

VOWELS

References in bold type are to sections in Gimson's Pronunciation of English (GPE) (Seventh edition, Hodder Arnold, 2008).

Say all the drill words with a High Falling tone [ˈ]. The tone is marked only in the case of words of more than one syllable.

/ i: / (GPE §8.9.1)

Long bi: bi:nz bi:md si: si:l si:zd
 ti: ti:ð ti:zd li:d li:v li:gd
 wi:d wi:l wi:vz hi:d hi:v hi:lz

Shortened bi:ts si:k si:st ti:θ
 li:f li:kt wi:t hi:t

Compare bi: si: si:zd ti:ð li:v li:gd wi:d hi:d
 bi:ts si:k si:st ti:θ li:f li:kt wi:t hi:t

Further practice ˈmi:zlz ˈʃi:zɪz ˈgri:sɪ məˈʃi:n pəˈli:s
 rɪˈpi:tɪd rɛfjuˈdʒi: ˈkɒŋkri:t

ˈpi:təz kli:nɪŋ ɪz ˈti:θ.

ə ˌðɪ:z ðə ʃi:ts ju: mi:n?

/ ɪ / (GPE §8.9.2)

lɪd lɪvd lɪt lɪft wɪl wɪnd wɪt wɪft
 hɪd hɪlz hɪp hɪt ʃɪn ʃɪld ʃɪp ʃɪks
 bɪg bɪnz bɪlt bɪts sɪn sɪl sɪk sɪst

Compare

/ i: / li:d wi:t hi:lz ʃi:ks bi:nz si:k wi:l li:kt

/ ɪ / lɪd wɪt hɪlz ʃɪks bɪnz sɪk wɪl lɪkt

Further practice ˈvɪlɪʒ ˈsɪmplɪst ˈwɪmɪn ˈbɪznɪs ˈrɪtn
 ɪgˈzɪst sɪmplɪfɪˈkeɪʃn

ˈθri: sɪŋɡl ˈtɪkɪts pli:z.

ðər ə ˈsɪks smɪθs ɪn ðə vɪlɪʒ.

Say all the drill words with a High Falling tone [ˈ].

/ i: /

Long bee beans beamed sea seal seized
 tea teethe teased lead leave leagued
 weed wheel weaves heed heave heels

Shortened beats seek ceased teeth
 leaf leaked wheat heat

Compare bee sea seized teethe leave leagued weed heed
 beats seek ceased teeth leaf leaked wheat heat

Further practice measles cheeses greasy machine police
 repeated refugee concrete

Peter's cleaning his teeth.

Are these the sheets you mean?

/ ɪ /

lid lived lit lift will wind wit wished
 hid hills hip hit chin chilled chip chicks
 big bins built bits sin sill sick cyst

Compare

/ i: / lead wheat heels cheeks beans seek wheel leaked
 / ɪ / lid wit hills chicks bins sick will licked

Further practice village simplest women business written
 exist simplification

Three single tickets, please.

There are six Smiths in the village.

/ e / (GPE §8.9.3)

fen	feld	fens	felt	red	rendz	retʃ	rents
wel	weld	welts	welʃ	bed	begz	belt	bentʃ
sel	sendz	sent	sens	led	legz	les	left

Compare

/ i: /	fi:ld	ri:tʃ	wi:l	li:ft	bi:d	it	si:l	tʃi:ks
/ ɪ /	fɪld	rɪtʃ	wɪl	lɪft	bɪd	ɪt	sɪl	tʃɪks
/ e /	feld	retʃ	wel	left	bed	et	sel	tʃeks

Further practice

ˈeni ˈmerɪ ˈselfɪʃ ˈpɛŋgwɪn ˈsentrl ˈmedl
ˈbetɪŋ ˈredn

wi: ɪkˈspektɪd ɪm ˈjestədi.

ˈdɪks betər ət ˈtenɪs.

hi: ˈleft ət ten fɪfˈti:n.

ˈget ɪm tə fetʃ ɪt ðɪs ˈi:vniŋ.

bɪˈɡɪn nekst wenzdɪ ˈwi:k.

/ æ / (GPE §8.9.4)

tæb	tænd	tæpt	tækt	ræm	rægz	ræks	ræŋks
mæd	mædʒ	mæs	mæθs	træm	træmp	træʃ	træks
ʃæm	ʃæl	ʃæk	ʃæŋks	dæm	dæmp	dæʃ	dæʃt

Compare

/ ɪ /	tɪnd	rɪks	hɪm	trɪks	fɪn	mɪs	lɪd	nɪts
/ e /	tend	reks	hem	treks	fen	mes	led	nets
/ æ /	tænd	ræks	hæm	træks	fæn	mæs	læd	næts

Further practice

ˈbætl ˈtʃætə ˈdʒæŋɡl ˈhæri ˈpænik
ˈfæktʃwəl ˈmæri ˈbændɪt

ˈlet ˈdʒæk hæv ə bɪt əv ɪt.

hi: ˈpækt ɪz best ˈdʒækɪt.

ˈwen wɪl rɪtʃəd get ˈbæk?

ˈkæn aɪ ɡɪv ju: sm ˌhæm fræŋk?

ʃi:l ˈnevə məniɔʒ tə ˈkætʃ ɪt.

/ e /

fen felled fence felt red rends wretch rents
 well weld welts Welsh bed begs belt bench
 sell sends sent sense led legs less left

Compare

/ i: / field reach wheel leafed bead eat seal cheeks
 / ɪ / filled rich will lift bid it sill chicks
 / e / felled wretch well left bed ate sell checks

Further practice any merry selfish penguin central medal
 betting redden

We expected him yesterday.

Dick's better at tennis.

He left at ten fifteen.

Get him to fetch it this evening.

Begin next Wednesday week.

/ æ /

tab tanned tapped tacked ram rags racks ranks
 mad Madge mass maths tram tramp trash tracks
 sham shall shack shanks dam damp dash dashed

Compare

/ ɪ / tinned ricks hymn tricks fin miss lid knits
 / e / tend wrecks hem treks fen mess led nets
 / æ / tanned racks ham tracks fan mass lad gnats

Further practice battle chatter jangle Harry panic
 factual marry bandit

Let Jack have a bit of it.

He packed his best jacket.

When will Richard get back?

Can I give you some ham, Frank?

She'll never manage to catch it.

/ ʌ / (GPE §8.9.5)

drʌm	drʌʒ	drʌgz	drʌŋk	pʌn	pʌbz	pʌf	pʌntʃ
gʌl	gʌnz	gʌst	gʌʃ	fʌz	fʌʒ	fʌnd	fʌst
hʌm	hʌŋ	hʌnt	hʌtʃ	ʒʌg	ʒʌʒ	ʒʌmp	ʒʌst

Compare

/ æ /	drægz	pæn	hæm	gæʃ	fænd	mæʃ	sæŋ	ʃræŋk
/ ʌ /	drʌgz	pʌn	hʌm	gʌʃ	fʌnd	mʌʃ	sʌŋ	ʃrʌŋk

Further practice

ˈhʌrɪ ˈwʌndə ˈkʌlə ˈsʌðn ˈmʌðə
 ˈjʌŋstə rɪˈzʌlt əˈbʌv ˈhɪkʌp

hi: ˈræŋ ʌp ðn ˈsʌndɪ.

aɪ ˈwʌndər ɪf ðə kʌləz l ˈmæʃ.

ˈhʌrɪ ʌp ən lend ɪm ə ˈhænd.

ˈhʌʊ mʌʃ kən ju: let maɪ mʌðə ˈhæv?

/ a: / (GPE §8.9.6)

<i>Long</i>	ka:	ka:m	ka:v	fa:	fa:m	fa:md
	tʃa:	tʃa:lz	tʃa:ʒd	sta:d	sta:v	sta:vz
	ha:d	ˈha:dn	ˈha:dnd	la:ʒ	ˈla:də	ˈla:ðə

Shortened

ka:t	ka:f	fa:s	tʃa:t	sta:f
sta:tʃ	ha:t	ˈha:tn	la:tʃ	

Compare

ka:	ka:v	fa:	tʃa:	sta:v	ha:d	ˈha:dn	la:ʒ
ka:t	ka:f	fa:s	tʃa:t	sta:f	ha:t	ˈha:tn	la:tʃ

/ æ /	hæm	mæʃ	bænz	læk	mæd	kæt	sæm	bækt
/ ʌ /	hʌm	mʌʃ	bʌnz	lʌk	mʌd	kʌt	sʌm	bʌkt
/ a: /	ha:m	ma:tʃ	ba:nz	la:k	ma:d	ka:t	sa:m	ba:kt

Further practice

ˈda:bɪ ˈka:sl ˈpa:tnə ˈga:dnə ˈga:dn
 ˈtʃa:mɪŋ ˈpa:snɪʒ pa:ˈtɪʃn

ˈðætɪ ʌpset ðɪ ˌæplka:t.

ðæts ˈveri bæd ˈlʌk tʃa:lz.

ˈka:nt ʒæk kʌm baɪ ˌbʌs?

ðə ka: ˈsta:tɪd tə rʌn ˈbækwədz.

/ ʌ /

drum drudge drugs drunk pun pubs puff punch
 gull guns gust gush fuzz fudge fund fussed
 hum hung hunt hutch jug judge jump just

Compare

/ æ / drags pan ham gash fanned match sang shrank
 / ʌ / drugs pun hum gush fund much sung shrunk

Further practice hurry wonder colour southern mother
 youngster result above hiccough

He rang up on Sunday.

I wonder if the colours'll match.

Hurry up and lend him a hand.

How much can you let my mother have?

/ɑː/

Long car calm calve far farm farmed
 Char Charles charged starred starve starves
 hard harden hardened large larder lather

Shortened cart calf farce chart staff
 starch heart hearten larch

Compare car calve far char starve hard harden large
 cart calf farce chart staff heart hearten larch

/ æ / ham match bans lack mad cat Sam backed

/ ʌ / hum much buns luck mud cut sum bucked

/ɑː/ harm march barns lark marred cart psalm barked

Further practice Derby castle partner gardener garden
 Charming parsonage partition

That'll upset the applecart.

That's very bad luck, Charles.

Can't Jack come by bus?

The car started to run backwards.

/ ɒ / (GPE §8.9.7)

dɒŋ	dɒlz	dɒk	dɒt	kɒd	kɒl	kɒf	kɒst
rɒŋ	rɒb	rɒθ	rɒkt	ʃɒn	ʃɒd	ʃɒp	ʃɒkt
wɒn	wɒz	wɒnt	wɒtʃt	pɒd	pɒnd	pɒpt	pɒkt

Compare

/ ʌ /	kʌd	dʌk	bʌnz	stʌk	bʌtʃ	lʌst	mʌl	hʌt
/ a: /	ka:d	da:k	ba:nz	sta:k	ba:tʃ	la:st	ma:l	ha:t
/ ɒ /	kɒd	dɒk	bɒnz	stɒk	bɒtʃ	lɒst	mɒl	hɒt

Further practice ˈwɒndə ˈkɒmpɒst ˈkwɒlɪtɪ ˈbɒtl
 ˈhɒli ˈkɒtn ˈfɒrɪd ˈkɒnflɪkt

ðeɪv ˈgɒt sʌtʃ ə ˈla:tʃ dɒŋ.

ɒn ˈmʌndɪ i: stɑ:ts ˈrʌʃn kla:sɪz.

ˈwɒtl ðə k:ɑ:pɪt ˈkɒst aɪ wʌndə?

/ ɔ: / (GPE §8.9.8)

<i>Long</i>	nɔ:	nɔ:m	nɔ:d	sɔ:z	sɔ:n	sɔ:dz
	tʃɔ:	tʃɔ:z	tʃɔ:tʃ	drɔ:n	drɔ:l	drɔ:ld
	stɔ:	stɔ:l	stɔ:md	gɔ:z	gɔ:l	gɔ:tʃd

Shortened nɔ:θ sɔ:s tʃɔ:nt stɔ:k
 gɔ:s tʃɔ:k wɔ:f fɔ:t

Compare nɔ: sɔ:z tʃɔ: stɔ:l gɔ:z tʃɔ:z wɔ:m fɔ:d
 nɔ:θ sɔ:s tʃɔ:nt stɔ:k gɔ:s tʃɔ:k wɔ:f fɔ:t

/ ʌ /	mʌl	stʌk	kʌd	pʌt	dʌn	bʌks	ʃʌn	hʌk
/ a: /	ma:l	sta:k	ka:d	pa:t	da:n	ba:ks	ʃa:n	ha:k
/ ɒ /	mɒl	stɒk	kɒd	pɒt	dɒn	bɒks	ʃɒn	hɒk
/ ɔ: /	mɔ:l	stɔ:k	kɔ:d	pɔ:t	dɔ:n	bɔ:ks	ʃɔ:n	hɔ:k

Further practice ˈsɔ:dɪd ˈtʃɔ:ndɪs ˈhɔ:dɪŋ ˈdɔ:tə
 ˈwɔ:tə ɔ:ˈθentɪk rɪˈwɔ:dɪd drɪˈfɔ:ltə

ɪts ˈɔ:ltəgeðər ə ˈsɔ:dɪd stɔ:rɪ.

ˈwɒznt ðə klɒk ra:ðə ˈfa:st?

tʃɒnz dʌn ˈmʌtʃ mɔ: ðən aɪ ˈθɔ:t.

/ ɒ /

dog dolls dock dot cod col cough cost
 wrong rob wrath rocked shone shod shop shocked
 wan was want watched pod pond popped pocked

Compare

/ ʌ / cud duck buns stuck budge lust mull hut
 / ɑ: / card dark barns stark barge last marl heart
 / ɒ / cod dock bonds stock bodge lost Moll hot

Further practice wander compost quality bottle
 holly cotton forehead conflict

They've got such a large dog.
 On Monday he starts Russian classes.
 What'll the carpet cost, I wonder?

/ ɔ: /

Long nor norm gnawed saws sawn swords
 jaw jaws George drawn drawl drawled
 store stall stormed gauze gall gorged

Shortened north sauce jaunt stalk
 gorse chalk wharf fought

Compare nor saws jaw stall gauze chores warm ford
 north sauce jaunt stalk gorse chalk wharf fought

/ ʌ / mull stuck cud putt done bucks shun Huck
 / ɑ: / marl stark card part darn barks Shan hark
 / ɒ / Moll stock cod pot don box shone hock
 / ɔ: / maul stalk cord port dawn baulks shorn hawk

Further practice sordid jaundice hoarding daughter
 water authentic rewarded defaulter

It's altogether a sordid story.
 Wasn't the clock rather fast?
 John's done much more than I thought.

/ ʊ / (GPE §8.9.9)

pʊl	ˈpʊdɪŋ	pʊt	pʊʃ	wʊd	wʊl	ˈwʊdnt	ˈwʊstə
bʊl	bʊʃ	bʊks	ˈbʊʃə	ʃʊd	ˈʃʊgə	ʃʊk	ˈʃʊdnt
kʊd	ˈkʊdnt	kʊk	ˈkʊʃn	fʊl	ˈfʊlsəm	fʊt	ˈfʊtbɔ:l

Compare

/ ɔ: /	wɔ:d	fɔ:t	pɔ:l	bɔ:ks	gɔ:d	kɔ:k	ʃɔ:d	sɔ:t
/ ʊ /	wʊd	fʊt	pʊl	bʊks	gʊd	kʊk	ʃʊd	sʊt

Further practice

ˈgʊdnɪs ˈwʊmən ˈwʊstɪd ˈkʊrɪə
 ˈbʊzm wʊlf ˈbʊkkeɪs
 ɪt kʊd ˈdu: wɪð mɔ: ˈʃʊgə.
 aɪ ˈkʊdnt pʊl ðə ˈkɔ:k aʊt.
 ˈpʊt ðəʊz bʊks ɪn ðə kɔ:nə ˈkʌbəd.

/ u: / (GPE §8.9.10)

<i>Long</i>	tu:	tu:m	tu:l	ju:	ju:l	ju:ðz
	ru:	ru:l	ru:ʒ	bru:	bru:z	bru:dz
	mu:v	mu:n	mu:dz	nju:	tju:n	hju:ɟ

<i>Shortened</i>	tu:θ	ju:θ	ru:f	bru:s
	mu:t	ʃju:t	lu:s	nju:t

<i>Compare</i>	tu:l	ju:ðz	ru:	bru:z	mu:v	ʃu:	lu:z	nju:
	tu:θ	ju:θ	ru:f	bru:s	mu:t	ʃu:t	lu:s	nju:t

/ ɔ: /	pɔ:l	sɔ:t	fɔ:l	ʃɔ:t	wɔ:d	bɔ:ks	stɔ:l	tɔ:k
/ ʊ /	pʊl	sʊt	fʊl	ʃʊk	wʊd	bʊks	stʊd	tʊk
/ u: /	pu:l	su:t	fu:l	ʃu:t	wu:d	bu:ts	stu:l	stu:k

Further practice ˈru:lə ˈsmu:ðɪŋ ˈfru:tlɪs ˈtru:θfl rɪˈpru:vəl
 ɪmˈpru:dnt ɪnˈθju:zɪæzm prəˈɟu:s ˈprɒɟu:s
 ˈmju:zɪk ˈbju:trɪ ˈnju:səns ˈɑ:gju: ˈnju:tə

ˈhu:z ə ðəʊz nju: ˈfʊtbɔ:l bu:ts?
 ðeɪ ər ˈɔ:lwɪz tɔ:kɪŋ əbaʊt gʊd fu:d.
 ðə ˈkʊk wʊdnt əˈpru:v əv wʊstə sɔ:s.

/ ʊ /

pull pudding put push wood wool wouldn't Worcester
 bull bush books butcher should sugar shook shouldn't
 could couldn't cook cushion full fulsome foot football

Compare

/ ɔ: / ward fought pall baulks gored cork shored sort
 / ʊ / wood foot pull books good cook should soot

Further practice goodness woman worsted courier
 bosom wolf bookcase

It could do with more sugar.
 I couldn't pull the cork out.
 Put those books in the corner cupboard.

/ u: /

Long too tomb tool yew Yule youths
 rue rule rouge brew bruise broods
 move moon moods new tune huge

Shortened tooth youth roof Bruce
 moot shoot loose newt

Compare tool youths rue bruise move shoe lose new
 tooth youth roof Bruce moot shoot loose newt

/ ɔ: / pall sort fall short ward baulks stall talk
 / ʊ / pull soot full shook wood books stood took
 / u: / pool suit fool shoot wooded boots stool stook

Further practice ruler smoothing fruitless truthful reproof
 imprudent enthusiasm produce produce
 music beauty nuisance argue neuter

Whose are those new football boots?
 They're always talking about good food.
 The cook wouldn't approve of Worcester sauce.

/ ɜ: / (GPE §8.9.11)

<i>Long</i>	hɜ:d	hɜ:l	hɜ:dz	sɜ:b	sɜ:ɟ	sɜ:v		
	θɜ:d	ʰθɜ:zdɪ	ʰθɜ:ml	pɜ:z	pɜ:l	pɜ:ɟd		
	wɜ:d	wɜ:l	wɜ:ld	bɜ:d	bɜ:nz	bɜ:ðz		
<i>Shortened</i>	hɜ:t	sɜ:tʃ	sɜ:f	ʰθɜ:stɪ				
	pɜ:s	wɜ:θ	wɜ:st	bɜ:θ				
<i>Compare</i>	hɜ:d	sɜ:ɟ	sɜ:v	ʰθɜ:zdɪ	pɜ:z	wɜ:l	bɜ:d	tʃɜ:n
	hɜ:t	sɜ:tʃ	sɜ:f	ʰθɜ:stɪ	pɜ:s	wɜ:θ	bɜ:θ	tʃɜ:tʃ
/ ʌ /	kʌd	fʌst	bʌnz	sʌtʃ	θʌm	lʌk	hʌl	ʃʌt
/ ɜ: /	kɜ:d	fɜ:st	bɜ:nz	sɜ:tʃ	θɜ:m	lɜ:k	hɜ:l	ʃɜ:t

Further practice ʰθɜ:ti ʰpɜ:ʃə ʰwɜ:ðɪ ʰbɜ:dnsəm
 ʰmɜ:tl ʰɟɜ:nɪ ʰkɜ:təsɪ θɜ:ʰti:n

'fɜ:st kʌm fɜ:st 'sɜ:vd.

'gɑ:dnɪŋz sʌtʃ θɜ:stɪ 'wɜ:k.

ðə 'wɜ:stl kʌm nekst 'θɜ:zdɪ.

/ ə / (GPE §8.9.12)

ʰhi:tə	ʰfɪdlə	ʰtʃestə	ʰtempɪtʃə	ʰæmətə
ʲʌŋgə	ʰdɒktə	ʰwɑ:də	ʰfulə	ʲju:zə
ʰfɜ:ðə	ʰbeɪkə	ʰsəʊfə	ʰtʃaɪnə	ʰkauntə
fə'ti:g	ə'bʌv	ə'stʃu:t	əb'sɜ:d	əs'pærəgəs
fə'tɒgrəfi	pə'tɪkjələli	ʰɑ:ftəwədz	ʰdekərətɪv	

Further practice it wəz ðə 'pɪk əv ðə 'bʌntʃ.
 'kʌm ən lʊk ət ðə 'mʌŋkɪz.
 'wɒt kən wi: səʃjest tə ðəm fə 'krɪsməs?

In the connected texts pay particular attention to / ə / occurring as the vowel in the weak forms:

ə ənd ə əz ət kən kəd dəz fə frəm
 məst əv ʃəl səm ðə ðəm tə wəz wə
 wəd

/ ɜ: /

Long heard hurl herds Serb surge serve
 third Thursday thermal purrs pearl purged
 word whirl world bird burns berths

Shortened hurt search surf thirsty
 purse worth worst birth

Compare heard surge serve Thursday purrs whirl bird churn
 hurt search surf thirsty purse worth birth church

/ ʌ / cud fussed buns such thumb luck hull shut

/ ɜ: / curd first burns search therm lurk hurl shirt

Further practice thirty Persia worthy burdensome
 myrtle journey courtesy thirteen

First come, first served.

Gardening's such thirsty work.

The worst'll come next Thursday.

/ ə /

heater fiddler Chester temperature amateur
 younger doctor warder fuller user
 further baker sofa China counter
 fatigue above astute absurd asparagus
 photography particularly afterwards decorative

Further practice It was the pick of the bunch.
 Come and look at the monkeys.
 What can we suggest to them for Christmas?

In the connected texts pay particular attention to / ə / occurring as the vowel in the weak forms of

a, and, are, as, at, can, could, does, for, from,
 must, of, shall, some, the, them, to, was, were,
 would

/ eɪ / (GPE §8.10.1)

Long pleɪd pleɪn pleɪgz treɪ trem treɪl
 ɕeɪd ɕeɪz ɕeɪld neɪv neɪm neɪlz
 reɪ reɪzd reɪɕd ʃeɪv ʃeɪdz ʃeɪmd

Shortened pleɪt treɪs ɕeɪk neɪp
 reɪθ reɪst ʃeɪps eɪʃ

Compare pleɪd treɪ ɕeɪd neɪm reɪ reɪzd ʃeɪdz eɪɕ
 pleɪt treɪs ɕeɪk neɪp reɪθ reɪst ʃeɪps eɪɕ

/ e / red ʃest sel sent weɕ eʃ trend flek
 / eɪ / reɪd ʃeɪst seɪl seɪnt weɪɕ eɪʃ treɪnd fleɪk

Further practice ˈreɪzə ˈreɪsə ˈteɪbl ˈreɪlweɪ
 rɪˈleɪt buːˈkeɪ əˈfreɪd dɪsˈmeɪd

ˈges ðə weɪt əv ðæt ˈkeɪk.

ˌðeɪ ʃəd ˈteɪk ə deɪz ˈrest.

/ əʊ / (GPE §8.10.4)

Long stəʊd stəʊv stəʊnz məʊ məʊv məʊlz
 təʊ təʊld təʊnd kəʊd kəʊmz kəʊld
 rəʊd rəʊbz rəʊgz ləʊð ləʊvz ləʊmd

Shortened stəʊt məʊst təʊst kəʊt
 kəʊlt rəʊps ləʊθ sləʊθ

Compare stəʊd məʊ təʊ kəʊd kəʊld rəʊbz ləʊð sləʊ
 stəʊt məʊst təʊst kəʊt kəʊlt rəʊps ləʊθ sləʊθ

/ ɔː / fɔː pɔːʃ bɔːn wɔːk ɡɔːl kɔːst hɔːd kɔːt
 / ɜː / fɜː pɜːʃ bɜːn wɜːk ɡɜːl kɜːst hɜːd kɜːt
 / əʊ / fəʊ pəʊʃ bəʊn wəʊk ɡəʊl kəʊst həʊd kəʊt

Further practice ˈʃəʊldə ˈməʊʃnlɪs ˈəʊʃn ˈsəʊldʒəri
 rɪˈprəʊʃɪŋ brɪˈləʊ ˈbɪləʊ ˈfeləʊ

nəʊ ˈʔʒəʊnz skɔːd ðə ˈfɜːst ɡəʊl.

həv ˈɔːl ðə səʊldʒəz rɪtʒːnd ˌhəʊm?

/ eɪ /

Long played plane plagues tray train trail
 jade jays gaoled knave name nails
 ray raised raged shave shades shamed

Shortened plate trace Jake nape
 wraith raced shapes aitch

Compare played tray jade name ray raised shades age
 plate trace Jake nape wraith raced shapes aitch

/ e / red chest sell sent wedge etch trend fleck

/ eɪ / raid chased sale saint wage aitch trained flake

Further practice razor racer table railway
 relate bouquet afraid dismayed

Guess the weight of that cake.

They should take a day's rest.

/ əʊ /

Long stowed stove stones mow mauve moles
 toe told toned code combs cold
 rode robes rogues loathe loaves loamed

Shortened stoat most toast coat
 colt ropes loath sloth

Compare stowed mow toe code cold robes loathe slow
 stoat most toast coat colt ropes loath sloth

/ ɔ: / four porch born walk gall coursed hoard caught

/ ɜ: / fur perch burn work girl cursed heard curt

/ əʊ / foe poach bone woke goal coast hoed coat

Further practice shoulder motionless ocean soldiery
 reproaching below billow fellow

No, Jones scored the first goal.

Have all the soldiers returned home?

/ ai, aiə / (GPE §8.10.2)

Long

/ ai /	tʃaɪd	tʃaɪvz	tʃaɪld	maɪn	maɪl	maɪld
	vaɪ	vaɪl	vaɪnz	daɪ	daɪv	daɪnd
	waɪ	waɪd	waɪvz	laɪ	laɪv	laɪð
/ aiə /	ˈaɪən	ˈplaɪəz	ˈpaɪəz	ˈtraɪəl		
	ˈfaɪə	ˈʃaɪə	ˈlaɪənz	ˈwaɪəd		

Shortened

/ ai /	maɪt	vaɪs	daɪs	waɪt		
	waɪfs	laɪf	laɪk	paɪnt		
/ aiə /	ˈpaɪəs	ˈwaɪət	ˈkwaɪət	ˈraɪət		

Compare

	maɪn	vaɪ	daɪ	waɪd	waɪvz	laɪð	paɪnd	ˈpaɪəz
	maɪt	vaɪs	daɪs	waɪt	waɪfs	laɪk	paɪnt	ˈpaɪəs
/ ai /	paɪz	spaɪ	taɪd	waɪd	ˈlaɪbl	kwart		
/ aiə /	ˈpaɪəz	ˈspaɪə	ˈtaɪəd	ˈwaɪəd	ˈlaɪəbl	ˈkwaɪət		

Further practice

/ ai /	ˈtaɪdl	ˈtaɪtl	ˈraɪdɪŋ	ˈraɪtɪŋ	ˈkraɪsɪs	ˈaɪðə
	dɪsˈgaɪzd	rɪˈplaɪŋ	ˈnaɪttam			
/ aiə /	ˈtaɪərɪŋ	ˈempaɪə	ˈdaɪəməndz	ˈvaɪələnt	ˈtaɪərənt	
	əˈspaɪə	ədˈmaɪəz	səˈsaɪətɪ	dɪˈzaɪərəbl		

'kɑ:nt aɪ laɪt ðə ˈfaɪə?

ˈlɑ:st taɪm / aɪ ˈsteɪd ət ˈhəʊm.

'leɪt naɪts meɪk mi: ˈtaɪəd.

ɪts meɪd ɪn ˈtaɪəlɪ əv kɑ:st ˈaɪən.

ðæt ˈdraɪə ˈwaɪn / teɪsts ˈrɑ:ðə ˈnaɪs.

'waɪ kɑ:nt wi: ˈpɑ:k ɪn ðæt ˈleɪbər?

wɪ: ˈfəʊnd daɪənə ˈtwɑɪs.

hi: ˈkɑ:nt ˈfaɪnd ðə ˈlaɪtɪŋ ˈplaɪəz.

ʃi: ˈspəʊk ˈkwaɪətli tə ðə fraɪtnd tʃaɪld.

aɪd laɪk ə ˈnʌðə paɪnt əv ˈmaɪld plɪ:z.

'krəʊməz kwart ə ˈkwaɪət pleɪs.

ju: ˈmaɪt traɪ ðə dɪˈbeɪtɪŋ səsaɪətɪ.

/ aɪ, aɪə /

Long

/ aɪ /	chide	chives	child	mine	mile	mild
	vie	vile	vines	die	dive	dined
	why	wide	wives	lie	live	lithe
/ aɪə /	iron	pliers	pyres	trial		
	fire	shire	lions	wired		

Shortened

/ aɪ /	might	vice	dice	white
	wife's	life	like	pint
/ aɪə /	pious	Wyatt	quiet	riot

Compare mine vie die wide wives lithe pined pyres

might vice dice white wife's like pint pious

/ aɪ /	pies	spy	tied	wide	libel	quite
/ aɪə /	pyres	spire	tired	wired	liable	quiet

Further practice

/ aɪ /	tidal	title	riding	writing	crisis	either
	disguised	replying	night-time			
/ aɪə /	tiring	empire	diamonds	violent	tyrant	
	aspire	admires	society	desirable		

Can't I light the fire?

Last time I stayed at home.

Late nights make me tired.

It's made entirely of cast-iron.

That drier wine tastes rather nice.

Why can't we park in that lay-by?

We phoned Diana twice.

He can't find the large pliers.

She spoke quietly to the frightened child.

I'd like another pint of mild, please.

Cromer's quite a quiet place.

You might try the Debating Society.

/ au, auə / (GPE §8.10.5)

Long

/ au /	bau	baud	baundz	kau	kauz	kaulz
	rau	raud	raund	hau	haund	haul
	tauzl	taun	tauzld	drauz	draun	draunz
/ auə /	`auə	`pauə	`tauəd	`kauəd		
	`glauə	`sauə	`ʃauəriŋ	`hauəd		

Shortened

/ au /	baut	kautʃ	haus	raut
	taut	draut	traut	staut
/ auə /	`hauəθ			

Compare

	bau	kau	rau	laud	draun	faund	graul	`hauəd
	baut	kautʃ	raut	laut	draut	faunt	graus	`hauəθ
/ au /	bau	kau	sau	baud				
/ auə /	`bauə	`kauə	`sauə	`bauəd				
/ aiə /	`aiə	`baiə	`taiəd	`saiəz	`ʃaiə	ri`laiəbl		
/ auə /	`auə	`bauə	`tauəd	`sauəz	`ʃauə	ə`lauəbl		

Further practice

/ au /	`graundɪd	`baʊntɪfl	`kaʊntlɪs	`kaʊntɪ
	dɪ`vaʊt	ri`zaʊndɪŋ	`plauɪŋ	ə`staʊndɪd
/ auə /	`naʊədəɪz	`tauəlz	`daʊəri	`flaʊəpɒt
	ə`lauəns	dɪ`vaʊəriŋ	ɪm`pauəriŋ	

'hau əbaut ɡəʊɪŋ baɪ `haɪəkɑː?

*aʊtsaɪd ðə ʃɑːmhaʊs / ðə wɛz 'kwaɪt ə `kraʊd.

hi: 'draɪd ɪz traʊzɛz baɪ ðə `faɪə.

'hau fɑːr ɪz ɪt tə ðə taʊn `hɔːl?

aɪl bɪ 'raʊnd ɪn hæf ən `auə.

ðəl bi: 'ʃɑːp ʃaʊz ɪn ðə `sauθ.

'hauəd saʊndz ə ri`laiəbl plerə.

dɪdʒu: 'baɪ ðəʊz nju: taɪz fər ,auə kɑː?

'sauθpɔːts ɡɒt `lɒts əv dɪzaɪərəbl haʊzɪz.

/ aʊ, aʊə /

Long

/ aʊ /	bough	bowed	bounds	cow	cows	cowls
	row	rowed	round	how	hound	howl
	tousle	town	tousld	drowse	drown	drowns
/ aʊə /	hour	power	towered	coward		
	glower	sour	showering	Howard		

Shortened

/ aʊ /	bout	couch	house	rout
	tout	drought	trout	stout
/ aʊə /	Howarth			

Compare

	bough	cow	row	loud	drown	found	growl	Howard
	bout	couch	rout	lout	drought	fount	grouse	Howarth
/ aʊ /	bough	cow	sow	bowed				
/ aʊə /	bower	cower	sour	bowered				
/ aɪə /	ire	byre	tired	sires	shire	reliable		
/ aʊə /	hour	bower	towered	sours	shower	allowable		

Further practice

/ aʊ /	grounded	bountiful	countless	county
	devout	resounding	ploughing	astounded
/ aʊə /	nowadays	towels	dowry	flowerpot
	allowance	devouring	empowering	

How about going by hire-car?

Outside the farmhouse there was quite a crowd.

He dried his trousers by the fire.

How far is it to the Town Hall?

I'll be round in half an hour.

There'll be sharp showers in the south.

Howard sounds a reliable player.

Did you buy those new tyres for our car?

Southport's got lots of desirable houses.

/ ɔɪ / (GPE §8.10.3)

<i>Long</i>	ɔɪ	ɔɪz	ɔɪnd	bɔɪ	bɔɪz	bɔɪlz
	kɔɪ	kɔɪnz	kɔɪld	pɔɪ	pɔɪzd	ˈpɔɪzn

<i>Shortened</i>	ɔɪst	ɔɪnt	kwɔɪts	kɔɪf
	pɔɪnt	vɔɪs	ʃɔɪs	hɔɪst

<i>Compare</i>	ɔɪ	ɔɪnd	kɔɪ	pɔɪz	vɔɪd
	ɔɪst	ɔɪnt	kɔɪt	pɔɪnt	vɔɪs

<i>Further practice</i>	ˈfɔɪlɪŋ	ˈɔɪstə	ˈpɔɪnjənt	ˈklɔɪstəz
	ˈtrefɔɪl	ˈdi:kɔɪd	ɪmˈplɔɪə	ˈrɔɪəlɪ

ˈwɒt ə paʊɔfl ˈvɔɪs ðæt bɔɪz gɒt.

aʊər ˈɔɪlfarəd bɔɪləz səʊ ˈnɔɪzɪ.

hɪz ɪmˈplɔɪə geɪv ɪm nəʊ ˈʃɔɪs.

/ ɪə / (GPE §8.12.1)

<i>Long</i>	ɪəz	bɪə	ˈtɪəfl	ˈdɪəriət	ɡɪəz	ʃɪəd
	ˈʃɪəriŋ	ˈfɪəfl	vɪəd	ˈsɪəriŋ	ˈʃɪəriŋ	
	hɪəz	lɪəd	ˈmɪəli	ˈnɪəli	wɪəd	

<i>Shortened</i>	ɪəs	tɪəs	fɪəs
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<i>Compare</i>	ɪəz	tɪəz	fɪəz
	ɪəs	tɪəs	fɪəs

<i>Further practice</i>	ˈθɪətə	ˈhɪərəʊ	ˈwɪəri	ˈdɪəri	ˈθɪəri
	əˈpɪə	ɑːˈdɪə	rɪˈvɪə	kəˈrɪə	
	ˈsɪəriəs	ˈhevɪə	ˈmɔːfɪə	ˈɔːdɪəns	
	ˈveəriəbl	kəˈneɪdɪən	θɪəˈlɒʃɪkl		

hɪz ˈbɪəd ɡɪvz ɪm ə ˈveri fɪəs əpɪərəns.

ɪt ˈnɪəli endɪd ɪz kəˈrɪə.

ðɪ ˈɔːdɪəns ʃɪəd ðə ˈhɪərəʊ.

wɪə səʊ ˈwɪəri əv hɪəriŋ ɪz ɑɪdɪəz.

hɪː ˈsɜːtnli ˈtriːts ðə θɪəri ˈsɪəriəsli.

ˈðɪs mətɪəriəlz ɪkˈstriːmli dɪə.

ɪt ˈrɪəli siːmz tə bi ˈklɪəriŋ.

/ eə / (GPE §8.12.2)

<i>Long</i>	peə	beəz	ˈteəriŋ	deəd	ˈkeəfl	ˈgeəriʃ
	ˈtʃeəri	feə	ˈveəri	ðeə	ʃeəz	leəd
	reə	meə	weə	ˈsteəweɪ		

Shortened skeəs*Compare*

/ iə /	bɪəd	fɪəd	spɪəd	ˈsmɪəri	ˈtʃɪəri	tʃɪəd
/ eə /	beəd	feəd	speəd	ˈmeəri	ˈtʃeəri	ʃeəd
/ e /	bed	fed	sped	ˈmerɪ	ˈtʃerɪ	ʃed

<i>Further practice</i>	ˈbleəriŋ	ˈbeəbæk	ˈskweəriŋ	ˈeniweə		
	ˈsɪmwə	ˈheəri	ˈeəriɪs	ˈmeəriɪs	ˈeəriəl	
	dɪˈkleəd	rɪˈpeəz	dɪˈspeə			

ˈweə də ðeɪ get ðeə ˈbrɪ?

bi: ˈkeəfl wɪð ðɪ ˈeəriəl.

ˈmeəriɪz heəz veri ˈfeə.

ðə ˈsteəkɑ:pɪts nɪəli ˈθredbeə.

ðə ˈmeəz skeəsli evə ˈðeə.

dɪd ˈseərə ˌrɪəli ɪpeə ðə tʃeə?

/ uə / (GPE §8.10.3)

puə	ˈbuəbən	ˈtuəriŋ	duə	guəd	ˈtʃuəri	bruə	ˈʃuəli
luəz	muəd	truə	ˈfluənsɪ				

pjuə	ˈpjuərəɪl	ˈbjuərəʊ	ɪnˈtʃuə	ˈdjuəriŋ	ˈkjuəriəs
sɪˈkjuəriɪtɪ	fjuə	vjuə	məˈnjuə	juərəˈpɪən	

ˈɪnfluəns	ɪnˈkɒŋgruəs	ˈɑ:djuəs	ˈvækjuəm	ˈvæljuə
ˈvæljuəbl	ˈju:zʊəli			

Further practice

ˈtʃɑ:tʃ ʃʊd su:n bi ˈkjuəd.

ðeɪ tuk ˈɔ:l hæ væljuəbl ˈtʃuələri.

djuəriŋ ˈɔ:gəst / ðə wə ˈfjuə vjuəz.

ðə ˈnju: ˌfɔ:mən / ˈɪnfluənst ðə tʃuəri ɪˈnɔ:məsli.

/ eə /

Long pear bares tearing dared careful garish
 chary fair vary there shares laird
 rare mayor where stairway

Shortened scarce*Compare*

/ ɪə / beard feared speared smeary cheery sheared
 / eə / bared fared spared Mary chary shared
 / e / bed fed sped merry cherry shed

Further practice blaring bareback squaring anywhere
 somewhere hairy heiress mayoress aerial
 declared repairs despair

Where do they get their beer?

Be careful with the aerial.

Mary's hair's very fair.

The stair-carpet's nearly threadbare.

The mayor's scarcely ever there.

Did Sarah really repair the chair?

/ uə /

poor Bourbon touring dour gourd jury brewer surely
 lures moored truer fluency

pure puerile bureau endure during curious
 security fewer viewer manure European
 influence incongruous arduous vacuum valuer
 valuable usually

Further practice

George should soon be cured.

They took all her valuable jewellery.

During August there were fewer viewers.

The new foreman influenced the jury enormously.