

How to Get There From Here
Andrew C. Smith, 2016

Performance Note

How to Get There From Here should be read by a single individual at conversational speaking volume and intonation, with optional amplification.

Each line in the score indicates an equal duration. The denser lines should feel rushed, while the sparse lines should be disconnected. A performance at 3 seconds per line is a reasonable pace that still allows for completion of the denser material by a non-virtuosic speaker. An underscore or completely empty line indicates silence.

Program Note

Language, like music, cannot communicate meaning without substance. There's the material, and then the semantic baggage which only develops through usage and historical context. The sound of language changes how we interpret its meaning, but the meaning of the words determines how we speak them in everyday practice.

How To Get There From Here transforms the phrase "we remember not the word, but the sound of the word" in three movements. The first is drawn from 1,600 segments of speech arranged first as a fixed media electronic composition through stochastic principles and then transcribed as International Phonetic Alphabet symbols for human performance. The second is a transformation on the spelled words themselves, moving from one word to the next by making simple edits: adding, removing, or editing letters. This final movement is constructed entirely of quotations from English texts ranging in date from the 14th to 20th centuries.

I: The Phoneme

1			d			
2	-	-		-	-	-
3	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	d	-	-	-	-	-
12	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	o	-	-	-	-	-
17	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	d	-	-	-	-	-
20	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	-	-	-	-	-	-
22	-	-	-	-	-	-
23	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	θ	-	-	-	-	-
27	-	-	-	-	-	-
28	-	-	-	-	-	-
29	-	-	-	-	-	-
30	-	-	-	-	-	-
31	-	-	-	-	-	-
32	d	-	-	-	-	-
33	-	-	-	-	d	-
34	-	-	d	-	-	-
35	-	t	-	-	-	-
36	-	-	-	-	-	-
37	-	-	-	-	-	-
38	-	ɹ	-	-	d	d
39	-	-	-	-	-	-
40	-	-	-	-	-	-
41	-	-	-	-	d	-
42	-	-	a	-	d	aʊ
43	-	-	o	-	-	-
44	-	-	-	-	ʊ	-
45	-	d	ɑ	-	-	bʊ

46	bə	aʊ	—	d	aʊ	—
47	dʼb	—	b	—	—	—
48	a	dʼb	əba	—	d	dʼbu
49	ə	ə	a	əv	—	θ
50	tsaʊ	wa	—	d	w	ʌ
51	wo	aʊ	ɹ	—	ə	ɣ
52	bə	t	bə	ɔ	wə	dbu
53	də	ʌ	du	dʼb	tx	bə
54	ɛ	ba	d	bo	buɹn	ɛɹ
55	də	bə	ɛ	bo	b	də
56	dʼb	dʼb	a	a	əba	wə
57	o	bə	bə	θə	wa	ɹ
58	də	wə	ɹ	w	wə	ə
59	ə	bə	ba	θ	wɛ	ɛɹd
60	b	ə	ɣ	ba	əv	tx
61	ə	tx	bə	θə	a	a
62	a	wa	baʊ	də	ɹ	bə
63	ə	ɹ	dʼbə	dʼb	θə	bu
64	a	bə	əba	bə	tx	ɹ
65	b	wɛ	bə	a	ə	ɛɹ
66	du	ɹ	wə	θə	ɹ	ba
67	na	ɹ	o	o	bə	no
68	bə	sa	θə	bə	əba	wa
69	ɹ	a	tx	tx	ɹ	tx
70	tx	tx	tx	ɹ	əv	θə
71	ɛɹd	bə	bju	ə	w	w
72	ɛɹ	də	ɛɹd	sa	du	b
73	o	ɹ	tx	du	b	tx
74	a	ɹ	ɛɹ	sa	o	ɹ
75	tx	ɹ	ɹ	ɹ	tx	o
76	ɹ	tx	bə	bə	o	ə
77	a	dbu	sa	bə	θ	tx
78	tx	də	tx	ɛɹ	no	o
79	ɹ	bə	wa	dbu	o	o
80	dʼb	ɹ	əba	ba	no	tx
81	ɛɹd	bə	ɹ	bət	ə	ɹ
82	b	ɹ	ɹ	ɣ	ɹ	ɹ
83	a	bo	sa	ɹe	t	ɹ
84	ə	wɛ	ba	o	o	o
85	wə	o	b	tx	ɹ	ɛɹd
86	ɹ	əba	wa	əba	ɹ	b
87	bə	tx	θə	o	bo	tx
88	o	bo	θ	ba	tjə	də
89	ɹ	ɹ	bo	ə	wɛ	ɹa
90	ə	ɹ	bə	dʼb	a	na

91	ɛɪ	ʒɪ	dʰb	sa	dʰb	ɛɪ
92	o	b	sa	tjə	ʒɪ	bɑ
93	ə	dʰb	o	ɛv	θ	bɑ
94	b	bə	tx	ə	θə	o
95	ʒɪ	b	o	ɣ	wə	o
96	æ	ɛɪ	du	bət	o	bo
97	əbɑ	ɛx	a	o	dʰb	tx
98	du	ɪɑ	oɪ	tjə	bo	ɣ
99	ɪʒ	b	ɣ	ɛɪd	ɛɪ	ɛɪ
100	ə	bɛɪ	w	w	dʰb	wə
101	ɛɪ	ɛɪ	tx	sa	wa	ʒɪ
102	dʰb	də	w	ne	o	ɪɪ
103	o	əbɑ	oɪ	bo	dʰb	bɑ
104	b	ɪɑ	ɛɪ	bə	ɣ	o
105	bə	e	b	bo	o	wa
106	əw	bə	ʒɪ	e	b	ʒɪ
107	w	bɑ	bo	ʒɪ	dʰb	wɔ
108	ɛɪ	bət	ɛɪ	w	θə	wə
109	θə	ɪ	o	dʰb	æ	o
110	tx	bə	ʒɪ	æ	θə	ə
111	wə	bo	o	ə	o	sa
112	θ	bə	wə	ɛɪ	u	tx
113	ə	ʒɪ	no	wə	tx	ʒɪ
114	wə	æ	ə	θ	b	dʰbə
115	o	wə	bo	tx	o	wə
116	sa	θ	ɪ	o	ɪe	tx
117	wɛ	o	bə	ɣ	w	b
118	bə	du	wu	ʒɪ	a	o
119	wə	ʒɪ	ɪ	tx	wa	ɛɪd
120	ɛɪ	ɪ	θɛs	o	θ	wə
121	wɛ	də	æ	dʰb	ɛɪ	dbʊ
122	o	o	ɛɪd	u	bə	bo
123	θə	wu	wu	æ	ɛɪ	o
124	oɪ	wu	wa	θə	o	θɛs
125	o	ɪe	wɪɛmɪm	æ	wa	æ
126	wu	wə	θ	ɪ	θə	o
127	ʒ	sə	dʰb	o	ə	tu
128	ə	θɛs	ɛɪ	wɛ	tx	θɛs
129	i	θ	ɔn	ɔn	bi	æ
130	bə	u	æ	o	wə	ɪ
131	θə	n	bo	saʊ	n	nə
132	wə	wɪɛmɪm	tjə	o	—	θɛs
133	sə	mɪɪ	n	ɛɪ	m	ɔn
134	θə	i	—	—	—	θɛs
135	u	u	n	wu	—	—

136	nd	—	n	s	—	—
137	—	ɔn	i	ə	—	ɛɪ
138	i	ən	n	i	—	—
139	ix	—	—	u	—	—
140	—	—	h	x	—	—
141	—	—	n	—	b	—
142	θ	—	r	—	—	—
143	o	—	—	s	—	—
144	—	—	—	—	ʌ	n
145	—	—	—	i	—	—
146	—	—	—	—	x	—
147	—	—	—	uŋ	—	—
148	wɛ	—	—	—	—	—
149	—	x	—	—	—	—
150	—	—	—	—	—	—
151	—	—	—	n	—	—
152	—	—	—	n	—	—
153	—	—	—	x	—	—
154	—	x	—	—	—	—
155	—	—	—	x	ʌ	—
156	—	—	—	—	—	—
157	—	—	—	—	—	d
158	—	—	ʌ	—	n	—
159	—	—	—	h	—	—
160	h	n	wɛ	—	—	—
161	—	—	—	—	—	n
162	—	—	—	—	x	—
163	—	—	—	—	—	—
164	—	—	—	—	—	—
165	—	—	—	x	—	—
166	—	n	—	—	d	n
167	n	—	—	—	—	—
168	—	—	—	—	—	—
169	—	—	h	—	—	—
170	—	—	—	—	—	—
171	—	e	—	—	—	—
172	—	—	—	—	h	—
173	—	n	—	—	—	—
174	n	n	—	—	—	—
175	—	—	—	—	—	—
176	—	n	—	wɛ	—	—
177	—	—	x	—	—	—
178	—	—	—	—	—	—
179	—	—	—	—	—	—
180	x	—	θ	—	n	h

II: The Letter

1
2
3 we
4 wer
5 w er
6 w eer
7 w e er
8 w me er
9 w me ber
10 w member
11 r member
12 remember
13 re ember
14 re omber
15 re omer
16 re oer
17 re oe
18 r oe
19 roe
20 rot
21 not
22 tot
23 toe
24 the
25 toe
26 woe
27 wore
28 word
29 bord
30 burd
31 burt
32 but
33 tut
34 tue
35 the
36 tue
37 stue
38 stud
39 soud
40 sound
41 sond
42 sod
43 od
44 of
45 oe

46 he
47 the
48 toe
49 woe
50 wore
51 word
52
53 we remember
54 ne remember
55 ne re ember
56 ne re em er
57 ne re em e
58 ne re m e
59 no re m e
60 no e m e
61 no m e
62 no t e
63 not t e
64 not the
65 not tue
66 not tut
67 not but
68 wot but
69 wod but
70 word but
71 word bun
72 word boun
73 word bound
74 wod bound
75 woe bound
76 toe bound
77 the bound
78 the sound
79 f the sound
80 f the sond
81 of the sond
82 of the cond
83 of the cord
84 of the word
85
86 we remember not
87 we re ember not
88 we re e ber not
89 we re e be not
90 we re d be not

91 he re d be not
92 the re d be not
93 the re d b not
94 the we d b not
95 the wo d b not
96 the word b not
97 the word b nut
98 the word b ut
99 the word but
100 the word out
101 the word oft
102 the word of
103 the wold of
104 the would of
105 the wound of
106 the sound of
107 the soud of
108 the soud f
109 the soud
110 the sold
111 the wold
112 the word
113
114 we remember not the
115 w remember not the
116 w re ember not the
117 w re ember not toe
118 w re ember not ton
119 wore ember not ton
120 wore e ber not ton
121 wore ber not ton
122 wore bur not ton
123 word bur not ton
124 word bur not son
125 word bur not sond
126 word bur not sound
127 word but not sound
128 word but tot sound
129 word but toe sound
130 word but the sound
131 wod but the sound
132 wod bu the sound
133 wo bu the sound
134 wo bu the soud
135 wo u the soud

136 wo the soud
137 wo the foud
138 wo the ford
139 wo the word
140 o the word
141 of the word
142
143 we remember not the word
144 we remember not the wod
145 we remember not the od
146 wu remember not the od
147 wu re ember not the od
148 wu te ember not the od
149 wut te ember not the od
150 wut te ember not the o
151 wut te ember now the o
152 wut te e ber now the o
153 wut te e bern ow the o
154 but te e bern ow the o
155 but t e bern ow the o
156 but t e born ow the o
157 but t e born ow the
158 but t e boun ow the
159 but the boun ow the
160 but the bound ow the
161 but the sound ow the
162 but the sound of the
163 but th sound of the
164 but th sound of te
165 but t sound of te
166 wut t sound of te
167 wut t sound of e
168 wut t sound of
169 wu t sound of
170 w t sound of
171 w t soud of
172 w t soud o
173 w soud o
174 w sod o
175 w od o
176 wod o
177 word o
178 word
179
180

III: The Context

1 we
2 remember
3 not
4 the
5 word
6 but
7 the
8 sound
9 of
10 the
11 word
12 we will
13
14 not come
15 the last
16 word is
17 but in
18 the same
19 sound as
20 of fitting
21 the last
22 word
23 we never I
24
25 not quite like
26 the modern slang
27 word to none
28 but also of
29 the trumpet shall
30 sound of chariots
31 of life of
32 the most immodest
33 word
34
35 remember that I have
36 not more eloquent on
37 the meaning of the
38 word is made flesh
39 but her departure was
40 the direction of the
41 sound of the neighing
42 of the cry of
43 the morning came the
44 word
45

46
47 not easy to know when
48 the middle of her favourite
49
50 but I must be on
51 the evening hills echoed the
52 sound heart is the life
53 of life is above to
54 the Ecclesiastical use of the
55 word
56
57 remember the time when I did
58 not be displeased at their giving
59 the moon when Diomed keeps his
60 word of any Doctor that is
61 but onely to shew what are
62 the soul does Jonah's deep sealine
63 sound like pipes for the men
64 of the city by night by
65 the Holy Ghost to preach the
66 word
67
68
69 not fail to make him free of
70 the hall was there not spoke a
71
72 but her head was so full of
73
74 sound that ran from end to end
75 of your sense will not object to
76 the children of Israel according to the
77 word
78
79
80 not also "Troilus and Cressida," probably within
81 the children of Israel did according to the
82
83 but I shall have to ask them what
84 the sound of their wings was as the
85 sound of their wings was as the sound
86 of his mouth water as a flood after
87 the world have in their severall languages a
88 word
89
90

91 not only was the poet high in favour with
92 the master would really be as good as his
93
94 but she could not even get her head through
95 the time will come when they will not endure
96
97 of nothing else to say but 'It belongs to
98 the master would really be as good as his
99 word
100
101
102 not gone much farther before she came in sight of
103 the pain I suffered could not be explained by that
104
105 but some crumbs must have got in as well,'
106
107 sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots
108 of one that wrote when the Canaanite was not in
109 the citizen was only waiting for the wink of the
110 word
111
112
113 not included the religion of the time." The Editor of
114 the sign which the man of God had given by the
115
116 but I shall have to ask them what the name of
117 the suddenly started Pequod was not quick enough to escape the
118
119 of the cattle in the distance would take the place of
120 the sign which the man of God had given by the
121 word
122
123
124 not a man in the earth to come in unto us after
125
126
127 but draw to it in all times a very considerable part of
128
129
130 of meaning in it,' but none of them attempted to explain
131
132
133
134
135 not them that he had taken the honey out of the carcase of

136 the name of those exercises he bought me one of those new some
137
138 but he wist not that there were liers in ambush against him behind
139
140 sound of the peal of the hour of the night by the chime
141 of the world let us have a bit of fun first God help
142 the name of those exercises he bought me one of those new some
143 word
144
145
146 not at all bad as it was in fact a stoning to death on
147
148
149
150
151
152 of all the great spoil that they had taken out of the land of
153
154
155
156
157
158
159
160
161
162
163 of a tree and began to read in a new book which she had bought
164
165
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