

note

Less frequent spelling patterns for [eɪ] consist of the letters *ea*, *ey*, and *ei*.

break great they grey vein

hint

When *a* is in a syllable ending in silent *e*, the letter *a* is pronounced [eɪ] (the same as the name of the alphabet letter *a*!).

same name case lane bake

The letters *ay*, *ai*, and *ey* are usually pronounced [eɪ].

play away bait aim they

The letters *ei* followed by *g* or *n* are usually pronounced [eɪ].

weigh neighbor reign vein

EXERCISE B

 Listen and repeat the following phrases and sentences. The boldfaced words should all be pronounced with the diphthong [eɪ].

1. Wake up!
2. **gain** weight
3. What's your **name**?
4. **late** date
5. Take it **away**!
6. **Make** haste, not **waste**!
7. **April** showers bring **May** flowers.
8. They **played** a **great** game.
9. The **plane** from **Spain** came late.
10. They **made** a mistake in today's paper.

CHECK YOURSELF 1

 Read the following shopping list. You are going to buy the items with the [eɪ] sound. Circle only the items containing the vowel [eɪ]. (For answers to Check Yourself 1–3, see Appendix II, pages 272–273.)

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|-----------------|----------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. <u>steak</u> | lettuce | <u>pastry</u> | cereal |
| 2. bread | raisins | melon | bananas |
| 3. cake | tomatoes | bacon | baking soda |
| 4. potatoes | crackers | peas | ice cream |
| 5. grapes | celery | gravy | carrots |
| 6. toothpaste | peas | squash | paper plates |