

More Practice

EXERCISE A

 Read aloud the paragraph about the Beatles. All the **boldfaced** words should be pronounced with the vowel [i].

The Beatles

What is a **Beatle**? Maybe you think of a real creature who creeps and **leaps** about. But most **people** recall four English **teens** called the **Beatles**, who appeared as a rock group in the **nineteen sixties**. Leaving **bebop** behind, the **Beatles** created a **unique beat** that **appealed** to everyone. **Seen** on American **TV**, they were **greeted** by **screams** and **cheers**. "Please Please Me" and "She Loves You" were among their **many pieces**. They even **received** an award from the **queen** of England. The **team** broke up as they **reached** their **peak**, but each member continued his own **career**. The world **grieved** the loss of their **leader**, John Lennon, who died in December **1980**. Although only **briefly** on the **scene**, the **Beatles** created **meaningful** music that will be here for an **eternity**.

EXERCISE B

 Think of five things you need to do. Be sure your response contains many [i] words. When you complete your responses, choose any classmate and ask the question, "What do you really need?"

EXAMPLES I really need to feed my parakeet.
I really need a new key.

PRONOUNCING [i]



[i]

Lips: Relaxed and slightly parted

Jaw: Slightly lower than for [i]

Tongue: High, but lower than for [i]

Possible Pronunciation Problems

The vowel [i] may be difficult for you to recognize and say. Some learners substitute the more familiar [ɪ] sound. This can result in miscommunication.

EXAMPLES If you say [i] instead of [ɪ]: hit will sound like heat.
itch will sound like each.

As you practice the exercises, remember not to "smile" and tense your lips as you would for [i].

[i] is a short, quick sound; your lips should barely move as you say it!