

Part B: Exercises

Vowels and Diphthongs

1. Vowels /i:/ /ɪ/

Which of the following words include these sounds?

/i:/ keep – night – lit – late – fry

/ɪ/ feet – sit – night – keen – sigh

2. Vowels /e/ /ə/ /ɜ:/

Which of the following words include these sounds?

/e/ gate – feel – bell – grass – fade

/ə/ book – street – name – father – sun

/ɜ:/ feed – bad – food – fate – bird

3. Vowels /ɑ:/ /ʌ/ /æ/

Which of the following words include these sounds?

/ɑ:/ water – night – cat – stars – paper

/ʌ/ fat – bet – look – food – cut

/æ/ late – cat – laugh – best – tea

4. Vowels /ɒ/ /ɔ:/

Which of the following words include these sounds?

/ɒ/ room – dog – card – word – soil

/ɔ:/ father – glass – law – hot – world

5. Vowels /ʊ/ /u:/

Which of the following words include these sounds?

/ʊ/ cut – work – love – food – book

/u:/ food – luck – lost – burn – first

6. Diphthongs

Which of the following words include these diphthongs?

/eɪ/ feed – bed – food – fight – say

/aɪ/ said – read – high – food – says

/ɔɪ/ should – boy – though – blood – so

/əʊ/ through – there – here – so – hot

/aʊ/ now – hair – face – tour – lower

/ɪə/ there – seed – hair – late – here

/eə/ there – say – get – first – shoulder

/ʊə/ tower – tour – two – tooth – hand

Pronunciation Tasks

1. Put the following words into the correct box according to the underlined sound. Use a dictionary to check your answers.

steam flood turn asleep sleep flew should saw
cough heart bread flat busy poor shirt path
stamp system teacher does shoe said wood hot

sheep /i:/	ship /ɪ/	bed /e/	bad /æ/	father /ɑ:/	bird /ɜ:/
sleep					
pot /ɒ/	caught /ɔ:/	put /ʊ/	boot /u:/	cut /ʌ/	camera /ə/

(Optional) Extension: Add two more words that you know for each sound. Use a dictionary to check.

2. Odd One Out. Circle the word with a different sound. Use a dictionary to check.

- | | | | |
|------------|---------|-------|--------|
| 1. dead | mean | bread | head |
| 2. fruit | suit | juice | built |
| 3. half | have | has | ham |
| 4. horse | history | story | cord |
| 5. look | good | foot | blood |
| 6. country | young | youth | couple |
| 7. oven | colour | son | gone |
| 8. talk | chalk | calm | fall |

3. Fill in the blanks with the word which has got a different phonetic sound.

- | | | | | |
|----------|------------|---------|---------|-------|
| 1. heart | nothing | love | come | _____ |
| 2. bird | word | bed | earth | _____ |
| 3. look | pool | full | foot | _____ |
| 4. dog | fox | cough | caught | _____ |
| 5. now | voice | out | cow | _____ |
| 6. idea | volunteers | where | near | _____ |
| 7. hear | beer | chair | year | _____ |
| 8. enjoy | boy | point | brown | _____ |
| 9. asked | looked | worried | hooked | _____ |
| 10. goes | introduces | loses | dresses | _____ |

4. Group the following words according to the underlined sounds.

each	blue	tray	flight	worry	house	straw	turn	silly
found	learn	caught	ill	quite	just	free	eight	June
bee	ugly	soup	sixty	shirt	ought	tale	bicycle	mouse

/u:/	/eɪ/	/aɪ/	/ʌ/	/i:/	/aʊ/	/ɔ:/	/ɜ:/	/ɪ/

5. Identify the vowel sounds in each word and tick (✓) the correct box. For some words, you will have to tick two boxes.

Words	/e/	/ɒ/	/ʊ/	/i:/	/ʌ/	/ɪ/	/ə/	/æ/	/ɔ:/	/ɑ:/	/ɜ:/	/u:/
bring												
box												
artist												
mother												
stamp												
daughter												
thirdly												
sugar												
breakfast												
blue												
police												
woman												

6. Identify the diphthong sounds in each word and tick (✓) the correct box.

Words	/aʊ/	/aɪ/	/eə/	/əʊ/	/ɔɪ/	/ʊə/	/eɪ/	/ɪə/
theatre								
care								
security								
mountain								
lake								
nose								
height								
choice								

7. Which groups do these words belong to?

Group 1: /ɪ/: is – sing – it – big

Group 3: /ɜ:/ bird – first – girl

Group 2: /aɪ/: my – right – bike – nice

video:

tie:

rich:

shirt:

sit:

cry:

wine:

skirt:

river:

kind:

why:

build:

dirty:

like:

might:

write:

live:

ship:

Italy:

life:

five:

8. Which groups do these words belong to?

Group 1: /æ/: cat – bag – that – fat

Group 3: /ɔ:/ about – Japan – grammar – woman

Group 2: /ɑ:/ car – grass – arm – father

Group 4: /ɔ:/ fall – small – all – saw

grandmother:

apple:

talk:

tomato:

dawn:

have:

man:

happy:

walk:

ball:

hand:

sat:

park:

start:

hat:

are:

again:

can:

cathedral:

bank:

ask:

tall:

dark:

dance:

half:

war:

warm:

bad:

March: