

Outcomes

Elementary – Pronunciation 3

Vowel sounds

We make vowel sounds by small changes to the tongue and mouth. The mouth gets rounder for the sounds towards the right of the chart.

/i:/ seat	/ɪ/ fish	/ʊ/ put	/u:/ true
/e/ bread	/ə/ agree	/ɜ:/ first	/ɔ:/ store
/æ/ match	/ʌ/ luck	/ɑ:/ half	/ɒ/ wrong

A 🎧 Listen and say the words and vowel sounds.

B Touch the end of your tongue and say the sounds.

🎧 Listen and say /i:/, /ɪ/, /ʊ/, /u:/. The tongue moves back.

🎧 Then listen and say /i:/, /e/, /æ/. The tongue moves down.

C Practise saying the other sounds. Go from left to right and then top to bottom in the table above.

D Work in pairs. Try to say these words.

- | | |
|-----------|----------------|
| 1 /pli:z/ | 5 /ɪm'pɔ:tənt/ |
| 2 /ɑ:t/ | 6 /ek'sæm/ |
| 3 /gʊd/ | 7 /'wʌŋ/ |
| 4 /lu:z/ | 8 /'kɒlɪdʒ/ |

E 🎧 Listen and check.

F Work in pairs. Practise saying these sentences. Who has good pronunciation?
Which sounds are difficult for you?

- 1 It's a very good school.
- 2 Young people have positive ideas.
- 3 Do you want a piece of bread with your meat?
- 4 Give me three or four red apples, please.
- 5 I had fish and chips for breakfast.
- 6 The first teacher we had was more patient.