

# IIT Madras

## ONLINE DEGREE

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# **LONG VOWELS**

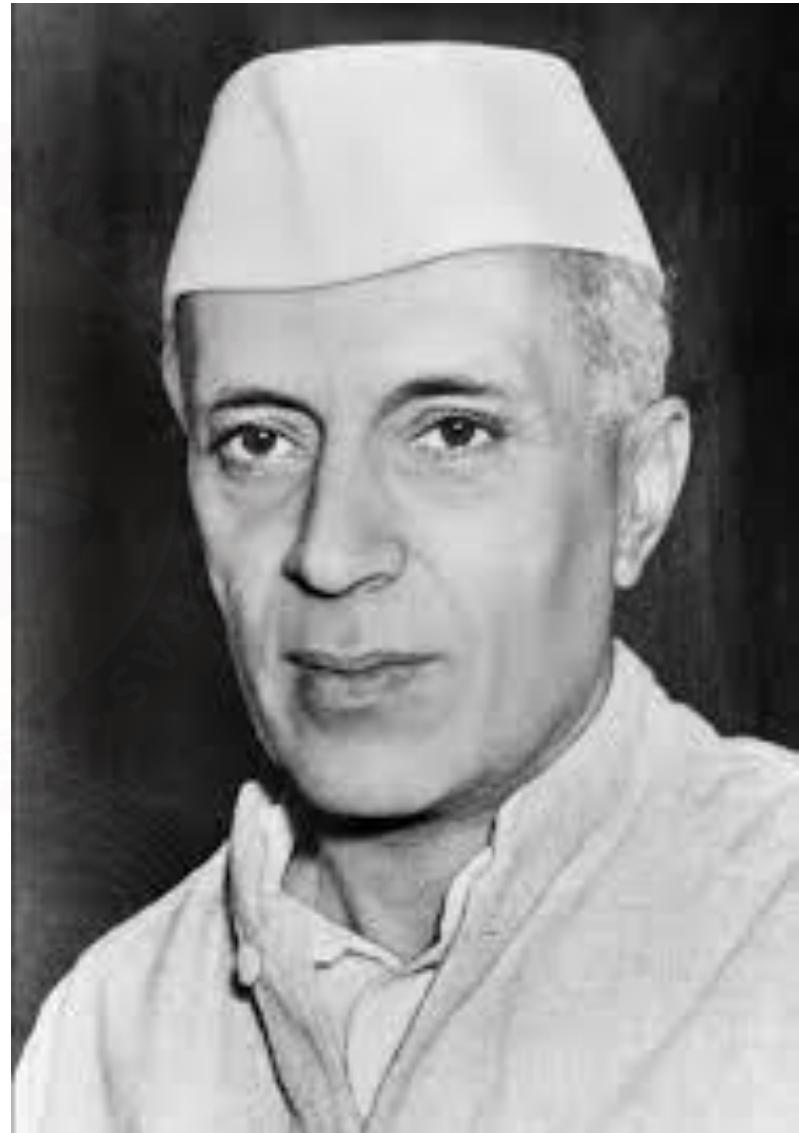
- After pauses and stresses, it is the length of vowel sound that makes a rhythm.
- We have already seen the features of vowel and consonant sounds.
- An important feature of vowel sounds is their length.

- In standard varieties of English, there may be up to 20 vowel sounds. At least 12 of them are long.
- Listen, for instance, to Jawaharlal Nehru's speech on the freedom of India.

- As you listen to the speech, you can mark stresses.
- You can underline the long vowels.
- Compare your work with the sample we have created, but first listen to the speech without the text, and then with the text.

# Jawaharlal Nehru (1889 – 1964)

- Nehru was the first Prime minister if India.
- This speech was given by him at midnight of 14-15 August 1947 in the constituent assembly, New Delhi.



# **LONG YEARS AGO...**

**Video link:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lrEkYscgbqE>

Please watch the section 00:00 – 01:19

**Source:** Xplorer India (Youtube)

**Video description:** Jawaharlal Nehru's speech on the freedom of India.

We are using 1.19 minutes of this video for academic purposes.

# TRANSCRIPT

Long years ago we made a tryst with destiny, and now the time comes when we shall redeem our pledge, not wholly or in full measure, but very substantially. At the stroke of the midnight hour, when the world sleeps, India will awake to life and freedom. A moment comes, which comes but rarely in history, when we step out from the old to the new, when an age ends, and when the soul of a nation, long suppressed, finds utterance. It is fitting that at this solemn moment we take the pledge of dedication to the service of India and her people and to the still larger cause of humanity.

# ACTIVITY

- Listen to the speech now and underline all the syllables with long vowel sounds.

# STRESSED SYLLABLES

Long years ago we made a tryst with ‘destiny, and now the time comes when we shall re’deem our pledge, not ‘wholly or in full ‘measure, but very subs’tantially. At the stroke of the ‘midnight hour, when the world sleeps, India will a‘wake to life and ‘freedom. A ‘moment comes, which comes but ‘rarely in ‘history, when we step out from the old to the new, when an age ends, and when the soul of a ‘nation, long sup’pressed, finds u’tterance. It is ‘fitting that at this ‘solemn ‘moment we take the pledge of ‘dedication to the ‘service of ‘India and her ‘people and to the still ‘larger cause of hu’manity.

# LONG VOWELS ARE UNDERLINED

Long years ago we made a tryst with destiny, and now the time comes when we shall redeem our pledge, not wholly or in full measure, but very substantially. At the stroke of the midnight hour, when the world sleeps, India will awake to life and freedom. A moment comes, which comes but rarely in history, when we step out from the old to the new, when an age ends, and when the soul of a nation, long suppressed, finds utterance. It is fitting that at this solemn moment we take the pledge of dedication to the service of India and her people and to the still larger cause of humanity.

# ACTIVITY

Listen to the speech by Barack Obama

- a. Underline long vowels
- b. Mark stresses
- c. Prepare a spoken summary of this speech. What the speaker has said in three minutes, should be summarized in about one third of the original.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ueMNqdB1QIE>

Please watch the section 00:00 – 3:00 minutes

Thank you!