

**МІНІСТЕРСТВО ОСВІТИ І НАУКИ УКРАЇНИ
ПРИКАРПАТСЬКИЙ НАЦІОНАЛЬНИЙ УНІВЕРСИТЕТ
ІМЕНІ ВАСИЛЯ СТЕФАНИКА
КАФЕДРА АНГЛІЙСЬКОЇ ФІЛОЛОГІЇ**

**АНГЛІЙСЬКІ ГОЛОСНІ ФОНЕМИ:
КЛАСИФІКАЦІЯ І ВИМОВА**

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Spoken words in all languages consist of speech sounds, and speech without words is impossible. Thus language performs its function as the most important means of human intercourse.

To have a good pronunciation means 1) to articulate correctly all the speech sounds of the language not only in isolated words, but also in sentences, 2) to pronounce sentences fluently at the right speed, with correct stress, melody, timbre, rhythm and pauses.

In order to acquire a good pronunciation in a foreign language one must know what to do with his organs of speech to produce the necessary speech sounds.

THE ORGANS OF SPEECH (Figure 1)

The organs of speech are as follows:

1/ the mouth cavity containing the teeth, the roof of the mouth - the alveolar ridge, the hard palate, the soft palate (Figure 2) with the uvula; the tongue – the blade with the tip, the front of the tongue, the back of the tongue (Figure 3) ;

2/ the lips;

3/ the nasal cavity;

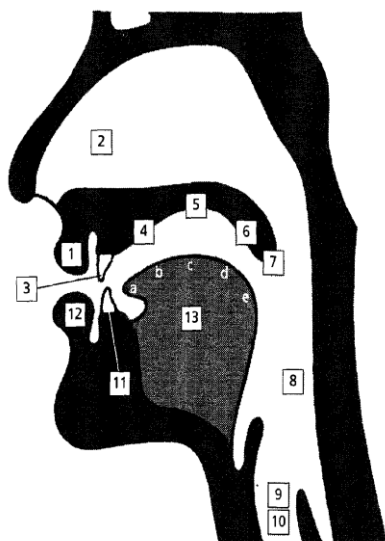
4/ the pharynx;

5/ the glottis;

6/ the larynx containing the vocal cords;

7/ the wind-pipe.

The organs of speech are divided into movable and fixed. The first ones take an active part in the articulation of speech-sounds and are called *active organs of speech*. The fixed speech organs with which the active organs form obstruction are called *passive organs of speech*. They serve as points of articulation.



- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1 Upper lip | 10 Larynx |
| 2 Nasal cavity | 11 Lower teeth |
| 3 Upper teeth | 12 Lower lip |
| 4 Alveolar ridge | 13 Tongue |
| 5 Hard palate | a tip |
| 6 Soft palate | b blade |
| 7 Uvula | c front |
| 8 Pharynx | d centre |
| 9 Glottis | e back |

Figure 1

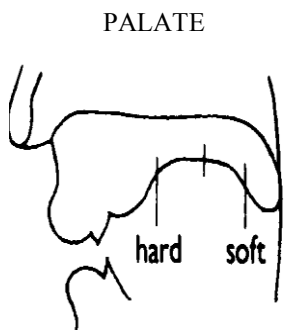


Figure 2

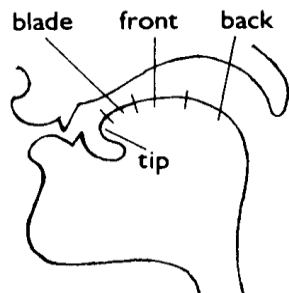


Figure 3

1. For sure.
2. It's a usual cure for a cold.
3. Curiosity is incurable.
4. Not all tourists will endure to the end, surely.
5. The truer my friend the surer I feel.
6. Do you feel secure about your fuel?
7. I'll surely speak more fluently after a tour to Europe.
8. We are striving for enduring peace and security.

Dialogue

- Is there any usual cure for a heart disease on board?
- There's sure to be. What's up?
- Someone is not well. You see, not every tourist can endure this voyage.
- One shouldn't tour to Europe if he is not sure about his health.
- Isn't it pure cruelty, dear? A tour to Europe is a great pleasure for everyone even if he is not well for some time.

DIPHTHONG [uə]

During the pronunciation of the nucleus the bulk of the tongue is in the back part of the mouth cavity, but slightly advanced. The back of the tongue is raised as high as for the vowel [u].

Thus the nucleus of [uə] may be defined as back-advanced high slightly rounded. In pronouncing the glide the tongue moves down to the position of the vowel [ə], which is not actually pronounced.

SPELLING

our - tour	ure - sure
oor - poor	wer - brewer
oer - doer	ua - usual

[juə]

iewer -viewer	ue - fuel
u - fury	ewar - steward

PRACTICE

At the end of words

tour	brewer	fewer
sure	doer	lure
poor	boor	pure
moor	cure	endure

In the middle of words

poorly	fury	duel
habitual	steward	mutual
incurable	eventual	usual
cruelty	fuel	during

[u] and [uə] compared

pull - poor	should - sure
took - tour	do - doer
book - boor	brook - brewer

THE NOTION OF THE PHONEME

The phonetic laws of a language reflect its phonetic structure, or system, whose basis is formed by its system of PHONEMES.

The phoneme is the smallest unit of language existing as such a speech-sound which is capable of distinguishing one word from another or one grammatical form of a word from another form of the same word. For example, the English words bead [bi:d], bid [bid], bed [bed], bad [bæd], bud [bʌd] are distinguished from one another by the vowel sounds [i:], [i], [e], [æ], [ʌ]. The vowel sounds [e] and [æ], for example, differentiate two grammatical forms of the noun man: the singular form man [mæn] and the plural form men [men]. So these different vowel sounds represent DIFFERENT PHONEMES of the English language.

The different consonant sounds [s] and [z] distinguish from each other such words as advice [əd'vaɪs] and advise [əd'vaɪz], while the consonant sounds [s] and [t] differentiate the grammatical forms of many English verbs, e.g. asks [a:skz] and asked [a:skt]. So, the consonants [s] and [t] also represent different English phonemes.

Actually pronounced speech sounds are **variants (allophones) of a phoneme**. Different allophones of one and the same phoneme have one or more articulatory and acoustic features in common. At the same time they differ from each other in some (usually slight) degree because of the influence upon them of their position, neighbouring speech-sounds and other phonetic factors. Allophones of one and the same phoneme cannot differentiate words or the grammatical forms of a word. For example, in the words eight [eit] and eighth [eitθ] the [t]-consonants are similar, but at the same time they are slightly different: the [t] in eight is an alveolar consonant; the [t] in eighth is a dental consonant.

The substitution of one phoneme for another is a phonemic mistake, it prevents the listener from recognizing the words, e.g.: vine - wine, seat - sit. The substitution of one allophone of a phoneme for another allophone of the same

phoneme (a non-phonemic mistake) does not prevent the hearer from recognizing the words. But the process of understanding of speech is considerably hampered.

THE CLASSIFICATION OF SPEECH SOUNDS

Speech-sounds are divided into VOWELS and CONSONANTS.

A **consonant** is a sound produced with an obstruction to the air stream. The organs of speech are tense at the place of obstruction. In the process of pronouncing **vowels** no obstruction to the stream of air is occurred.

THE CLASSIFICATION OF ENGLISH VOWEL PHONEMES

The English vowel phonemes are divided into two large groups: **monophthongs** and **diphthongs**. This division is based on the stability of articulation.

A **monophthong** is a pure (unchanging) vowel sound. In its pronunciation the organs of speech do not perceptibly change their position throughout the duration of the vowel: [i], [e], [æ], [ɒ], [u], [ʌ], [ə], [a:], [ɔ:], [ɜ:], [i:], [u:].

A **diphthong** is a complex sound consisting of two vowel elements forming a single syllable. In the pronunciation of a diphthong the organs of speech start in the position of one vowel and glide gradually in the direction of another vowel, whose full formation is generally not accomplished. The first element of an English diphthong is called the nucleus. It is strong, clear and distinct. The second element is rather weak. It is called the glide. There are eight diphthongs in English: three with a glide towards [i] ([ei], [ai], [ɔi]), two with a glide towards [u] ([au], [əu]) and three with a glide towards [ə] ([iə], [eə], [uə]).

The English monophthongs may be classified according to the following principles:

1. According to the tongue position.
2. According to the lip position.
3. According to the length of the vowel.
4. According to the degree of tenseness.

5. It's late to tear your hair.
6. It's their fare share.
7. Air the classroom carefully, Sarie.
8. I don't care whether I live upstairs or downstairs.
9. He declared the turn of affairs scared him.
10. Mary wears her hair long.
11. The square was carefully prepared for the parade.

By Joe Wallace

**Heard music unawares
Upstairs, downstairs,
Here and there and everywhere.
Never were such lovely airs
Upstairs, downstairs,
Here and there and everywhere.
Someone sings and someone shares
Upstairs, downstairs,
Here and there and everywhere.
Someone comes and someone cares
Upstairs, downstairs,
Here and there and everywhere.
Double love and double dares
Upstairs and downstairs,
Here and there and everywhere.**

Dialogue

- I dare say there's Mary down there.
- It's not she. Mary wears her hair long. It's her sister Clare.
- I'd prefer to see Mary. It's unbearable how Clare gives herself airs.
- Right you are. She is quite different from Mary and Blair.
- And how is Blair? Does he feel at home in the college?
- You know, Blair's one of those who does everything fair and square.
- Yes, he always plays fair. He is a good boy.
- I know he is.

SPELLING

air - air	ear - bear
are - hare	eir - their
ere - where	ar - scarce

PRACTICE

At the end of words

air	pear	compare	square
bear	chair	prepare	care
hare	their	affair	share
share	aware	dare	where

Before voiced consonants

fairly	prepared	pears	daring
scared	compared	bears	parents
upstairs	cared	shares	awareness
affairs	chairs	cared	wears

Before voiceless consonants

careful	hairpin	scarce
barefooted	square-toes	shareholder

All the three positions compared

care - cared - careful	square - square-built - square-toes
hare - hared - hairpin	share - shared - shareholder
bear - bearer - barefoot	scare - scared - scarce

[iə] and [eə] compared

ear - air	hear - hair	sheer - share
beer - bear	rear - rare	dear - dare
tear - tear	leer - lair	peer - pair
fear - fare	steer - stair	cheer - chair

1. There, there.
2. I dare swear.
3. What's the air-fare?
4. There's where they're wrong.

According to the position of the bulk of the tongue (or the horizontal movement of the tongue) vowels are divided into 5 groups: 1) front, 2) front-retracted, 3) central, 4) back-advanced, 5) back.

Front vowels are those which are produced with the bulk of the tongue in the front part of the mouth cavity, while the front of the tongue is raised in the direction of the hard palate. The English front vowels are [i:], [e], [æ] and the nucleus of the diphthong [eə].

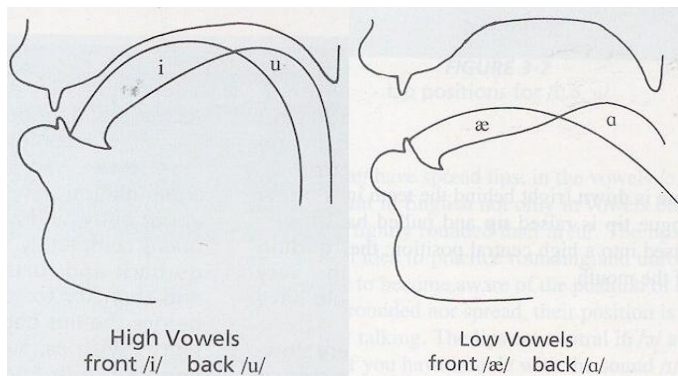
Front-retracted vowels are those which are produced with the bulk of the tongue in the front part of the mouth but somewhat retracted while the front of the tongue is raised in the direction of the hard palate. There is only one front-retracted monophthong in English: it is [ɪ]. The nuclei of the diphthongs [aɪ] and [aʊ] are also front-retracted.

Central vowels are those in which the central part of the tongue is raised towards the juncture between the hard and soft palate. English central vowels are [ʌ], [ə], [ɜ:] and the nucleus of [əʊ].

Back vowels are those which are produced with the bulk of the tongue in the back part of the mouth while the back of the tongue is raised in the direction of the soft palate. The English back vowels are [ɒ], [ɔ:], [u:] and the nucleus of the diphthong [ɔɪ].

Back-advanced vowels are those which are produced with the bulk of the tongue in the back part of the mouth but somewhat advanced, while the back part of the tongue is raised in the direction of the front part of the soft palate. The English back-advanced vowels are [a:], [u].

According to the height of the raised part of the tongue (or vertical movement of the tongue) vowels are divided into three groups: 1) close or high vowels, 2) open or low vowels and 3) mid-open or mid vowels.



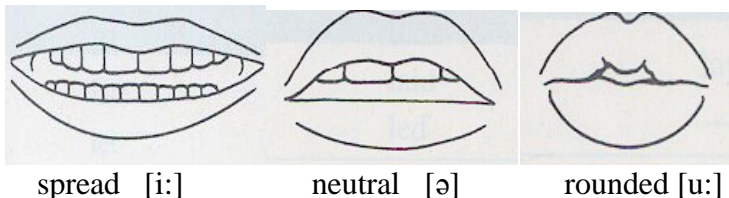
Close (high) vowels are those which are produced when one of the parts of the tongue comes close to the roof of the mouth. The English close, or high, vowels are [i], [i:], [u], [u:]. **Open (low) vowels** are those which are produced when the raised part of the tongue is very low in the mouth. The English open, or low, vowels are [æ], [a:], [ɒ], [ʌ], and the nuclei of [ai], [au]. **Mid-open (mid) vowels** are those which are produced when the raised part of the tongue is half-way between its high and low position. The English mid-open or mid vowels are [e], [ə], [ɜ:], [ɔ:] and the nuclei of [eə] and [əu].

Each of these three main tongue-positions (high, mid, low) has two variations: narrow and broad.

According to the lip position vowels may be rounded and unrounded.

Rounded vowels are produced when the lips are more or less rounded and slightly protruded. The English rounded vowels are [ɒ], [ɔ:], [u], [u:] and the nuclei of [əu] and [ɔi].

Unrounded vowels are produced when the lips are spread and neutral.



10. It's a curious experience.

Dialogue

- Hello, dear.
- Hello, it's queer to meet you here. How are you?
- You know, at the end of the year I always feel fearfully weary.
- It's merely your mood. You'll be better soon. And how is Vera?
- She spends much time alone. She thinks small beer of anyone here, you know.
- It's not nearly as fearful as it appears. Make her steer clear of Pearce and she'll be as good as gold again.
- I'll follow your advice, thank you.

By Alfred Tennyson

**The frost is here,
The fuel is dear,
And woods are sear.
And fires burn clear.
And frost is here
And has bitten the heel of the going year.
Bite, frost, bite!
The woods are all the searer,
The fuel is all the dearer
The fires are all the clearer,
My spring is all the nearer,
You have bitten into the heart of the earth.
But not into mine.**

DIPHTHONG [eə]

During the pronunciation of the nucleus the bulk of the tongue is in the front part of the mouth. The front of the tongue is mid-way between the positions [e] and [æ], the nucleus of [eə] is more open than the vowel [e]. The lips are spread or neutral. Thus the nucleus of [eə] may be defined as front mid-open unrounded. In pronouncing the glide the bulk of the tongue moves to the position for [ə].

SPELLING

ear - near	ea - real
ere - here	eo - stereoscope
eer - cheer	iou - curious
eu - museum	ia - material

PRACTICE

At the end of words

near	queer	cheer	leer
dear	sheer	mere	steer
here	beer	clear	peer
fear	appear	jeer	sneer

Before voiced consonants

museum	weary	burial
nearly	merely	material
clearly	real	cereal
feared	ideal	filial

Before voiceless consonants

fearful	furious	stereotype
theatre	cheerful	tearful
curious	stereoscope	clear-sighted

All the three positions compared

Fear – feared – fearful	clear – clearest – clear-sighted
cheer – cheered – cheerful	rear – real – stereotype
tear – teardrop – tearful	spear – ideal – theatre

1. Dear, dear!
2. Hear, hear!
3. Really, dear!
4. Oh, dear, oh, dear!
5. All's queer here.
6. The Squeers merely jeered at Vera.
7. The mere idea appears fearful.
8. Can you hear clearly from here?
9. Experience keeps a dear school.

According to the length vowels may be long and short.

The following English vowels may be described as **long**: [a:], [ɔ:], [ɜ:], [i:], [u:]. The following English vowels may be described as **short**: [i], [e], [æ], [ɒ], [ʊ], [ʌ], [ə].

According to the degree of tenseness vowels are divided into tense and lax.

Tense vowels are produced when the organs of speech are tense. All the English long vowels are tense: [a:], [ɔ:], [ɜ:], [i:], [u:]. **Lax** vowels are those which are produced with lesser tenseness of the speech organs. All the English short vowels are lax: [i], [e], [æ], [ɒ], [ʊ], [ʌ], [ə].

According to the character of their end the English vowels may be checked and unchecked.

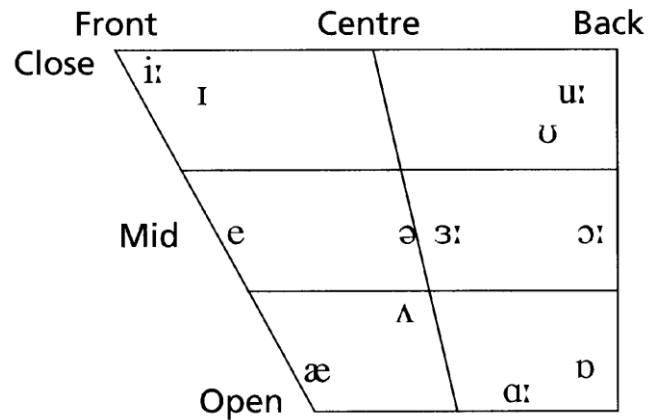
Checked vowels are those which are pronounced without any lessening the force of utterance towards their end. They end abruptly and are interrupted by the following consonant immediately.

The English short vowels under stress are checked. So are the English long vowels and diphthongs when followed by voiceless consonants, e.g.: bed [bed], not [nɒt], pull [pul], hat [hæt], speak [spi:k], type [taip].

Unchecked vowels are those which are pronounced with lessening the force of utterance towards their end.

The English long vowels and diphthongs when stressed both in open and in closed syllables followed by voiced consonants are unchecked. The same is true of all the English unstressed vowels no matter whether long or short, e.g.: free [fri:], card [ka:d], time [taim], attitude ['ætɪtju:d], window ['windəu], city ['sɪti], father ['fa:ðə].

The position of the tongue is a useful reference point for describing the differences between vowel sounds, and these are summarised in the following diagram.



The diagram is a representation of the 'vowel space' in the centre of the mouth where vowel sounds are articulated.

- ✓ 'Close', "Mid" and 'Open' refer to the distance between the tongue and the roof of the mouth.
- ✓ 'Front', 'Centre' and 'Back' and their corresponding 'vertical' lines refer to the part of the tongue.
- ✓ The position of each phoneme represents the height of the tongue, and also the part of the tongue which is (however relatively) raised.



Dialogue

Miss JONES: So the boatman put the goat and the roses and the load of coal into the boat—

TOBY: I hope the goat won't eat the roses. Goats eat most things, you know, Miss Jones.

Miss JONES: They told the boatman so. But oh no, the goat and the roses both had to go in the boat.

TOBY: Was it a rowing boat, Miss Jones? Was the boatman going to row?

Miss JONES: No, they told the boatman rowing would be too slow. So the postman sold him an old motor mower and he roped it to the boat. And so, you see, Toby, he had a motor boat.

TOBY: Did the boat go?

Miss JONES: It was a bit low, with the goat and the coal and the roses and the boatman—

TOBY: *And* the postman and Rover, I suppose—

Miss JONES: Oh no, there was no room for the postman and Rover. They went home by road. And then it began to snow . . .

**There was an Old Man with a nose
Who said "If you choose to suppose
That my nose is too long
You are certainly wrong?"
That remarkable Man with a nose.**

DIPHTHONG [iə]

During the pronunciation of the nucleus the bulk of the tongue is in the front part of the mouth cavity. The front of the tongue is raised to the position of the vowel [i]. Thus the nucleus of [iə] is front-retracted high unrounded. In pronouncing the glide the tongue moves back and down towards [ə], the articulation of which is not fully accomplished. The lips are neutral.

old	hope	roll	control
told	bone	stroll	patrol
revolt	rose	swollen	enrol

fo(l)k	own	both	poet
yo(l)k	grown	sloth	stoic
Ho(l)born	(k)nown	quoth	heroic

over	opal	global	cosy
clover	local	notable	pony
Dover	total	Roman	Toby

ocean	linoleum	ghost	hostess
closure	custodian	most	postage
soldier	(p)neumonia		

don't	rogue	dough	mouldy
won't	vogue	though	shoulder
sew	com(b)	gross	soul
Shrewsbury	clothes	Polish	mauve

No difference in pronunciation

sow-sew	role-roll	bold-bowled
sole-soul	yoke-yolk	mown-moan



B

1. Won't you row the old boat over the ocean from Dover to Stow-in-the-Wold if I load it with gold?

No, no, I won't row the old boat over the ocean from Dover to Stow-in-the-Wold if you load it with gold.

2. Won't you show Joan where you're going to grow a whole row of roses when you've sold her those potatoes and tomatoes?

No, no, I won't . . .

3. Won't you blow your noble Roman nose before you pose for your photo tomorrow?

No, no, I won't . . .

PHONEME [i]

The vowel [i] may be defined as front-retracted high (close) unrounded short and lax.

The vowel [i] is pronounced with the bulk of the tongue in the front part of the mouth cavity, but slightly retracted. The front of the tongue is raised in the direction of hard palate, but not as high as for [i:]. The lips are spread or neutral. The opening between the jaws is narrow.

SPELLING

i	/in closed syllables/	e.g.	ill
y	/in closed syllables/	e.g.	symbol
y	/at the end of two-syllable words/	e.g.	happy
e	/in pre-stressed syllables/	e.g.	become
e	/in suffixes: "-ness", "-less", "-est", "-ed" after t, d/	e.g.	spotless, happiness, smallest, started, mended
a	/in unstressed syllables/	e.g.	village
ay, ey	/in final unstressed syllables/	e.g.	Sunday
ui		e.g.	build
u		e.g.	busy

PRACTICE



big	dig	bin	din
pig	rig	pin	sin
fig	wig	thin	win

primitive
ministry
antiquity

distinguishing
Mississippi

thick-skinned
twin sisters
stinking rich
unsolicited gift
British history

six sinking ships
Isn't it a little bit thin?
a picnic in the hills
the Sicilian Fishing Industry
fish and chips



1. There's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip.
2. If the cap fits, wear it.
3. As fit as a fiddle.
4. As pretty as a picture.
5. Little pitchers have big ears.



Dialogue

BILLY: Mummy! Are you busy?

MOTHER: Yes. I'm in the kitchen.

BILLY: Can I go swimming in Chichester with Jim this morning?

MOTHER: Jim?

BILLY: Jim English. He's living with Mr. and Mrs. Willis in the village—Spring Cottage.

MOTHER: Isn't it a bit chilly to go swimming?

BILLY: What's this? Can I pinch a bit of it?

MOTHER: Oh, Billy, you little pig! It's figgy pudding. Get your fingers out of it!

BILLY: Women are so silly! I only dipped a little finger in.

MOTHER: Well, it's a filthy little finger. Here, tip this chicken skin into the bin and I'll give you a biscuit.

**Little Bill, sit still.
Will you sit still, little Bill?
If you sit still, little Bill,
Jimmy Nill will bring you to a big hill.**

PHONEME [i:]

The vowel [i:] may be defined as front high (close) unrounded long and tense.

The vowel [i:] is pronounced with the bulk of the tongue in the front part of the mouth, and the front of the tongue raised high in the direction of the hard palate. It is long and tense. The lips are spread or neutral. The opening between the jaws is rather narrow.

about a thousand pounds down in the town.

HOWARD: No doubt. But *my* proud owl is homeward bound—south to the Drowned Mouse Mountains.

**Molly, my sister and I fell out.
And what do you think it was all about?
She loved coffee and I loved tea.
And that was the reason we could not agree.**

**Snow came in the night
Without a sound
Like a white cloud trembling
Down to the ground.**

DIPHTHONG [əu]

During the pronunciation of the nucleus the central part of the tongue is in the [ɜ:] position. The nucleus of [əu] is central mid unrounded. During the glide the back of the tongue rises higher, moving in the direction of [u]. The glide is rather distinct in stressed syllables and sounds like the vowel [u]. The lips are neutral at the beginning of the diphthong but during the glide, i.e. at the end of the diphthong, they are almost as much rounded as for [u].

SPELLING

o - over	ou - shoulder
oe - toe	ough - dough
oa - boat	ew - sew
ow - grow	eau - beau

PRACTICE



A

so	hero	know	boat
go	studio	row	load
toe	volcano	yellow	coal



B. Recognition

(a) Which of these are [au] and which are [əu]?

1. I had a terrible **row** with my mother-in-law and now she won't speak to me,
2. We went for a long **row** in Jonathan's boat—I did most of the rowing!
3. As soon as the spring comes I'm going to **sow** all those seeds you gave me.
4. Look at that **sow**! She's got 16 piglets!
5. How old were you when you learned to tie a **bow**?
6. Heavens! Shall I have to **bow** when I'm presented to the Queen?

(b) Which words are pronounced [au]?

- | | | | |
|----------|-----------|-------------|------------|
| 1. mound | 2. rouse | 3. rough | 4. blouse |
| mould | rows | bough | browse |
| 5. know | 6. grown | 7. boundary | 8. blow |
| now | crown | poultry | below |
| 9. bowl | 10. allow | 11. down | 12. toward |
| bowel | yellow | own | towel |



Dialogue

HOWARD: Brownie, if you vow not to make a sound, I'll show you an owl that I've found.

BROWNIE: An owl? You've found an owl?

HOWARD: Don't shout so loud. We don't want a crowd to gather round the house. Tie that hound up outside the cowshed. He's so bouncy and he's bound to growl.

BROWNIE: There. I've wound his lead round the plough. No amount of bouncing will get him out now.

HOWARD: Now, not a sound. It's down by the fountain where the cows browse.

BROWNIE: Wow, Howard! It's a brown mountain owl! It's worth

SPELLING

e /in open syllables/	e.g. me
ee /not before r/	e.g. feet
ea	e.g. tea
ie	e.g. piece
i /in words of French origin/	e.g. machine
ae /in words of Roman origin/	e.g. Caesar
oe /in words of Greek origin/	e.g. Oedipus
ay	e.g. quay
ey	e.g. key

PRACTICE



he	tree	weed	sea
she	see	leek	pea
me	flee	sleep	tea
beans	extreme	legal	completion
leave	complete	equal	obedient
heap	evening	evil	comedian
secret	create	machine	police
cathedral	trio	magazine	antique
meter	psychiatric	sardine	mosquito
Achilles	chief	deceive	phoenix
Ulysses	field	ceiling	Phoebe
crises	niece	receipt	people
key			
quay			
geyser			



Long vowels are the longest at the end of words. Before voiced consonants they are a bit shorter and they are the shortest before voiceless consonants.

beat: bead leaf: leaves wheat: weed
 seat: sea teach: tea feet: fee



N. B. No difference in pronunciation between:

key—quay seize—seas
 beet—beat week—weak
 see—sea ceiling—sealing



Minimal pairs: [i]/[i:]

bit – beat still – steel grin – green
 hill – heel fit – feet sin – seen
 hip – heap sit – seat



1. It's all Greek to me.
2. A friend in need is a friend indeed.
3. New brooms sweep clean.
4. Easy come, easy go.



Which is she/he saying?

1. Shall we slip/sleep in here?
2. We had a wonderful mill/meal by the river.
3. I've never seen a sheep/ship move so fast.
4. We're going to live/leave here very soon.
5. Don't tell me you bit/beat your brother!



Dialogue

PETER: This is the season for weeds. We'll each weed three metres before tea, easily.

CELIA: Do we kneel? My knees are weak. Do you mean all these?

PETER: Celia, my sweet, those aren't weeds, those are seedlings. Beans, peas and leeks. Can't you *see*?

CELIA: If they're green they're weeds to me. But I agree, Peter — weeding's not for me!

PETER: Well, let me see. Maybe we'll leave the weeds. You see

DIPHTHONG [au]

The nucleus is pronounced with the bulk of the tongue in the front part of the mouth, but slightly retracted. The front of the tongue is slightly raised. Thus the nucleus may be defined as front-retracted low unrounded.

In pronouncing the glide the tongue moves higher and backward, i.e. in the direction of [u], without actually reaching its position. The opening between the jaws is wide for the nucleus and much narrower for the glide.

SPELLING

ou - foul
ow - town
ough - plough

PRACTICE



how	brown	house	round
now	town	thousand	bound
cow	crown	trousers	sound

fountain	owl	towel	loud
mountain	growl	vowel	proud
bouncy	fowl	bowel	cloud

out	plou(gh)	south	dou(b)t
about	Slou(gh)	mouth	drou(gh)t
shout	bou(gh)	thou	



1. To be down and out.
2. Ne'er cast a clout till May is out.
3. Out and about.
4. When in doubt, leave it out.
5. They've eaten me out of house and home.
6. To make a mountain out of a molehill.
7. You can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear.

Before voiceless consonants

got - goiter	hot - hoist
mottle - moist	foster - foist
lot - loiter	

1. Mothers avoid noisy toys.
2. It's beyond the point.
3. What's the boiling point of oil?
4. Joy is at boiling point.
5. There's no joy without alloy.
6. Joy is so hoity-toity.
7. Boys take enjoyment in spoiling toys.

**Said the Crab unto the Oyster:
Do not loiter in this cloister.
Join me in a voyage rare,
Up into the moist salt air.**

**Noise and turmoil would annoy me.
Toil and trouble, too would cloy me.
Should I leave this royal cloister?
Adroitly rejoined the oyster.**

Dialogue

- What will you have for supper, my boy?
- Some boiled potatoes with some oil.
- Cook it yourself. Won't you spoil it?
- I'll try not to. But we've run out of oil.
- Take this coin and buy some.
- May I buy a toy for Roy?
- Stop annoying me. He has enough toys.
- But he is so hoity-toity today. Perhaps it will amuse him.
- Right. It will certainly be a great joy for him.

these leaves? If you sweep them into a heap under that tree I'll see to the tea.

CELIA: Pete, my feet are freezing. *You* sweep the leaves. I'll see to the tea!

**A sailor went to sea
To see what he could see
But all he could see
Was sea, sea, sea.**

PHONEME [e]

The vowel [e] is short and lax. It may be defined as front mid (mid-open) unrounded short and lax.

The vowel [e] is pronounced with the bulk of the tongue in the front part of the mouth cavity. The front of the tongue is raised in the direction of the hard palate, but a little less than for the vowel [i]. The lips are spread. The opening between the jaws is medium. The mouth is just a little more open than for [i].

SPELLING

e	/in closed syllables/	e.g. pen
ea	/before -d/	e.g. bread
ai, ay		e.g. said, says
ie		e.g. friend
eo		e.g. leopard
u		e.g. bury

PRACTICE



Ken	bend	west
ten	send	chest
when	mend	dressed
seven	direction	head
clever	reckon	heavy
never	adventure	treasure

very	medal	berry
merit	petal	terror
heron	lemon	errand
says	any	leopard
ate	many	Leonard
Thames		Geoffrey
friend	haemorrhage	bury
friendly		

SPELLING

oi - choice
oy – boy

PRACTICE

[ɔi] at the end of words

boy	cloy	employ
joy	Roy	alloy
toy	annoy	envoy
coy	destroy	

[ɔi] before voiced consonants

join	joint	point	foil
coin	oil	broil	ointment
soil	toil	spoil	foible
boil	poison	noise	

[ɔi] before voiceless consonants

moist	voice	noisome
choice	exploit	hoity-toity
hoist	foist	goiter
loiter	boisterous	

All the three positions compared

boy - boys - voice	cloy - soil - hoist
toy - toys - moist	joy - foil - foist
coy - coin - choice	annoy - noise - noisome
Roy - boil - loiter	employ - spoil – exploit

[ɒ] and [ɔi] COMPARED

Before voiced consonants

John - join	con - coin
Sol - soil	nod - noise
dolly - doily	pond – point



1. Least said, soonest mended.
2. All's well that ends well.
3. Rain before seven, fine before eleven
4. There's a remedy to everything but death.
5. Better late than never.
6. The thin end of the wedge.
7. Marry in haste, repent at leisure.
8. God defend me from my friends; from my enemies I can defend myself.
9. Every day and in every way, I get better and better and better.



Dialogue

KEN: Ted! Thank heaven! I was getting desperate.
 TED: Hello there, Ken. Where are Jeff and the rest of the men?
 KEN: They left me in the tent with some eggs and some bread, and off they went.
 TED: Where were they heading?
 KEN: West. In that direction. They said they'd bury the treasure under the dead elm—you remember, by the bend in the fence—and get back by sunset.
 TED: All ten of them went?
 KEN: They said the chest was heavy.
 TED: They left—when?
 KEN: Yesterday, between ten and eleven.

**There was a Young Lady of Niger
Who went for a ride on a tiger.
They returned from the ride
With the Lady inside
And a smile on the face of the tiger.**

**Twinkle, twinkle, little star!
How I wonder what you are.
Up above the world so high
Like a diamond in the sky.
When the blazing sun is gone
When he nothing shines upon.
Then you show your little light.
Twinkle, twinkle all the night.**

Dialogue

- Is this the right counter for gloves?
- Yes, madam. What sort of gloves do you require? Kid, suede, chamois...?
- Well, let me see some of each.
- Certainly, madam. What size do you take?
- Six and a quarter, I believe, but you'd better measure my hand to make sure.
- I think a six is your size. How do you like these? I can recommend them, they are very reliable.
- What's the price of them?
- Nineteen and five, madam.
- Fine. I'll take them.

DIPHTHONG [ɔi]

During the pronunciation of the nucleus of the diphthong the bulk of the tongue is in the back part of the mouth; the back of the tongue is slightly raised. The lips are slightly rounded. Thus the nucleus may be defined as back low slightly rounded.

In pronouncing the glide the tongue moves forward and upward, i.e. in the direction of the position for [i], without actually reaching it. The opening between the jaws is wide for the nucleus and much narrower for the glide.

TED: And you *let* them?

KEN: There were *ten* of *them*...

TED: Well, my friend, I reckon that's the end of the adventure. We'll never see the treasure chest or any of those ten men again.

**When the weather is wet
We must not fret, -
When the weather is cold
We must not scold.
When the weather is warm
We must not storm, -
But be thankful together
Whatever the weather.**

PHONEME [æ]

This vowel may be defined as front low (open) unrounded short and lax.

The vowel [æ] is pronounced with the bulk of the tongue in the front part of the mouth cavity. The tongue is rather low in the mouth. The front of the tongue is slightly raised, but not so high as for [e]. The lip position is neutral. The opening between the jaws is wide.

SPELLING

a /closed syllables/ e.g. man, ample

PRACTICE



Jack	gang	cash	ham
crackle	sang	crash	jam
racket	sprang	splash	Sam
man	grand	apple	album
Gran	sandwich	cattle	animal
fantastic	understand	handle	asthma

clarity static
 charity ecstatic
 personality dramatic

Vowels are shorter before voiceless consonants and longer before voiced ones:
 mat: mad
 back: bag
 catch: cadge

Spanish palace granite acid
 radish Alice Janet rapid

cabin examine Adam camel
 Latin imagine madam enamel

travel cavern balance shadow
 gravel tavern salad gather

girls' names

Janet Ann Sally
 Marion Annabel Hanna
 Miranda Caroline Joanna

boys' names

Jack Daniel Nathaniel
 Harry Anthony Basil
 Alec Sam Alan

[æ] - [ai] COMPARED

Before voiced consonants

lad - lied had - hide
 man - mine ram - rhyme
 sad - side pan - pine
 as - eyes man - mine

Before voiceless consonants

hat - height hack - bike
 ass - ice lack - like
 fat - fight cat - kite
 mat - might pack - pike

[ei] and [ai] COMPARED

At the end of words

lay - lie say - sigh
 day - die bay - by
 may - my ray - rye
 pay - pie hay - high

Before voiced consonants

fail - file pale - pile
 tale - tile mail - mile
 main - mine spade - spider
 pain - pine trade - tried

Before voiceless consonants

lake - like bait - bite
 late - light race - rice
 waif - wife rate - right
 wait - white mate - might

1. We tried to find the right time on Friday.
2. Time flies.
3. Mind your eye.
4. A wife is a knife to cut the life, but there is no life without a wife.
5. I find it quite right.
6. I had the time of my life at the Whites.



1. Flat as a pancake.
2. A matter of fact.
3. Mad as a hatter.
4. A hungry man is an angry man.

The opening between the jaws is rather wide for the nucleus and much narrower for the glide.

SPELLING

i - nice	ig - sign
y - cry	eigh - height
ie - tie	ai - aisle
igh - night	uy - buy
ye - bye	ay, aye - ay, aye
ui - guide	

PRACTICE

[ai] at the end of words

I	lie	high	fly
my	why	sigh	eye
tie	buy	try	supply
cry	rye	fry	apply

[ai] before voiced consonants

tide	side	mile	dive
hide	guide	dine	nine
wide	pile	mine	tried
ride	tile	pine	five

[ai] before voiceless consonants

like	might	bite	aisle
hike	right	write	ice
fight	sight	tight	bicycle
trite	light	pike	height

All the three positions compared

I - eyed - ice	rye - ride - right
high - hide - height	sigh - side - sight
tie - tide - tight	lie - lied - light
why - wide - white	try - tried - trite



Dialogue

GRAN: Jack, do you have to bang and slam on that piano like that?
 JACK: I'm practising for our new album. It's smashing.
 GRAN: An album? You mean that racket you and your gang bash out?
 JACK: We're not a gang, we're a fantastic jazz band. Sally and Janet, me on the piano, Alec on the sax—the Galactic Static. It'll be an absolute smash hit.
 GRAN: The Galactic Racket, if you ask me. And all you'll smash is Grandad's piano.
 JACK: Gran, we have *talent*. We're cool cats, man. Crackle, crackle, Galactic Static!
 GRAN: The young man's mad. Here. I've made you a fat ham sandwich and a crab-apple jam flan.
 JACK: Ah, Gran, you may not understand jazz but your flans are fab.

**As I was going to Strives
 I met a man with seven wives.
 Every wife had seven sacks,
 Every sack had seven cats,
 Every cat had seven kits.
 Kits, cats, sacks and wives
 How many were there going to Strives?**

PHONEME [ʌ]

It may be defined as central low (open) unrounded short and lax.

The vowel [ʌ] is pronounced with the central part of the tongue raised in the direction of the juncture of the hard and soft palate a little higher than for [a:]. The lips are spread. The opening between the jaws is not so wide as for [a:].

SPELLING

u - e.g. but
o - e.g. sponge

ou - e.g. trouble

oe - e.g. does

oo - e.g. blood

PRACTICE



fun	cut	luck
sun	shut	duck
begun	butter	stuck

jump	rug	crum(b)
trust	swum	thum(b)
shut	stung	dum(b)



In each of these words, the stressed syllable contains the sound [ʌ] even though you may not think so from the spelling.

son	one	onion
ton	done	honey
won	once	money

London	among	constable
Monday	tongue	front
wonder	mongrel	sponge

come	comfort	above	shovel	govern
some	company	dove	cover	oven
stomach	compass	glove	discover	slovenly

other	nothing	double	rough
mother	thorough	couple	tough
brother	month	country	enough

1. Make haste.
2. Save your pains.
3. Haste makes waste.
4. It may rain today.
5. Fay's afraid she may fail.
6. They may take the train the same day.
7. The waiter gave the lady a stale cake.
8. They named the baby Jane.
9. Small rain lays great dust.
10. The mail train was delayed again.

Dialogue

- May I take your book?
- Certainly you may. The text you need is on page eight.
- Shall I read it aloud?
- By all means. Oh, you've made a mistake.
- Shall I take the dictionary and look up this word?
- Do, please.

**Look to the left, look to the right
Note what traffic is in sight
Children keep from dangerous play
And think before you cross to-day**

**Rain, rain, rain, April rain,
You are feeding seed and grain,
You are raising plants and crops
With you gaily sparkling drops.**

DIPHTHONG [ai]

The diphthong [ai] is pronounced with the bulk of the tongue in the front of the mouth cavity, but slightly retracted. During the pronunciation of the nucleus of the diphthong the front of the tongue is slightly raised, but lower than for [æ]. Thus the nucleus may be defined as front-retracted low unrounded. During the glide the front of the tongue moves higher, in the direction of [i], but without reaching it. The glide of [ai] sounds, in fact, like a weak [e].

PRACTICE

[ei] at the end of words

eh	say	grey	hay
lay	way	play	fray
gay	day	pay	pray
may	bay	obey	ray

[ei] before voiced consonants

made	wave	fail	sale
bade	paid	gain	rain
grade	maid	tale	main
save	laid	pale	spade

[ei] before voiceless consonants

lake	make	late	ace
bake	take	paper	waste
cake	eight	patient	safe
ache	mate	haste	waif

All the three positions compared

a - aid - eight	grey - grade - great
may - made - mate	way - wave - waif
bay - bade - bait	play - played - plate
say - save - safe	lay - laid - late

[e] – [ei] COMPARED

Before voiced consonants

pen – pain	well - wail
red - raid	hell - hail
sell - sail	men - main
bell – bail	

Before voiceless consonants

let - late	pepper – paper
debt - date	west - waste
wet - wait	bet - bait
met - mate	ate – eight

blood	does	cousin
flood	doesn't	dozen
touch	twopence	worry
young	colour	wonder



1. Lucky in cards, unlucky in love.
2. What's done cannot be undone.
3. Not in a month of Sundays.
4. Well begun is half done.
5. The rain it rained on the just and unjust fella,
But more upon the just, because the unjust's got the just's

umbrella.



Dialogue

DUNCAN: Jump up, Cuthbert! The bungalow's flooded!

CUTHBERT: The bungalow? Flooded?

DUNCAN: Come on, hurry up.

CUTHBERT: Just our luck! We're comfortably in London for a month, come down to the country on Sunday—and on Monday we're flooded! Trust us!

DUNCAN: Shut up! Come on, double up the rugs and stuff them above the cupboard. Chuck me that shovel. There's a ton of rubble that I dug out of the rubbish dump. I'll shove it under the front door—it seems to be coming from the front.

CUTHBERT: Duncan! I'm stuck!

DUNCAN: Oh, brother! You're as much use as a bloody duck!

CUTHBERT: If I'd been a duck, I could have swum! Oh crumbs! The mud's coming in under the other one! We're done for! We'll be sucked into the disgusting stuff!

DUNCAN: Hush! How wonderful! The current's suddenly swung. It's not going to touch us ... unless ... I wonder . . .

**Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall**

**All the king's horses
And all the king's men
Couldn't put Humpty Dumpty together again.**

PHONEME [a:]

The vowel [a:] may be defined as back-advanced low (open) unrounded long and tense.

The vowel [a:] is pronounced with the bulk of the tongue in the back part of the mouth cavity but somewhat advanced. The back of the tongue is slightly raised. The lips are neutral. The opening between the jaws is fairly wide.

SPELLING

a	- e.g. father	er	- e.g. clerk
are	- e.g. are	ear	- e.g. heart
al+f	- e.g. calf	oir	- e.g. memoir
au+gh	- e.g. laugh	ah	- e.g. ah

PRACTICE



car	dance	past
starved	chance	last
darling	France	nasty
ask	gasp	plant
mask	clasp	can't
basket	ras(p)berry	shan't
bath	pass	ah
path	class	Shah
father	grass	hurrah!
mama	drama	garage
papa	pyjama	massage
Panama	banana	espionage

the earth—and I'll return with a superb *firm* earthworm for my perfect turtledove.

2nd Bird: What an absurd bird! You're very chirpy, Sir. I wish I were. All this fervid verse. I find it disturbing so early. I prefer a less wordy bird.

1st Bird: No further word, then. I'm a bird with a purpose. Er—I'd better fly; it's the early bird that catches the worm—or so I've heard!

**There was a little girl
And she had a little curl
Right in the middle of her forehead.
And when she was good
She was very, very good
But when she was bad
She was horrid.**

DIPHTHONG [ei]

The diphthong [ei] is pronounced with the bulk of the tongue in the front part of the mouth cavity. During the pronunciation of the nucleus of this diphthong the front of the tongue is raised in the direction of the hard palate, as for [e]. Thus the nucleus of the diphthong [ei] is the same as the vowel [e], i.e. front mid-open unrounded. After completing the nucleus, the front of the tongue glides still higher, moving in the direction of [i], though the actual formation of [i] is not accomplished. During the pronunciation of both the nucleus and the glide the lips are slightly spread.

SPELLING

a - made	eig - deign
ai - aim	ey - obey
ay - day	eigh - eight
ea - great	ao - gaol
ei - veil	au - gauge
eh - eh	

turn	further	word	work
burn	turtle	worm	worse
hurt	absurd	world	Worthing
murmur	disturbing		
murder	purpose		
earn	early	adjourn	amateur
heard	earth	journey	connoisseur
search	rehearsal	courtesy	masseur
myrrh	Colonel	<i>and the exclamation 'Ugh!'</i>	
myrtle	attorney		

autograph	bazaar	moustache
paragraph	bizarre	tomato
telegraph	catarrh	Yugoslavia
clerk	ca(l)m	ha(l)f
sergeant	pa(l)m	ha(l)ves
	(p)salm	ca(l)f
	a(l)mond	ca(l)ves
example	staff	branch
sample	giraffe	avalanche
laughed	heart	aunt after
draught	hearth	aren't answer



1. It's the early bird that catches the worm.
2. A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.
3. One good turn deserves another.
4. First come, first served.
5. Even a worm will turn.
6. Bertha preferred to turn to the Colonel whenever it was her turn to rehearse.
7. Bert and Jemima had a perfectly murderous journey from Hurlingham to Surbiton on Thursday.
8. Turn down the first turning after the church—or the third, if you prefer.
9. We've searched for work all over the world, cursing the ever-worsening conditions for labourers.



1. He who laughs last laughs longest.
2. One is nearer God's heart in a garden.
3. Cold hands, warm heart.
4. Part and parcel.



Dialogue

CHARLIE: The dance doesn't start till half past, Martha. Let's park the car under the arch by Farmer Palmer's barn. It's not far. Ah, here we are. There's the farm cart.

MARTHA: Ooh, Charlie, it's dark!

CHARLIE: The stars are sparkling. My heart is enchanted. Martha you are—marvellous!

MARTHA: Your father's car's draughty, Charlie. Pass me my scarf.

CHARLIE: Rather let me clasp you in my arms, Martha, my darling.

MARTHA: Ah, Charlie! Your moustache is all nasty and sharp. I can't help laughing. Aren't you starved? Here, have half a Mars Bar. Ssh! There's a car passing.

CHARLIE: Keep calm, can't you? It's only Sergeant Barker. He plays darts in the bar of the Star and Garter. Martha . . . darling . . .



Dialogue

1st Bird: How's my pert little turtledove this early, pearly, murmuring morn?

2nd Bird: I think I'm worse. I can't turn on my perch. And I'm permanently thirsty—burning, burning. It's murder.

1st Bird: My poor, hurt bird. The world's astir. I've heard that even the worms are turning. A worm! You yearn for a worm!

2nd Bird: I'm *allergic* to worms. Ugh! Dirty, squirming worms!

1st Bird: I'll search under the fir trees and the birches, I'll circle

MARTHA: Don't be daft, Charlie! You can't start making a pass till after the dance!

**The Queen of Hearts
She made some tarts
All on a summer's day.
The Knave of Hearts
He stole the tarts
And took them clean away
The King of Hearts
Called for the tarts
And beat the Knave full sore
The Knave of Hearts
Brought back the tarts
And vowed he'd steel no more.**

PHONEME [ɒ]

This vowel may be defined as back low (open) slightly rounded short and lax.

The vowel [ɒ] is pronounced with the tongue held in the position which is farther back than that of [a:]. The lips are slightly rounded. The opening between the jaws is wide. The teeth should be about the width of a thumb apart. The back of the tongue is raised a little more than for [a:] and the tip of the tongue lies on the bottom of the mouth as far back as it will go.

SPELLING

o – e.g. on
oh – e.g. John
ow – e.g. knowledge
ou – e.g. cough
w+ha – e.g. what
au – e.g. sausage
a – e.g. wasp

THERESA: Separate holidays are an excellent idea—occasionally! Edward can go to Scotland alone.

**The way a crow
Shook down on me
The dust of snow
From a hemlock tree
Has given my heart
A change of mood
And saved some part
Of a day I have rued.**

PHONEME [ɜ:]

The vowel [ɜ:] is pronounced with the central part of the tongue raised almost as high as for [e]. There is no lip-rounding. The opening between the jaws is narrow. The vowel [ɜ:] may be defined as central mid-open unrounded long and tense.

To pronounce this sound correctly, say [ə], then tense the muscles under the jaw and in the tongue, being careful to keep the lips in a neutral position, neither spread wide nor pursed up in a bud.

SPELLING

er	- e.g. her	yr	- e.g. myrtle
ear	- e.g. pearl	w + or	- e.g. world
ir	- e.g. sir	ol	- e.g. colonel
ur	- e.g. burn		

PRACTICE



perfect	person	stir	squirm	bird	circle
allergic	permanent	fir	circus	birch	thirsty
superb		firm		chirp	



A rhyme . . .

Rub-a-dub dub,
Three men in tub.
The butcher, the baker,
The candlestick-maker,
They all jumped over a rotten potato!

. . . and a riddle

As I was going to St Ives,
I met a man with seven wives.
Each wife had seven sacks;
Each sack had seven cats;
Each cat had seven kittens.
Kits, cats, sacks, wives—
How many were going to St Ives?



Dialogue

CHRISTOPHER: Going anywhere different for your vacation, Theresa?
THERESA: Ah, that's a million dollar question, Christopher. Perhaps *you* can provide us with the decision. Edward demands his creature comforts—proper heating, constant hot water, comfortable beds, colour television . . .
CHRISTOPHER: What about you, Theresa? Or aren't you too particular?
THERESA: Normally, yes. And usually we combine the open air and exercise with a bit of culture. Last year, for instance, we covered the Cheltenham Festival. The year before, it was Edinburgh. Edward adores Scotland.
CHRISTOPHER: You fortunate characters! Are you complaining?
THERESA: No, but I long to go further afield—something more dangerous—and where the temperature's hotter!
CHRISTOPHER: I wonder if this would interest you. It arrived today. 'A Specialised Tour of Southern America for Photographers. Canoeing up the Amazon. Alligators. And other hazardous adventures.'
THERESA: Christopher, how marvellous! It sounds wonderful.
CHRISTOPHER: No creature comforts for Edward!

PRACTICE



chop	box	cost
flop	crocks	frost
stop	knocks	hostel
song	off	toffee
wrong	cough	robber
belong	trough	copper
bottle	doctor	body
topple	blonde	promise
jostle	problem	holiday
model	what	because
proper	squat	sausage
Roger	swat	cauliflower
cloth	knowledge	Jorrocks
bother	acknowledge	jollity
quantity	Australia	
quality	Austria	



1. Honesty is the best policy.
2. A watched pot never boils.
3. When sorrow is asleep, wake it not.



'Once upon a time there were three little foxes
Who didn't wear stockings, and they didn't wear sockses
But they all had handkerchiefs to blow their noses,
And they kept their handkerchiefs in cardboard boxes.'



Dialogue

BOB: Sorry, Tom. I wasn't gone long, was I? My God! What's wrong with the blonde popsy? She looks odd—sort of floppy.

TOM: No longer a blonde popsy, old cock—a body.

BOB: Oh my God! You gone off your rocker? I just pop off to the shop for a spot of . . .

TOM: Stop your slobbering, you clot! So we got a spot of bother. Come on, we got to squash the blonde into this box and then I want lots of cloths and a pot of water—hot—and probably a mop—to wash off all these spots.

BOB: Clobbering a blonde! It's not on, Tom!

TOM: Put a sock in it, Bob, or I'll knock your block off! (*Knock, knock.*)

BOB: Oh my God! What's that knocking? Tom, Tom, it's a copper!

**For want of a nail
 The shoe was lost.
 For want of the shoe
 The horse was lost.
 For want of the horse
 The rider was lost.
 For want of the rider
 The battle was lost.
 For want of the battle
 The Kingdom was lost.
 And all for the want of a horse shoe nail.**

PHONEME [ɔ:]

The vowel [ɔ:] may be defined as fully back mid-open rounded long and tense.

The vowel [ɔ:] is pronounced with the bulk of the tongue in the back part of the mouth cavity. The back of the tongue is raised in the direction of the soft palate, higher than for [ɒ].

curtain	dozen	student	lesson
certain	written	entertainment	bacon
Britain	often	intelligent	cotton
adventure	generous	photographer	apology
future	ridiculous	stenographer	philology
pleasure	nervous	calligrapher	biology
thorough	Peterborough	St. Joan	Venus
borough	Edinburgh	St. Ives	asparagus
cousin			
basin			



A Doctor of Philosophy
 A command performance
 A picture of innocence
 A baker's dozen
 The Department of the Environment
 The Iron Curtain
 The Listening Library
 The Garden of Eden



1. To bet your bottom dollar.
2. To harbour a grudge.
3. To take your pleasures seriously.
4. Nature is the best healer.
5. Nothing succeeds like success.
6. Necessity is the mother of invention.
7. A handsome husband—or ten thousand a year?
8. An Englishman's home is his castle.
9. Here today, gone tomorrow.
10. Never put off till tomorrow what you can do today.
11. Never do today what you can get someone else to do tomorrow!

PHONEME [ə]

The vowel [ə] may be defined as central mid-open unrounded short and lax. The vowel [ə] occurs in unstressed positions only.

The vowel [ə] is pronounced with the central part of the tongue raised a little, but less than for [ɜ:]. The lips are neutral. The opening between the jaws is narrow.

SPELLING

a	- e.g. Asia	re	- e.g. centre
e	- e.g. Elisabeth	er	- e.g. teacher
i	- e.g. sensible	oar	- e.g. cupboard
o	- e.g. Edmond	u	- e.g. chorus
ar	- e.g. familiar	ough	- e.g. thorough
ur	- e.g. Arthur	ure	- e.g. picture

PRACTICE



A

about	combine	potato	succession
among	command	police	tradition
ago	confuse	propose	occasion
actor	water	theatre	extra
doctor	danger	centre	sofa
motor	driver	metre	china
human	postman	husband	England
woman	Englishman	company	Scotland
German	gentleman	servant	Iceland

The lips are rounded and slightly protruded to form an opening which is much smaller than for [ɔ]. The opening between the jaws is medium.

SPELLING

or	- e.g.	or
oar	- e.g.	soar
oor	- e.g.	door
(w)+ar	- e.g.	ward
au	- e.g.	fault
aw	- e.g.	law
al+1	- e.g.	all
augh	- e.g.	caught
ough	- e.g.	fought
oa	- e.g.	broad

PRACTICE



or	more	storm	oral
for	store	corn	glory
nor	before	tortoise	chorus
four	poor	boar	ought
your	door	roar	thought
course	floor	soar	bought
all	bald	awe	lawn
call	salt	jaw	crawl
stall	Malta	thaw	awful
autumn	toward	taught	hoarse
August	reward	caught	coarse
aural	warder	daughter	
board	cha(l)k	sta(l)k	sward
hoard	ta(l)k	wa(l)k	s(w)ord



1. Any port in a storm.
2. The calm before the storm.
3. New Lords, new laws.
4. Pride comes before a fall.
5. To put the cart before the horse.
6. A tall order.
7. You can take a horse to the water, but you can't make it drink.



Dialogue

PAUL: Any more of these awful autumn storms, George, and we'll be short of corn. I ought to have bought some more in Northport.

GEORGE: This morning, just before dawn, I thought I saw signs of a thaw. I was sure—

PAUL: Ssh! Behind that door there are four fawns that were born in the storm. They're all warm in the straw now.

GEORGE: Poor little fawns! Paul, what's that snorting next door?

PAUL: Those are the horses' stalls. They're snorting at my daughter's tortoise. It always crawls around in the straw.

GEORGE: If Claud saw us walking across his lawn . . . He's an awful bore about his lawn. Oh, Lord, we're caught! There *is* Claud! Now we're for it!

**There was an Old Man who said "hush"
I perceive a young bird in this bush.
When they said "Is it small?"
He replied "Not at all.
It is four times as big as the bush".**

PHONEME [u]

The vowel [u] is pronounced with the bulk of the tongue in the back part of the mouth cavity, but somewhat advanced. The back of the tongue is raised in the direction of the front part of the



[ju:i]

Buick	queuing	tuition
reviewing	genuine	



1. Beauty is truth, truth beauty.
2. The proof of the pudding is in the eating.
3. Music hath charms to soothe the savage breast.
4. Fortune favours fools.
5. An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.



Dialogue

LUCY: Hugh? Yoo hoo! Hugh! Where are you?

HUGH: I'm in the loo. Where are *you*?

LUCY: Removing my boots. I've got news for you.

HUGH: News? Amusing news?

LUCY: Well, I saw June in Kew. You know how moody and rude she is as a rule?

Hugh, are you *still* in the loo? What are you *doing*?

HUGH: Well, you see, Lucy, I was using the new foolproof screwdriver on the Hoover and it blew a fuse.

LUCY: You fool! I knew that if I left it to you, you'd do something stupid. You usually do.

HUGH: And then I dropped the screwdriver down the loo.

LUCY: Hugh, look at your shoes! And your new blue suit! It's ruined! And you—you're wet through!

HUGH: To tell you the truth, Lucy—I fell into the loo, too.

**Little Betty Blue
Lost her holiday shoe.
What can poor Betty do?**

**There was a Lady of Crew
Who wanted to catch the two-two.
Said the porter "Don't worry or flurry or scurry.
It's a minute or two to two-two".**

move	loose	shoe	
prove	lose	canoe	
movie			
screw	June	Sue	ruling
blew	rude	blue	Lucy
chew	super	true	lucid

conclusion	Rufus	truth	
Peruvian	prudent	Ruth	
crucial	lunatic	sleuth	



[u:]

suit	juice	bruise
fruit	sluice	cruise

[u:i]

ruin	druid	suicide
Bruin	fluid	Suez



[ju:]

Hugh	fuse	Kew
huge	amuse	few
tune	abuse	new
tulip	human	future
tutor	usual	music
student	useful	museum

costume	you	cue
vacuum	youth	value
monument		argue

adieu	queue
neuter	beauty
Euston	

soft palate, higher than for [ɔ:]. The lips are slightly rounded. It may be defined as back-advanced high (close) slightly rounded short and lax.

SPELLING

u - e.g. put
oo - e.g. book
o - e.g. woman
ou - e.g. would
or - e.g. worsted

PRACTICE



A

wood	book	bull	bush
good	look	bully	cushion
stood	took	bullet	butcher

sugar	could	wolf	usual
pudding	would	wolves	casual
cuckoo	should	Woolsey	

foot	wool	cure	furious
soot	woolen	pure	curious

maturity	put	woman
endurance	gooseberry	bosom



1. Bill'll be furious.
2. I shall tell the curate.
3. What shall we do?
4. Tony'll cook the dinner.



B

1. Could you cook a gooseberry pudding without putting sugar in?
No, I couldn't cook a gooseberry pudding without putting sugar in.
2. Could you pull a camel who was miserable, looked awful and said he didn't want to travel, all the way from Fulham to Naples?
No, I couldn't pull . . .
3. Could you walk through a wood, knowing it was full of horrible wolves, and not pull your hood up and wish you didn't look edible?
No, I couldn't walk . . .



Dialogue

RACHEL: 'HOW much wood would a woodpecker peck if a woodpecker could peck wood?'
Goodness, that's difficult!
Mabel: Looks a good book. Let me have a look?
Rachel: It's full of puzzles, and riddles, and—
Mabel: Let me look, Rachel!
Rachel: Mabel! You are awful! You just *took* it!
Mabel: I asked if I could have a look. Now push off. I'm looking at the book.
Rachel: You're a horrible bully!
Mabel: And you're just a miserable pudding!
Rachel: I should've kept it in my room.
Mabel: Oh shush, for goodness' sake! Anyway, I shouldn't have thought you could have understood the book, you're so backward.
Rachel: You're hateful! Give me my book! Oh careful, Mabel! It's Miss Woodfull's book. I'll get into terrible trouble if you—oh *look!* You are *awful!* She'll be *furiously!*
Mabel: Well, you shouldn't have pulled, should you?

**Little Red Riding Hood
Took one good look at the wolf
Then she took to her heels
As fast as she could.**

PHONEME [u:]

The vowel [u:] may be defined as back high (close) diphthongized rounded long and tense.

The vowel [u:] is pronounced with the bulk of the tongue retracted more than for [u]. The back of the tongue is raised in the direction of the soft palate higher than for [u], but not so high as to cause the air stream to produce audible friction. It is long and tense. During the pronunciation of [u:] the tongue may move from a more advanced and open position to a closer and more retracted position, as a result of which the vowel is diphthongized. In this case the tenseness of the vowel gradually increases towards the end. At the beginning of [u:] the lips are fairly rounded. Towards the end the lips are still more rounded. The opening between the jaws is narrower than for the phoneme [u].

SPELLING

[u:]	[ju:]
oo - e.g. mood	u - e.g. tune
o - e.g. move	ew - e.g. dew
u - e.g. June	ui - e.g. suit
ough - e.g. through	eu - e.g. deuce
oe - e.g. shoe	ue - e.g. cue
ui - e.g. bruise	iew - e.g. review
ue - e.g. blue	

PRACTICE



loo	shoot	food	proof
tool	boot	spoon	tooth
fool	root	school	Hoover
do	who	soup	tomb
too	whom	group	womb
two	whose	through	catacomb