

Outcomes

Pre-intermediate – Pronunciation 2

Words containing *o* or *u*

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The letters *o* and *u* can be pronounced in lots of different ways. For example, *golf* /gɒlf/ and *love* /lʌv/ or *upset* /ʌpset/ and *cure* /kjʊə/. Learning some phonetic symbols can help you because then you can find the pronunciation in a dictionary.

A 🔊 2.1 Listen and repeat the sounds and words below.

/ɒ/	golf	/ɜ:/	work
/u:/	pool	/ʊ/	put
/ʌ/	lovely	/əʊ/	throw
/ə/	spectator	/aʊ/	out
/ɔ:/	shorts	/ɔɪ/	boy

B In each group (1–7) below, four words have the same sound for the ‘o’ or ‘u’. Find the word in each group that has a different sound.

- 1 /ɒ/ concentrate / forest / cough / couple / foreign
- 2 /u:/ loser / remove / statue / mood / wood
- 3 /ʌ/ countryside / budget / brush / month / move
- 4 /ə/ season / recognise / swallow / contain / freedom
- 5 /ɔ:/ forecast / score / court / factory / shortage
- 6 /ɜ:/ burst / murder / worst / cause / survey
- 7 /ʊ/ put / flu / pull / full / wool
- 8 /əʊ/ mouth / boat / ocean / shoulder / progress
- 9 /aʊ/ doubt / launch / allow / town hall / ground
- 10 /ɔɪ/ noisy / annoy / voice / coincidence / avoid

C 🔊 2.2 Listen and check. You will hear the common sound first, then the four words with that sound and finally the word with the different sound.

D 🔊 2.3 You are going to hear eight groups of words. Listen and write them down. Then compare what you have written.

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____
- 7 _____
- 8 _____