

Unstressed vowels

Remember!

Unstressed vowels are vowel letters that we either do not sound, or we do not sound very distinctly, as we speak. Unstressed vowels can cause spelling problems because it is easy to forget them and leave them out.

Example: memory

Memory often sounds like memry because the vowel is an unstressed vowel.



A Write the unstressed vowels in the box next to each word.

- | | | | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| ① anniversary | <input type="text" value="a"/> | ② listening | <input type="text"/> | ③ dictionary | <input type="text"/> |
| ④ chocolate | <input type="text"/> | ⑤ secretary | <input type="text"/> | ⑥ temperature | <input type="text"/> |
| ⑦ difference | <input type="text"/> | ⑧ desperate | <input type="text"/> | ⑨ business | <input type="text"/> |

B Find the unstressed vowels that have been left out of these words. Write the words correctly in the box next to each word.

- | | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|------------|----------------------|
| ① mystry | <input type="text" value="mystery"/> | ② primry | <input type="text"/> | ③ necessry | <input type="text"/> |
| ④ vegetable | <input type="text"/> | ⑤ memrable | <input type="text"/> | ⑥ histry | <input type="text"/> |
| ⑦ litrature | <input type="text"/> | ⑧ definitely | <input type="text"/> | ⑨ voluntry | <input type="text"/> |

