

## Czech Dialect - General Characteristics de Veer

Listen to the following examples from the International Dialects of English Archive:

<http://web.ku.edu/~idea/europe/czechrepublic/czech1.mp3>

<http://web.ku.edu/~idea/europe/czechrepublic/czech2.mp3>

<http://web.ku.edu/~idea/europe/czechrepublic/czech3.mp3>

The overall placement of this dialect is forward in the mouth, without much opening of the jaw. This may have to be adapted for production work to best support intelligibility.

Please note as well, that there is quite a range of Czech dialects, as there is with most dialects. Therefore, your director and dialect director may wish to make choices regarding modifications of the general characteristics listed below.

### VOWELS/DIPHTHONGS:

æ goes to ʌ      cat, dance, random, back

ɛ goes to æ      then, whenever, getting

ɔ goes to o      gone, log, sawyer

o goes to ɔ      lonely, going, over

ʊ goes to u      look, put, bookshelf

ɔə goes to ʌə      boring, soar, warrior

au goes to ou      about, round, house

ɜ goes to ʌə, or ɛə      work, birth, earth

ʌ goes to ɔ      pot, hot, onward

ʌ goes to ʌ      up, thunder, suppose

ɪ goes to i      sit, window, hilarious

eɪ goes to aɪ      name, waver, gravely

CONSONANTS:

medial r gets tapped: very, sorry, Harry

r goes to ɹ rare, runaway, Roger

d often goes to t God, bed, said

s often goes to z increase, slice, viceroy

ŋ goes to ŋg or ŋk running, gong (with an off-glide g), singer

h has a pharyngeal “scrape:”  
happy, harbor, however

θ and ð go to t̪ and d̪, respectively, and are dentalized:  
think, thin, these, those

dʒ goes to tʃ judge, grudge, Judy