

## Re: What's the different between /tS/ as one phoneme and as two?

**Source:** <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.lang/2004-08/0035.html>

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**Date:** 08/01/04

Date: Sun, 01 Aug 2004 01:31:51 GMT

Bart Mathias wrote:

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> *Mxsmanic wrote:*

> > *Bart Mathias writes:*

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> >

> >> *Does everybody agree on the number of syllables in "ski" yet?*

> >

> >

> > *How could it have more than one??*

>

> *I'm not as well-read as Greg, so I didn't get it directly from Saussure,*

> *but the problem was brought up in a book (that I think I kept when I*

> *retired, but can't find at the moment) by a well-known acoustic*

> *phonetician who's name starts with "Cat..." I'm pretty sure.*

...ford?

> *As I simplified it for personal consumption, it boiled down to "can*

> *something with silence in the middle be a single syllable?"*

>

> *Meanwhile, Japanese has a word that is normally pronounced almost*

> *identically to English "ski" (only the "i" is a bit shorter, and in*

> *isolation likely to end with a glottal stop), and it \*has\* to be two*

> *syllables. Phonemically, it's /suki/.*

But you can hear the voiceless vowel in its effect on the hiss of the

/s/.

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