sound, so other sounds shall be rewritten: /tS/ sound as <CH>: "cello" > chelo, /S/ sound as <SH>: "special, liquorice" > speshshial, liquorish, /k/ sound as <K>: "Celts" > Kelts, and /ts/ sound as <TC>: "letovicite" > letovitcite (and the words written with <Z> with /ts/ re-written with <TZ>: "schizophrenic, pizza" > skitzophrenic, peetza). Thus, <CC> before e and i has /ks/ sound. If <CC> sounds /k/, it shall be <CK> such as "socccer" > sockcker; if /tS/ sound shall be <CH> such as "cappuccino" > capuuchinoe and if /s/ sound, only one <C> (suppression of doublet) as in "flaccid" > flacid.

8. The silent digraph <GH> is eliminated as it happens naturally currently such as in thru for "through" (throo), tho for "though" (dhoe), boro for "borough" (buro), and nite for "night" (nyt), and other silent consonants such as H after R, initial M/P before N and final N after M. Silent initial K before N, and final E are kept to distinguish some homophones (knyt and nyt ("knight" and "night") and teil and teile ("tail" and "tale")), and G in digraph <GN> because the /g/ sound can reappear depending on the ending as sygn and signit ("sign" and "signet"). Moreover, the non-etymological S in "isle" and derivatives is suppressed, and written as yle.
9. Post-vocalic R before consonant or final E elongate the sound of the preceding vowel and modifies the sound of <EE> /i:/ to /I@/ and the sound of <EI> /ei/ to /e@/, agreeing with Rollings (2004), The spelling patterns of English. Moreover, this letter cannot be omitted because it is pronounced in rhotic accents such as Hiberno-English.
10. /k/ sound is represented in Greek by kappa letter, the equivalent of letter K, so it has no sense to transcribe this sound from Greek words into English with <CH>, associated the /tS/ sound. Hence, all Greek /k/ sound shall be written with its original <K>, such as Kimera, Liken, Drakm.
11. <CH> digraph has always /tS/ sound, so French words with /S/ sound shall be written with <SH>: "machhine" > mashine, and if it sounds /k/, <K> before e and I/Y or <C>: "chemist" > kemist. Thus, <SCH> trigraph is confusing because the combination of S + CH sound gives a kind of /S/ sound (as SCH in German), but the main phonetic value is /sk/, giving that <CH> digraph a /k/ sound which is not contemplated in this orthography, so the solution is re-writing all of them: if they sounds /sk/, they shall be re-written with <SC> or <SK> before e and i/y: "school, scheme" > scool, skeme, and if they sounds /S/, they shall be simply <SH>: "schedule (RP), schist" > shedule, shist. Only the combination of <SCH> trigraph could be found in compound words as mischif.
12. <T> has always /t/ sound, and with other sounds shall be re-written: /S/ sound as <SH>: "martial, cautious" > marshial, caushious, /tS/ sound as <CH>: "fortune" > forchune, and intervocalic /z/ sound as <Z>: "equation" > iquezion

The vocalic system is more confusing because of the Great Vowel Shift, but the Great Vowel Shift shall be the general rule, changing the "exceptions".

	Writting	Current sound of these spellings	Current main representation of long sound

<b>Long I</b>	Y (and also I)	/aI/	EE /i:/
<b>Long E</b>	EE	/i:/	EA /3:/
<b>Long A</b>	AY (also A)	/eI/	AA/AH (also A) /A:/
<b>Long U</b>	OU	/aU/	OO /u:/
<b>Long O</b>	OO	/u:/	-
<b>Long ɔ</b>	OA	/oU/	AU/AW /O:/ ("Laura" pronunciation)
CHANGES IN DIPHTHONGS			
<b>EU</b>	EU/EW	/ju:/	OW /eU/

Diphthong which represent the sound of above digraphs: <UI/UY> as /aI/, because the caret /V/ sound of <U> is absorbed by /aI/ sound of <Y>.

Diphthongs homophones because of the Great Vowel Shift: <OE> sounds as current <OA> (/oU/), <EI> sounds as current <AY> (/eI/), <AO> sounds as current <OU> (/aU/) and <UE> sounds as current <EW> (/ju:/)

#	/SAMPA/	TS	<1>	<2>	<3>	<4>
30	I	pit	i			
31	e	pet	e			
32	{	pat	a			
33	V	pun	u			
34	U	put	uu			
35	i:	feed	ee			
36	eI	face	ei			

37	al	price	y	uy		
38	OI	boy	oi			
39	u:	food	oo			
40	@U, oU	floe	oa	oe		
41	aU	fowl	ou	ao		
42	I@, i:`	near	ee			
43	e@, e`	bear	ei			
44	A:, A:`	hard	a			
45	A:	palm	aa	ah		
46	Q, A:	pot	o			
47	O:	law	au			
48	O:, O:`	order	o			
49	ju:	new	eu	ue		
50	3:, 3`	herd	e			
51	i	simply	i			
52	@	about	a	e	o	u

1. After GVS, most of single <U> acquired the caret /V/ sound and this shall be the rule, changing the rest of words such as “won, monkey, one” > wun, munki, wune. The original /U/ sound is univocally represented by the digraph <UU> as in “menstruum”, and it shall be chosen to distinguish from the aforementioned /V/ sound, changing the rest of words such as those with single <U> “put, full” > puut, fuull, single <O> such as “wolf” > wuulf or double <O> such as “cook, wood” > cuuk, wuud. In Hiberno-English there would not be distinction between <UU> and <U>, both pronounced as /U/.
2. /w/ sound comes after q and g and it is represented as <U>, as in “language”. To avoid confusion, if <U> is mute, shall be suppressed or rewritten as <GH> if /g/ sound before e and i such as “guide” > ghyde. A special case is French words with <OI> in TS and /wa/ sound, rewritten as <UA>, because this <U> could not acquire the caret /V/ sound which would be unpronounceable: “reservoir” > rezervuar. In addition, mute final <-que> and <-gue> shall be rewritten as <-c> and <-g> following the James Howell's change of “logique” to “logic”, such as “plague” > plaac and “plague” > pleig.
3. Long I /i:/ is represented by <EE> after GVS. Special cases are words with <AE> in TS: “encyclopaedia” > encyclopeedia, and with <OE> in TS: “phoenix” > pheenix (to distinguish when <OE> sounds /oU/), both rewritten with <EE>, and those with single <E> shall be written with double <EE> such as “lethal, Stephen” > leethal, Steeven. Final E are always mute and used to distinguish homophones, because when it represents long /i:/ sound shall be re-written with double /EE/ as said previously: “recipe” > recipeee.
4. /a/ sound is univocally represented by <Y>, agreeing with the value of double I or long I in other languages as French. The digraph <UY> is also retained because

the caret /V/ sound is absorbed by /a/ sound of <Y> (buy), but re-written with <UEI> if /ju:/: "toluy" > toluei and <OOY> if /u:j/: "gruyere" > gruoyere.

5. Long U /u:/ is represented by the well-known <OO> digraph after GVS, so the rest of words shall be re-written accordingly such as those with single <U> "truuth, bruut" > truooth, bruoot, and single <O> "toomb, dooing" > tooomb, doooing. A special case is the French trigraph <OEU>: "manoeuvre" > manoover. On the other hand, if <OO> sounds /O/, then shall be replaced by a single <O>: "dooor, flooor" > dor, flor, and if it sounds /U/, then replaced by <UU>: "wool, fooot" > wuul, fuut.
6. /oU/ sound is represented by <OA> digraph after GVS, merging with <OE>, used as ending. An special case is the French ending <-eau>, rewritten with <-oe>: "bureau" > beurooe, but with a single <O> if /o/ sound: "bureaucracy" > beuroocraci or with <EU> if /ju:/: "beauty" > beuti. On the other hand, if <OE> sounds long /u:/ then <OO> shall be used "shoes" > shooos and if sounds caret /V/ then replaced with <U>: "does" > dus
7. Long A /A:/ is univocally represented by <AA> in the middle or by <AH> as ending according "aardvark/blah" spellings, so these digraphs shall be used in the rest of words: "father" > faadher and "bra" > brah
8. Long O /O:/ is represented by <AU> after GVS, such as "Laura" name, and those represented with <AU> but short /O/ sound shall be re-written with single <O> such as: "because, laurel, leprechaun" > bicoose, loorel, leprecoon
9. /ju:/ sound is represented by <EU> digraph after GVS, merging with <UE>, used as ending. Other spellings shall be re-written such as those with single <U> in TS: "stuudent" > steuudent, with double <UU> (used for /U/ sound as in menstruum): "continuum, vacuuum" > continuuem, vacuuem, or with <UI> and /ju:/ sound, re-written with <UEI>: "conduuit" > conduueit; but with single <I> if /I/ sound: "buuild" > bild.
10. Shwah sound /@/ is for unstressed single vowels (except unstressed <I> which sounds /i/) so digraphs <OU> and <EU> in TS shall be rewritten as single <O> and <E>, respectively.
11. Short /I/ sound is univocally represented as a single <I>, so the words which don't follow this rule shall be re-written, such as words ended in <-age>: "damage, garbage" > damige, gabige, except garage, barrage > garaage, barraage with long /A:/ and teenage > teeneige with /e/ sound. Those with digraphs <AI> and <EI> shall be simplified to a single <I> such as "bargaain, mountain, foreeign" > barghin, mountin, forign. On the other hand, when single <I> represents long <i:> shall be re-written with double <EE> such as "skis, chic" > skeees, cheeec, and those with /a/ sound as single <Y> such as "disasect, isand" > dyysect, yyland. The opposite is true, in words written with <Y> and /I/ sound shall be re-written with single <I> such as "cryyptic, syystem, syymbol" > criiptic, siistem, siimbol.

After explaining all proposed changes in current orthography to get it closer to pronunciation, I'll attach a simple table to summarize the representation of the sounds with this current orthography

Short vowels	A /{/	E /3/	I /I/	O /O/	U /V/ (/w/ after G or Q) UU /U/
Schwa /ə/ in unstressed single vowels					
Long vowels	AA (AH at the end) /A:/	E(+r) /3:/	EE /i:/	AU /O:/ ("Laura" pronunciation)	OO /u:/
Special diphthongs	EI /eI/	EU – UE /ju:/	OA – OE /oU/	OU – AO /aU/	Y - UY /aI/

After all these reasonings, the following rules for reading (how to differentiate different phonemes of the same grapheme) are proposed:

#	<>	/SAMPA/	Condition	Scheme example	TS Equivalent
1	a	A:˘	before r	hard	hard
2	a	@	unstressed	about	about
6	a	{	otherwise	pat	pat
7	e	3:˘	before r	herd	herd
8	e	@	unstressed	taiken	taken
9	e	e	otherwise	pet	pet
10	i	i	unstressed	simpli	simply
11	i	I	otherwise	pit	pit
12	o	O:˘	before r	order	order
13	o	@	unstressed	author	author
14	o	Q	otherwise	pot	pot
15	u	w	after q, g	quyte, languidge	quite, language
16	u	@	unstressed	meedium	medium
17	u	V	otherwise	pun	pun
18	ee	i:˘	before r	neer	near
19	ee	i:	otherwise	feed	feed
20	ei	e@˘	before r	beir	bear
21	ei	eI	otherwise	feice	face
22	c	s	before e, i	citi	city
23	c	k	otherwise	cat	cat
24	g	Z	before e, i	gaanre	genre
25	g	g	otherwise	goe	go



26	r	r	beginning of word, after consonant	cring	ring
27	r	-	otherwise	care	care
28	h	-	final h (elongate final vowel)	voblah	blah
29	h	-	after ex- prefix	ixhibit	exhibit
30	h	h	otherwise	inhibit	inhibit

And the rules for writing (how to differentiate different graphemes with the same phoneme) are:

#	/SAMPA/	<>	Condition	Scheme example	TS equivalent
1	al	uy	end of word ((/V/ + /al/)	buy	buy
2	al	y	otherwise	pryce	price
3	oU	oe	end of word	floe	floe
4	oU	oa	otherwise	boat	boat
5	aU	ou	stressed	foul	fowl
6	aU	ao	otherwise	cacao	cacao
7	A:	ah	end of word	blah	blah
8	A:˘	a	before r	hard	hard
9	A:	aa	otherwise	paalm	palm
10	ju:	ue	end of word, before i for /jui/ sound	value	value
11	ju:	eu	otherwise	feudal	feudal
12	@	a,e,o,u	As per etymology	about, taiken, author, meedium	about, taken, author, medium
13	k	c	Before consonant, a, o	cat	cat
14	k	q	Before u (sound /kw/)	quyte	quite
15	k	ck	2 syllables (/k/ + /k/)	tickit	ticket
16	k	cq	2 syllables (/k/ + /kw/)	acquyre	acquire
17	k	k	otherwise	kee	key
18	g	gh	Before e, i	ghet	get
19	g	g	otherwise	goe	go
20	tS	tch	2 syllables (/t/ + /tS/)	kitchin	kitchen
21	tS	ch	otherwise	cherch	church
22	dZ	dg	Before e, i	djudge	judge
23	dZ	dj	otherwise	djudge	judge
24	f	ph	end of word, Greek origin	phoutograaph, inuph	photograph, enough
25	f	f	otherwise	fat	fat
26	s	c	Before e, i	citi	city
27	s	sc	2 syllables etym before e, i	sceene	scene
28	s	s	otherwise	soon	soon
29	Z	g	Before e, i	gaanre	genre
30	Z	zh	Derived etym from z/s	lezhure	leisure
31	Z	j	otherwise	jaungler	jongleur
32	r	r	Beginning of word	ring	ring

33	r	rr	otherwise	parrot	parrot
34	w	u	Before q, g	quyte	quite
35	w	w	otherwise	wet	wet
36	ks	cc	2 syllables before e, i (/k/ + /s/)	accept	accept
37	ks	xc	2 syllables before e, i (/ks/ + /s/)	ixcept	except
38	ks	x	otherwise	next	next
39	ts	tc	Before e, i	letovitcite	letovicite
40	ts	tz	otherwise	peetza, skitzophrenic	pizza, schizophrenic

And one final rule: For orthographic coherence, pasts in -id or -d instead of -ed (only formed if verb ends in -e), although it sounds as /t/ to avoid 2 different spellings for pasts. Same structure in plurals and third person of singular in present tenses, -is or -s as other languages (although nouns and verbs ending in a lenis sound have /z/ sound, to avoid 2 different orthographies): is, has

Hence, according to these rules, the following homophones shall be written:

#	TS	Proposed 1	Proposed 2	Proposed 3
1	to, too, two	too	too	tw
2	buy, by, bye	buy	by	bye
3	queue, cue	que	cue	
4	scene, seen	sceene	seen	
5	which, witch	which	wich	
6	Czech, check	Chec	chek	
7	sax, sacs	sax	sacs	
8	aisle, isle, I'll	ayle	yle	Y'll
9	cell, sell	cell	sell	
10	dew, due	deu	due	
11	know, no	knoe	noe	
12	knight, night	knyt	nyt	
13	mail, male	meil	meile	
14	right, write	ryt	wryte	
15	sight, site	syt	syte	
16	their, there, they're	their	theire	thei're
17	one, won	wune	wun	
18	wear, where	weir	wheire	
19	find, fined	fynd	fyned	
20	mane, main	meine	mein	
21	mete, meet	meete	meet	
22	ate, eight	eite	eit	
23	bare, bear	beire	beir	
24	eye, I	aye	Y	('aye' would be eie)
25	flour, flower	flour	flouer	
26	hear, here	heer	heere	

27	knows, nose	knoes	nouze	
28	plain, plane	plein	pleine	
29	road, rode	road	roade	
30	threw, through	thrw	throo	
31	tail, tale	teil	teile	
32	wood, would	wuud	wuuld	
33	blew, blue	blw	bloo	
34	break, brake	breik	breike	

This orthography solves some doubtful points such as:

1. Duality of British and American orthographies (like "center/centre", "color/colour" and "normalise/normalize"): This orthography depends on phonetics so, according to the proposed rules, the previous words shall be written as center, culor, and normalyze, closer to American orthography due to the Noah Webster reform, and also dualities in the spelling of some names as the Irish town Artane or Artaine shall be solved spelling it as Arteine.
2. Dissapearance of special pronunciation of some endings like <-le>: "Castle" shall be written as Caasel (or Caastel if it is desired to keep the mute T), which is closer to Cashel spelling (a beautiful royal Irish town).
3. Simplification of plurals of words ended in <-y>: The TS says that words ended in <-y> makes their plurals in <-ies>, but according this proposal, almost all these words ended in <-y> by TS shall end in <-i> according to their pronunciation, so the plural is regularly formed with an <-s> ("orthography/orthographies" shall be orthographi/orthographis).

Youngsters also write sometimes in a manner which reflects better the pronunciation, such as thru for "through" (throo), tho for "though" (dhoe), luv for "love" (luve), and nite for "night" (nyt), among many other examples. In my humble opinion it should not be seen as a bad evolution but as a natural evolution of the orthography closer to the current pronunciation as it happened in other languages such as Spanish. These other languages do not keep fossilized orthographies but they adapt them throughout the time, because orthography is a social convention.

And after this proposal, I only have to transcribe an example, such as Gettysburg Address by Abraham Lincoln, in order to show how English would appear with this orthography compared to Traditional Spelling (TS):

## TS

Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth, on this continent, a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived, and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field in that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting-place for those who here gave their lives, that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this, but in a larger sense we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated to the great task remaining before us that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion — that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

## Proposed

Forscore and seven yeers agou our faadhers braut forth, on dhis continent, a neu neishion, conceived in liberti and dedikeitid too dhee propozishion dhat oll men are crietitid eequal. Nou wee are ingheidged in a greit civil wor, testing whedher dhat neishion, or eni neishion sou conceived, and sou dedikeitid, can long indeure. Wee are met on a greit batel-feeld in dhat wor. Wee have cume too dedikeite a porshion ov dhat feeld, az a fynal resting-pleice for dhouze hoo heere geive dheir lyves, dhat dhat neishion myt live. It is aultogedher fiting and proper dhat wee shuuld doo dhis, but in a lardger sense wee cannot dedikeite, wee cannot consicreite, wee cannot hallou dhis ground. Dhee breive men, living and ded, hoo strugeld heere, have consicreitid it far abuve our puur pouer too ad or ditract. Dhee werld will litel noute, nor long rimember, whot wee sei heere, but it can never forget whot dhei did heere. It is for us dhee living, raadher, too bee dedikeitid too dhee greit taask rimeining bifore us dhat from dheeze honord ded wee teike increesed divoushion too dhat cauze for which dhei geive dhee laast fuull mezhure ov divoushion — dhat wee heere hylizolve dhat dheeze ded shall not have dyed in vein, dhat dhis neishion, under God, shall have a neu berth ov freedom, and dhat guvornment ov dhee peepel, by dhee peepel, for dhee peepel, shall not perish from dhee erth.

Written by **Dr. Mario Rodríguez Peña** in **Dicember 2018** (Y have a second serneime from my mudher and it's Peña, not Pena, bicoze Peña meens "hill" wheiraz Pena meens "sadnis")