

## 2. The ā sound (a)

Spellings for this sound are: ai, ay, a, eigh

ache	rate	aid	bait
participate	Saturday	freight	weight

### Exercise 1 (vowels)- The ā sound

**Instructions:** Read the sets of words to the students. Students should listen carefully to the two words. On the answer sheet, students should mark (circle or underline) A if the first word has the 'ā sound' or mark B if the second word has the 'ā sound'. If both words have the 'ā sound' in them- mark both.

**Note:** Use answer sheet 1 for this exercise. (in appendix)

<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>			
1. ate	ambulate	A	B	<b>Both</b>
2. balance	<b>bang</b>	A	<b>B</b>	Both
3. candle	<b>cadence</b>	A	<b>B</b>	Both
4. <b>Danish</b>	damper	<b>A</b>	B	Both
5. elongate	elate	A	B	<b>Both</b>
6. <b>fragrance</b>	fragile	<b>A</b>	B	Both
7. gigantic	<b>greater</b>	A	<b>B</b>	Both
8. hearsay	<b>holiday</b>	A	B	<b>Both</b>
9. <b>Irate</b>	irregular	<b>A</b>	B	Both
10. jackal	<b>jail</b>	A	<b>B</b>	Both
11. <b>knave</b>	kilowatt	<b>A</b>	B	Both
12. lamb	<b>ladle</b>	A	<b>B</b>	Both
13. <b>mandate</b>	manipulate	A	B	<b>Both</b>
14. <b>naval</b>	nearer	<b>A</b>	B	Both
15. pearl	<b>pair</b>	A	<b>B</b>	Both
16. <b>quake</b>	quiet	<b>A</b>	B	Both
17. radar	rake	A	B	<b>Both</b>
18. <b>satiate</b>	satisfy	<b>A</b>	B	Both
19. travel	<b>travail</b>	A	B	<b>Both</b>
20. <b>venerate</b>	veneer	<b>A</b>	B	Both
21. <b>wake</b>	woke	<b>A</b>	B	Both

## Exercise 2 (vowels)- The ā sound

**Instructions:** Read the three words to the students. Two words in the list have the 'ā sound', one does not. On the answer sheet, students should mark (circle or underline) the word **without** the 'ā sound' (A, B, or C).

**Note:** Use answer sheet 2 for this exercise. (in appendix)

<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>
1. <b>apple</b>	ailment	application
2. bakery	became	<b>balance</b>
3. <b>candle</b>	crayon	capitalization
4. <b>dandelion</b>	debilitate	dangerous
5. elation	<b>emery</b>	emanate
6. fragrance	favorite	<b>familiar</b>
7. gain	<b>granular</b>	glacier
8. hay	hairly	<b>handy</b>
9. insulate	<b>identify</b>	inoculate
10. jaybird	<b>January</b>	jade
11. ladle	litigate	<b>ladder</b>
12. <b>manicure</b>	mayday	migration
13. navigate	<b>nibble</b>	negation
14. operation	<b>obituary</b>	obligation
15. <b>primary</b>	palpitate	prayer
16. <b>restaurant</b>	radiology	reagent
17. sensational	standardization	<b>stamina</b>
18. <b>tremble</b>	trains	traitor
19. vaccination	<b>valor</b>	vacation
20. <b>wreckage</b>	waken	wage
21. yea	yesterday	<b>yelp</b>

### 3. The a sound (/a/)

Spellings for this sound are: a, ai

apple campus bad plaid

#### Exercise 1 (vowels)- The a sound

**Instructions:** Read the sets of words to the students. Students should listen carefully to the two words. On the answer sheet, students should mark (circle or underline) A if the first word has the 'a sound' or mark B if the second word has the 'a sound'. If both words have the 'a sound' in them- mark both.

**Note:** Use answer sheet 1 for this exercise. (in appendix)

<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>			
1. after	alter	<b>A</b>	B	Both
2. barn	banana	A	<b>B</b>	Both
3. candles	candy	A	B	<b>Both</b>
4. damage	data	A	B	<b>Both</b>
5. England	English	<b>A</b>	B	Both
6. fanatic	frank	A	B	<b>Both</b>
7. gamble	gram	A	B	<b>Both</b>
8. happen	hopping	<b>A</b>	B	Both
9. inane	inadequate	A	<b>B</b>	Both
10. jack	Japan	A	B	<b>Both</b>
11. kangaroo	karate	<b>A</b>	B	Both
12. lamb	lance	A	B	<b>Both</b>
13. matter	mutter	<b>A</b>	B	Both
14. napkin	narrate	A	B	<b>Both</b>
15. paper	package	A	<b>B</b>	Both
16. quack	quake	<b>A</b>	B	Both
17. rancid	ransack	A	B	<b>Both</b>
18. trailer	transit	A	<b>B</b>	Both
19. validate	victory	<b>A</b>	B	Both
20. wagon	wager	<b>A</b>	B	Both

## Exercise 2 (vowels)- The a sound

**Instructions:** Read the three words to the students. Two words in the list have the 'a sound', one does not. On the answer sheet, students should mark (circle or underline) the word **without** the 'a sound' (A, B, or C).

**Note:** Use answer sheet 2 for this exercise. (in appendix)

<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>
1. ample	<b>ace</b>	apply
2. <b>barn</b>	baboon	balance
3. cramped	canyon	<b>creature</b>
4. dangle	<b>dream</b>	dandy
5. encampment	<b>emotion</b>	emanate
6. France	famine	<b>fame</b>
7. gamut	grandeur	<b>gracious</b>
8. hamster	<b>hater</b>	handler
9. <b>impairment</b>	impact	interaction
10. jam	<b>January</b>	jamboree
11. lantern	<b>labor</b>	land
12. maniacal	manner	<b>mainstay</b>
13. navigator	<b>Naples</b>	nab
14. olfactory	<b>opinion</b>	opacity
15. pram	palpitation	<b>primate</b>
16. <b>rain</b>	react	rattle
17. statue	standard	<b>staple</b>
18. tramp	<b>trailer</b>	tambourine
19. vacillate	valium	<b>vain</b>
20. <b>weaken</b>	wag	wake
21. yam	<b>yep</b>	yap

The drills and exercises for these paired consonants are presented together so the students more easily note the differences.

## 1. B and P Sounds

The 'b' sound (/b/) bit cab labor baby bondable baboon

The 'p' sound (/p/) pie top lapse pepper lapse top

### Exercise 1 (consonants)- b and p sounds

**Instructions:** Read the pair of words to the students. On their answer sheets, students should mark (circle or underline) whether the words are the same or different.

**Note:** Use answer sheet 4 for this exercise. (in appendix)

- |     |          |          |
|-----|----------|----------|
| 1.  | pop      | pop      |
| 2.  | Bop      | bob      |
| 3.  | plot     | blot     |
| 4.  | pit      | bit      |
| 5.  | bat      | bat      |
| 6.  | clop     | clop     |
| 7.  | cap      | cop      |
| 8.  | cab      | cab      |
| 9.  | fob      | fop      |
| 10. | nab      | nab      |
| 11. | betting  | petting  |
| 12. | dumper   | dumper   |
| 13. | clabber  | clapper  |
| 14. | imbibe   | imbibe   |
| 15. | brawny   | brawny   |
| 16. | crabbed  | crapped  |
| 17. | coping   | coping   |
| 18. | boring   | pouring  |
| 19. | labels   | lapels   |
| 20. | gripping | gripping |

## Exercise 2 (consonants)- b and p sounds

**Instructions:** Read each of the words to the students. On their answer sheets, the students should mark (circle or underline) whether the word has a 'b' or 'p' sound.

**Note:** Use the answer sheet below for this exercise.

1. bail	11. pail	21. prim	31. brim
2. band	12. pond	22. bring	32. ping
3. bough	13. pout	23. cap	33. cob
4. drab	14. prop	24. loop	34. herb
5. slab	15. slap	25. scrub	35. sup
6. sabbatical	16. serpent	26. rupture	36. robber
7. dapper	17. flapper	27. leopard	37. mandible
8. haberdashery	18. haphazard	28. embodiment	38. epinephrine
9. grapple	19. whippets	29. kippers	39. nebula
10. rambunctious	20. rapport	30. nipple	40. chamber

### Answer Sheet , exercise 2 (b and p sounds)

1. b p	11. b p	21. b p	31. b p
2. b p	12. b p	22. b p	32. b p
3. b p	13. b p	23. b p	33. b p
4. b p	14. b p	24. b p	34. b p
5. b p	15. b p	25. b p	35. b p
6. b p	16. b p	26. b p	36. b p
7. b p	17. b p	27. b p	37. b p
8. b p	18. b p	28. b p	38. b p
9. b p	19. b p	29. b p	39. b p
10. b p	20. b p	30. b p	40. b p

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1. bail	11. pail	21. prim	31. brim
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9. grapple	19. whippets	29. kippers	39. nebula
10. rambunctious	20. rapport	30. nipple	40. chamber

### Answer Sheet , exercise 2 (b and p sounds)

1. b p	11. b p	21. b p	31. b p
2. b p	12. b p	22. b p	32. b p
3. b p	13. b p	23. b p	33. b p
4. b p	14. b p	24. b p	34. b p
5. b p	15. b p	25. b p	35. b p
6. b p	16. b p	26. b p	36. b p
7. b p	17. b p	27. b p	37. b p
8. b p	18. b p	28. b p	38. b p
9. b p	19. b p	29. b p	39. b p
10. b p	20. b p	30. b p	40. b p

## Flaps

Of one these changes is called a flap. A flap occurs when a t comes between two vowels. The pronunciation of the t in these incidences sound like a d and is said very quickly.

water becomes wader  
bottle becomes boddle

letter becomes ledder  
butter becomes budder

### Drill 1 (for flaps)

**Instructions:** Have the students repeat the following sentences to practice hearing and pronouncing the flap. The teacher may want to break the sentences up into smaller chunks (between slash marks) so it is easier for beginning students. Listen to the students carefully and correct any problems encountered.

1. Cattle/ in fetters/ can't motor/ in gutters
2. Hotter/ buttered/ batter is better
3. The pitter patter/ of mad hatters/ is nettlesome
4. Baby sitters/ stutter when tattling
5. Little liter/ bottles of water/ are dated
6. Betty and Katie/ chatter like critters
7. Dottie whittles/ kettles and putters
8. Don't mutter/ when eating/ patties of brittle
9. Hitters get Jitters/ when battling at the plate
10. Don't meddle/ in a nutty/ looter's matters
11. Go getters/ never mutter/ when settling matters
12. Utterly bitter/ nettles are better/ with butter
13. A wetter/ hotter metal/ is better
14. Fatter fritters/ are vital vittles/ for Mattie
15. Tittering Betty/ knitted pretty/ patterns
16. Huts with shutters/ deter petty/ squatters
17. Tattered patterned/ pottery clutters/ Kitties yard
18. Nutty voters/ noted glittering/ letters on the ballot
19. The crater is glittered/ and dotted with otters
20. Cotters used in fetters/ clatter and rattle/ when patted



## Reductions

Sometimes native speakers reduce the sounds of some words or eliminate certain letters entirely when spoken.

These reductions occur with:

the letter h  
the word and  
the word for

the word of  
the word or

## H reductions

In function words that begin with the letter 'h', the 'h' sound is often dropped. Function words are the least important words in a sentence. (see section on intonation for more information)

Look at these examples.

Why have you come becomes  
What is he doing becomes  
She did not love him becomes

why 'ave you come.  
what is 'e doing  
she did not love 'im.

### Drill (h reductions)

**Instructions:** Have the students repeat the following sentences to practice hearing and pronouncing the h reduction. The teacher may want to break the sentences up into smaller chunks (between slash marks) so it is easier for beginning students. Practice saying the following sentences by dropping the h sound in the function words.

1. Why are his brother/ and her sister leaving?
2. Sam has blue eyes/ and Gina has red hair.
3. I don't have any money/ and haven't had any.
4. Mr. Phillips didn't have/ his car.
5. He gave her a present, /but it was from him.
6. He didn't love her,/ but she loved him.
7. Why is his boss redecorating her apartment?
8. When he is in one of his moods, never speak to him.
9. Tell her to come to his house..
10. I don't like either him or her.
11. He doesn't have any potatoes, but he has carrots.
12. Her boss and his accountant have an appointment at his lawyer's office.
13. When he got to his front door, it was open.
14. If he didn't have his health he didn't have anything.
15. She could have helped her self, but didn't.