

Find at least one word in the text containing each of these phonetic sounds: /ɔi/ - /u/ - /iə/ - /ɔ:/ - /eə/ and /uə/.

The Chameleon

It is a well known fact that the colour of a chameleon can change. In many spy stories the character being chased is called “a chameleon” because his or her appearance changes all the time. The spy is successful because no one is able to recognise him or her. Sometimes the term “chameleon” is used in another way. It is used negatively about someone who always changes his or her opinion, depending on whom the person is talking to at a particular time. In nature, however, a chameleon is neither negative nor secretive. It is a member of the reptile family, and known for its ability to change colour. The colour change takes place because of environmental factors, such as light and temperature, and emotional factors – fear, victory in battle against another animal, or defeat. Contrary to popular belief, it does not occur as a means of hiding from danger. There are about 87 species of chameleons, over half of which live in Madagascar, a poor island in the Indian Ocean off the coast of Africa. The other species are found on continents throughout the world. Most chameleons range in length from 17 to 25 centimetres, but some have been known to grow as long as 60 centimetres. This reptile has independently movable eyes and a long tongue. This enables it to catch insects, which are its main diet. However, some large chameleons also eat birds. One final point of interest is the fact that the male chameleon has sometimes got up to three horns, resembling those of a dragon. However, despite its frightening appearance, there is no need to fear the chameleon – it will only attack in self-defence.

/ɔi/	
/u/	
/iə/	
/ɔ:/	
/eə/	
/uə/	