

English pronunciation

i:	a tree three leaves a bee a sheep a fleet a sea ice-cream for tea Stephan meets Eve Stephan is greedy. He eats three pieces of cheese. Asleep. Stephan dreams of Eve. He sees Eve fleeing from three beasts.
i	ink a ship a fish a biscuit a tin whistle a big pig a little kitten a kitchen sink with dishes in it Which of the six thin women is a wicked witch?
i: / i	a sheep a ship a bean a bin a meal a mill a lead a lid Jean likes gin..... but gin doesn't like Jean! Sleepy Freda seeks size six slippers to fit her feet. Fish and chips are cheap and easy to eat.
e	a leg a tent a penny a letter a wren's nest seven pets a treasure chest ten well-dressed men a wedding-dress eleven hens with twelve eggs in ten nests.
æ	a hand a map a stamp a flag a tank a jazz band a fat man clapping his hands a black cat catching a fat rat. Anne has plaits and black slacks. Harry has a hacking jacket. Harry and Anne are standing hand in hand.
e / æ	a pat a pet one man many men a net a gnat pedalling paddling Ted has Dad's hat on his head Jack's Czech friend Franz is very expensive. Franz's French friend is very expensive.
ʌ	a puff a cup a glove a gun a jump a duck a country cousin a lovely crusty buttered bun for supper. Cuthbert puts some mustard on his Mother's custard. a thump Cuthbert's young brother wonders why Mother doesn't love her other son.
æ / ʌ	a hat a hut, a battler a butler, a stamp a stump a banker a bunker These windows were shattered. These windows were shuttered, mashed potatoes with butter / mushed potatoes with batter
a:	a heart a harp an arm a mast a bard a castle a palm a carpet a fast car a farm-cart a dark barn in a large farm-yard Mark can't park his car in the barn because of a calf and a large cart blocking the farmyard.

a: / ʌ	a park a puck, a carp a cup, a larva a lover a barking horse a bucking horse
ɒ	a dog a fog a blot a chop a shop a lot of knots a dog squatting on a rotten log John Olive, John is strong Olive is not John is a docker Olive is a shopper Olive watches John load a locked strong-box on a yacht in a lock at the dock.
ʌ / ɒ	a dun a don, a hug a hog, a suck a sock, a buddy a body The zoologist wonders about bugs. The botanist wanders about bogs.
a: / ɒ	a darn a don, a tart a tot, a shark a shock, a Rajah Roger This cross-country runner is last. This cross-county runner is lost.
ɔɪ	A thought a talk a yawn a call a stormy dawn Maud is short Paul is tall Maud is walking on the lawn. Paul is crawling along the wall. Maud warns Paul, "You'll fall!" "Not at all!" retorts Paul.
ɔɪ / ɒ	a cork a cock, a dawn a don, a sport a spot, a corset to cosset, a warm water bottle a dog's paw
ʊ ʊ / u:	a butcher a cook a bull a rook The cook looks at her cookery book. She puts some sugar in the pudding. The pudding looks good. Look at Luke, pulling a poor fool out of the pool in the wood. This foolish, bookish Duke is too full of good food to move a foot.
u:	a new moon a rude uncouth youth a brute a goose a stool two new shoes a few used boots Hugh Sue Hugh's tooth is loose. Sue is beautiful. Hugh shoots a moose and loses his loose tooth. Sue is foolish and stupid at school as a rule.
ɜɪ	Murtle her purse her curl her jersey her skirt a dirty turtle an early bird with a squirming earth-worm a serpent lurking amid the ferns Pearl Pearl is a circus girl. An earl gave Pearl a fur and a circlet of pearls for her thirty-first birthday.

ə	a balloon a banana a cactus a cormorant an abacus a fashionable photographer an adventurous professor an amateur astrologer a professional astronomer
ə	Alderman Sir Edward Anderson is a prosperous government official at the Treasury. The comfortable apartment of Sir Edward Anderson at Aldeburgh. A professional burglar has entered the apartment by a ladder that was at the back of the house. But an observant amateur photographer has focused a camera on the burglar and summoned a police-constable. As the burglar leaves there is a policeman at the bottom of the ladder.
e i	a space ship a sailor a mate a great wave daybreak a grey, rainy day a train waiting at the railway station. James plays with trains and planes. Jane bakes eight cakes. James Jane James takes a cake from Jane's plate.
a i	an eye a wide smile a white kite flying high in the sky a stile a bicycle a child five white mice Clive and Dinah Clive climbs high spires at night. Dinah is quite nice, but frightfully shy. Clive decides to invite Dinah to dine. He tries to find a fine white wine. Dinah decides she would like to dine with Clive and arrives on time, but politely declines the fine white wine.
ɔɪ	Mr Hoyle a boy a quoit soil Mr Hoyle toils with the soil The boy is adroit with his quoit. a choice moist oyster a loyal royalist Roy Joyce Roy is a noisy boy. Joyce is spoilt and coy. Joyce enjoys annoying Roy. Roy destroys Joyce's choicest toys.
eɪ / e	a taste a test, a sailor a seller, they raced I rest David failed his exam..... so he felled his examiner! Jane sails boats. Jen sells boots.
eɪ / aɪ	to lay to lay, a pain a pine, the lake that I like David baits his hook.... and a whiting bites it.
ɔɪ / aɪ	good boys good-byes, a point a pint, a foil a file Joyce walks off with poise. Giles walks off with pies.

əʊ	a goat, a cone, a note, an overcoat, poached eggs on toast an old coastal boat – Joan Joe Joan is combing her golden hair. Joe has a noble Roman nose. Joe and Joan go for a stroll. Joe shows Joan his roses. Joan won't go home alone, so Joe goes home with Joan.
ɑʊ	a scowl a cloud a cow a scout a plough a rout This owl has found a brown mouse on the ground. A hound with a grouse in its mouth. proud cowed mountains and fountains a round house The loud shouts and howls of the crowd of louts from the town drown the sound of the vows of the devout on the mound.
əʊ / ɔː	a phone a faun, a load a lord, a stoke a stalker John has bought his adoring daughter Joan a motor-boat with an outboard motor.
əʊ / ɜː əʊ / uː	coals curls, a joke a jerk, floating flirting a hope a hoop, a roller a ruler, a goal a ghoul
əʊ / ɑʊ	a bow a bow, a crone a crown, a foal a fowl, a cold figure a cowled figure
ɑɪ ə / ɑʊ ə	we conspire a spire a higher spire a fire a tyre some wire a towel a tower our shower in a flowery bower Howard is a coward, says Brian. Brian is a liar, says Howard. Brian glowers sourly at Howard
ɪə	A seer a spear fear a deer a tear a theatre A dreary peer sneers in the grand tier. At the rear they hear the peer and jeer. But here, clearly the cheers for the hero are fierce. The wary hero (King Lear) is nearly in tears.
eə	tear swear share despair various pairs of things to wear Mary - Mary is scared of fairies in the dairy Sarah - Sarah has fair hair. Fair-haired Sarah stares warily at the hairy bear, glaring from his lair.

Consonant Practice

a church an arch a chubby child a chair a watch-chain and watch

ʧ Charles scratching his itching chin.
Charles is a cheerful chicken-farmer
A poacher is watching Charles' chickens, choosing which to snatch.
He chucks at the chance of a choice chicken to chew for his lunch.
But the chuckle reaches Charles, who chases the poacher and catches him.

a jelly a juicy orange a large jug gingerbread a jam-jar Jeremy Jones an
ʤ aged judge a jolly jury
The aged judge urges the jury to be just but generous

a chick a jug a chill Jill
ʧ / ʤ a huge treasure chest on a large Chinese junk
Joe plays Jazz - Richard plays chess

a finger a fly a face a knife half a loaf
f four friends fifteen ruffians
The rough tough ruffians make fierce faces to frighten the four friends
The friends fight off the ruffians
Four oafs fall flat on the floor, and the rest flee in fear

a stove a vest vice virtue
seven devils a village vicar
V Victor, Vivian, Eve, Vivienne, every evening
Victor and Vivian are rivals. Both vow to love Eve forever.
But Eve is very vain, Vivienne is vivacious and full of verve.
Eventually, Victor gives Eve up and goes over to Vivienne, leaving Eve to Vivian.

3 3 333 3333 333333
θ Arthur Smith, a thick-set, healthy athlete sees three thieves throw a thong round
Thea's throat and threaten to throttle her. He throws one thug to earth with a
thud that shakes his teeth. Both the other thieves run off with a filthy oath. Thea
thanks Arthur for thrashing the three thugs.

f / θ

a laugh a lath a thin Finn
Frances has a First Francis has a thirst
Philip fought while Philippa thought
This useful thread is free. This youthful Fred is three.

θ

weather wreaths a feather a leather tether
These bathers are breathing through their mouths
Smooth breathing is rather soothing
These are three brothers This is their other brother
These are their father and mother

S

some spinsters several mice a saw a saucer seven sausages
Sue and Cecily are sisters.
Sue is sixteen this summer, Cecily was seventeen last Sunday
Sue is sowing grass seed.
She sees Cecily asleep with a glass of cider and a nice sixpenny ice by her side.
Sue slips across, sips the glass of cider and eats the ice.

Z

a zoo cages prison bars a zebra a zebu daisies
Zoe is visiting the zoo.
A lazy zebra called Desmond is dozing at the zoo.
He feels flies buzzing round his eyes, ears and nose.
He rouses, opens his eyes, rises and goes to Zoe.
Zoe is wearing a rose on her blouse. Zoe gives Desmond these buns.

θ / ð

a thumb a sum a mouth a mouse
a path a pass a race a wraith
The cook thickens the soup
The soup sickens the cook
The atheist has lost faith This Asiatic has lost face
The third Thursday of this month is the sixteenth
Mosquitoes are rising. The fishermen are writhing
an endless fence across the endless fens
a few pens costing a few pence

r a pair of robins a shipwrecked mariner a tree-trunk
a wreck
a rope rocks a rubber ring
This rusty wreck has run aground on the rocks of the Barrier Reef
Rowena is very rich and rides her mare in Rotten Row.

r Strawberries, raspberries and red-currants with real cream are really
very refreshing.
This train and its trucks are trapped by a tree-trunk across the track.
Three hundred readers used the library reading room in the period from
February to April, reports the librarian.

r / s rubbish Sheila a rash a shawl a traditional politician
This shop is a fish shop
six sheep a mission station in the bush
Sheila has just finished washing this sheet in her washing-machine
camouflage invasion a vision a tape measure treasure
rouge

w a window the Wild West a weeping willow
a wicked woman
a sweet white wine a wig
William is worried about woodworm in the woodwork of his wardrobe
Why wouldn't Walter wash with water that wasn't warm?
Walter works at a waxworks and wax won't wash off without warm
water

v / w a vale a whale a viper a wiper
a verse a worse verse
Why is the worse verse worse than the first verse?
William always wears a very warm woollen vest in winter
Victor, however, will never wear woolen underwear, even in the Wild
West