

text2Pitman¹

converts text to Pitman 2000 shorthand, say

Do you think, at your age, it is right?
will be transformed into

h (, _ | \ / , b ↙ ?

The given text is at first tokenized (*tokens* being punctuation marks, words and common phrases), in our example:

do you think, at your age, it is right?

Next punctuation marks, short forms and common phrases for which an entry in the abbreviation dictionary exist are separated from other words (here **age**, **at** and **right**). For the latter the pronunciation is found in Unisyn multi-accent lexicon². Stenems (i.e. glyphs for words) are generated as METAFONT characters using the metaform derived from the pronunciation or being already in the abbreviation dictionary.

token	pronunciation	metaform	stenem
,		(<i>_comma_</i>)	,
?		(<i>_question_</i>)	?
age	{ * ee jh }	[ei](jh)	/
at	{ * a t }	[a](t)	 _
do you		(d)(<i>_u_</i>)	h
it is		(t),s	b
right	{ r * ai t }	(r)[ai](t)	↙
think		(th)	(
your		(<i>_r</i>)	\

The text is then set with L^AT_EX, rendered in PostScript and sent as a gif to the browser. If necessary the metaform can be corrected (**Proof=7**).

¹S. J. Šarman: Writing Pitman shorthand with METAFONT und L^AT_EX, EUROTEX 2009, MAPS 39, E107–111

²<http://www.cstr.ed.ac.uk/projects/unisyn/>