

PRONUNCIATION

The: / ðə/ and /ði/

LEVEL: B1

- There are two ways to pronounce "the." One pronunciation sounds like /ðə/ and the other sounds like /ði/ or /ði:/. The pronunciation of the word "the" depends on the first sound of the word that comes after it.

The - / ðə /

1. When the word after "the" begins with a consonant sound, we pronounce it /ðə/. **Listen and say these phrases.**

the book

the kids

The - / ði /

2. When the word after "the" begins with a vowel sound, people usually use /ði/. We pronounce it /ði:/ when we are emphasizing it. **Listen and say these phrases.**

the end

the apple

3. Drag the following phrases and drop them in the correct column.

1. the afternoon	1.	/ðə/
2. the club	2.	
3. the day	3.	
4. the hour	4.	
5. the house	5.	
6. the ice-cream	6.	
7. the internet	7.	
8. the honest man	8.	
9. the orange	1.	/ði/ or /ði:/
10. the other day	2.	
11. the party	3.	
12. the story	4.	
13. the theatre	5.	
14. the ugly sweater	6.	
15. the universe	7.	
16. the university	8.	

4. Now check the exercise here. Words with /ðə/ and words with /ði/.

Listen to the pronunciation of the phrases and repeat.