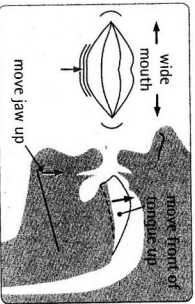


Plane, plan

The vowel sounds /eɪ/ and /æ/

When you say the letters of the alphabet, A has the long vowel sound /eɪ/. You hear this sound in the word *plane*. But the letter A is also pronounced as the short vowel sound /æ/, as in the word *plan*.

A5a • Listen to the sound /eɪ/ on its own. Look at the mouth diagram to see how to make this long vowel sound.

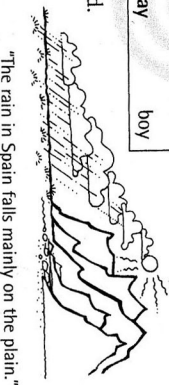


A5b • Listen to the target sound /eɪ/ in the words below and compare it with the words on each side.

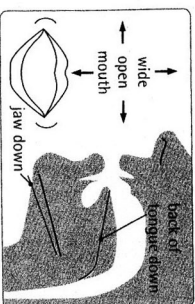
target /eɪ/		
meat	mate	met
come	came	calm
white	wait	wet
buy	bay	boy

A5c • Listen and repeat these examples of the target sound.

play played plate
grey grade great
aim age eight



A6a • Listen to the sound /æ/. Look at the mouth diagram to see how to make this short vowel sound.



A6b • Listen to the target sound /æ/ in the words and compare it with the words on each side.

target /æ/		
mud	mad	made
sing	sang	sung
pen	pan	pain
hot	hat	heart



"The fat cat sat on the man's black hat."

A6c • Listen and repeat these examples of the target sound.

bank bag back
can cash catch
ham has hat

Important for listening

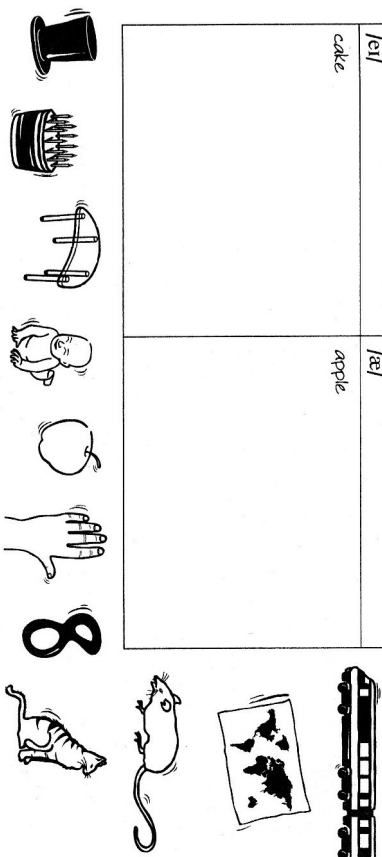
In most accents, the following words have the vowel /æ/: *ask dance castle bath fast*. But in South East England, speakers change the A sound in words such as these to /ɑ:/: (For more about /ɑ:/: see Unit 14)

Spelling

	frequently
/eɪ/	A-E (<i>mate</i>), AY (<i>say</i>), EY (<i>grey</i>), EI (<i>eight</i>), AI (<i>wait</i>), EA (<i>great</i>)
/æ/	A but note that if there is an R after the A (and the R does not have a vowel sound after it), A has a different pronunciation, for example <i>arrn</i> : see Unit 14.

Write words for the things in the picture in the correct part of the table.

/eɪ/	/æ/
cake	apple



These words all contain the vowel sound /æ/. Make another word with the same consonant sounds, but changing the vowel sound to /eɪ/.

EXAMPLES pan pain plan plane

1 at 4 tap

2 mad 5 ran

3 man 6 hat

Listen and circle the word with a different vowel sound.

EXAMPLE black want mad hand

- 1 sad bag salt tap
 - 2 far fat map add
 - 3 watch catch match land
 - 4 rain said fail train
 - 5 case lake name care
 - 6 space change plate square
 - 7 break great hear weight
- Then listen again and check.

/əʊ/

Practise what this airline pilot says.

Hello, this is Captain Oates speaking. Below us is the coast of Italy. We are very close to Rome — the road below us goes from Rome to the coast. We shall fly over the city before landing. Please obey the NO SMOKING notices.

Practise this conversation.

A: Could you go and post this letter, please?

B: I can't go out. It's snowing, and I've got a cold.

A: Blow your nose, and put your coat on. You'll be OK.

B: I'll get frozen.

A: Only if you go slowly. Walk quickly.

B: I can't walk quickly. The ground is frozen. It's like the South Pole. A: Oh, stop moaning. I'll go.

/ɔ:/

Practise this conversation.

A: Hello, you're Gloria, aren't you? Mr Walker's small daughter?

B: Yes, I'm Gloria Walker. But I'm not small any more. I'm four and three quarters.

A: Yes, you are quite tall, for four and three-quarters.

B: I'm taller than my friend Gordon, and he's five and a quarter.

A: Does Gordon live next door?

B: No. We live at number forty, and he lives at forty-four.

/ɔ:/ /əʊ/

Say these phrases.

roast pork

North Pole

an open door

an awful joke

a stone wall

a small hotel

a cold hall

an important notice

/u:/

Say these places

a supermarket

a shoe shop

a school

a chemist's

a cafe

a newsagent's

a tool shop

Say these sentences.

Use a ruler.

I'd like some boots for the winter, and some shoes for school.

Have you got any "Beauty-tooth" toothpaste?

Could I have some fruit juice?

A newspaper and some chewing gum, please.

Excuse me, where are the fruit and vegetables?

/ʊ/

Practise these conversations in a library.

A: Can I help you?

B: Yes, please. I'm looking for a book about woodwork.

A: A book about woodwork? What about Woodwork for Beginners by Peter Bull? It's full of good ideas.

B: Thank you. I'll look at it.

A: Can I help you?

B: I hope so. I'm looking for a book about knitting.

A: A book about knitting? Here's a very good book called Good Looking Woollens, by Michael Foot. You could look at that.

B: Yes, that looks good.

/u:/ /ʊ/

Practise this extract from a radio programme.

JUDITH BROOKES: In the Food Programme studio today, we have two cooks, Julian Woolf and Susan Fuller. They are going to choose Christmas presents for a new cook. Julian Woolf, your kitchen is full of useful tools. If you could choose just two things for a new cook, what would you choose?

JULIAN WOOLF: I'd choose a fruit juice maker. You just put the fruit in and it produces fruit juice. It's super. And secondly, I'd choose a really good butcher's knife. Every cook could do with a good knife.

SUSAN FULLER: I'd choose a good cookery book, full of beautiful pictures. He could look at the book, and it would give him good ideas. And secondly, I'd choose a computer.

/3:/

Practise this conversation.

A: I'd like to reserve a seat on the ten thirty flight to Birmingham, on Thursday. My name is Vernon.
B: Thursday May 21st? Certainly, sir. There's a seat in the third row.
A: That's fine. And I'm returning on May 23rd.
B: The first flight leaves Birmingham at eight thirty.
A: That's a bit early.
B: Or there's twelve thirty, or four thirty.
A: Four thirty's too late. Twelve thirty, please.
B: On the twelve thirty flight on May 23rd, there's only a seat free in row thirteen.
A: Row thirteen? No, thanks. I'll go at eight thirty.

Practise this conversation between a driving instructor and a learner driver.

A: Take the third turning on the right. Then stop by the church. I'd like you to reverse round that corner.
B: Yes, I certainly need to practise reversing. (stops and reverses)
A: Not bad. But you weren't close enough to the kerb. Turn the steering wheel further to the left.
B: OK. Last lesson I turned it too much, and I was too close to the kerb. (tries again) Oh dear, that was worse.
A: We'll return to reversing later. Now drive on. Turn right by the big fir tree.
B: I need to learn how to do an emergency stop.
A: Yes, when we've gone a bit further. Take the first turning — mind that little girl! Well done, that was a perfect emergency stop.

Spelling and pronunciation: Vowels

One of the main difficulties of English spelling is that some words are pronounced the same, but are spelt differently and have different meanings. Can you think of words pronounced the same as each of these, but spelt differently?

guessed _____ warn _____ meet _____ won _____ threw _____

Work in pairs. Match the words on the right to the examples on the left, according to the vowel sound they share in common. Say them aloud to help you to decide.

/æ/ bad	damage	apple	blood	tongue	country	thorough
/e/ bed	pleasure	leisure	lent/leant	blue/blew	root/route	new/knew
/ɑ:/ calm	heart			weak/week	seize/seas	wheel/we'll
/ɔ:/ saw	bored/board	caught/court		cushion	butcher	pull
/ɜ:/ bird	worm			guilty	witch/which	mist/misled
/i:/ sheep	piece/peace			laugh	castle	half
/ɪ/ ship	sink	mystery		not/knot	knowledge	quality
/ɒ/ pot	what	yacht	cough	scandal	flat	
/u:/ boot	truly	threw/through		bury/berry	weather/whether	check/cheque
/ʊ/ put	should	wood/would		turn	firm	
/ʌ/ cut	worry	money	rough	wore/war	source/sauce	raw/roar

Add these words to the appropriate group above, according to their vowel sounds:

business guard marry merry push receive soup walk wander wonder work

Find the mistakes in each of these sentences and correct them.

- 1 I am quite shore that this weak is going too be wonderful.
- 2 We are truely sorry that you had to weight so long four the delivery.
- 3 He has dredful manners - he paws tomato source on all his food.
- 4 They couldn't get thier new armchare threw the door.
- 5 Witch of these too alternatives is the write one?
- 6 He lent the ladder agenst the wall and climed onto the roof.
- 7 The cieling and walls of this room need peinting ergently.

Listen and repeat:

ɪ	bit	bid	him	miss
e	bet	bed	hen	mess
æ	bat	bad	ham	mass
ʌ	cut	bud	bun	bus
ɒ	pot	cod	Tom	loss
ʊ	put	wood	pull	push

Write the symbol for the vowel you hear in each word. (1 . . . 10) Check your answers.

1. [] 2. [] 3. [] 4. [] 5. [] 6. [] 7. [] 8. [] 9. [] 10. []

Listen and repeat:

i:	beat	bead	been	beef
ɑ:	heart	hard	harm	hearth
ɔ:	caught	cord	corn	course
u:	root	rude	room	roof
ɜ:	hurt	heard	earn	earth

Write the symbol for the vowel you hear in each word. (1 . . . 10) Check your answers.

1. [] 2. [] 3. [] 4. [] 5. [] 6. [] 7. [] 8. [] 9. [] 10. []