

Lesson 10

Part 1: BUT / BOOT / FOOT

Today we'll practice three very similar sounds in the words but $/ \Lambda /$, boot / u:/, and

Foot/U/. The key difference between these 3 sounds is in the position of your lips.







BUT FOOT BOOT

- In the word **but**, your lips are relaxed.
- In the word **foot,** your lips come forward a bit.
- In the word **boot**, your lips come together and forward even

more. Watch me and repeat the sounds:

UH-

BUT U

- FOOT

00 -

BOOT



Let's practice the sound in **but**:

- <u>u</u>p
- under
- much
- c<u>o</u>me
- y<u>ou</u>ng
- does
- bl**oo**d
- wh<u>a</u>t
- <u>a</u>ppear

You can see that there are a few different ways to spell this sound. One interesting thing is that the letter "A" in unstressed syllables has this same "UH" sound – as in the words **appear**, **about**, **again**, and **away**.

Let's practice the sound in **foot:**

- b**oo**k
- t<u>oo</u>k
- g<u>oo</u>d
- p<u>u</u>t
- f<u>u</u>ll
- w<u>o</u>man
- c<u>oul</u>d
- sh<u>oul</u>d
- w<u>oul</u>d

I want to call particular attention to the word **woman**, because there's often confusion about the pronunciation. The singular form is pronounced "WUH – min," and the plural form is pronounced "WI – min."

Here are some words with the same sound as in **boot**:

- t<u>o</u>
- wh<u>o</u>
- m<u>o</u>ve



- r<u>u</u>le
- bl<u>ue</u>
- f<u>oo</u>d
- sch<u>oo</u>l
- p<u>oo</u>l
- n<u>ew</u>
- j<u>ew</u>el
- gr<u>**ou**</u>p
- r<u>ou</u>tine
- s<u>ou</u>p
- fr<u>ui</u>t
- cr<u>ue</u>l

Most of the difficulty in distinguishing these three sounds comes from the spelling of the words:

Spelling →	00	U	OU
Sound 1: BUT	blood	bus	young
Sound 2: FOOT	book	push	
Sound 3: BOOT	boot	rude	group
			round (OW sound: tomorrow)

To practice, we're going to do ten exercises of "Which word is different?" You'll have seven seconds to decide - before I say the words and the answer appears.



- 1. BUT: come / son / number / nuclear
- 2. **BUT:** publish / good / couple / flood
- 3. **BUT:** suddenly / done / touch / coupon
- 4. **FOOT:** cook / food / wood / bullet
- 5. **FOOT:** stupid / put / full / took
- 6. **FOOT:** double / could / stood / look
- 7. **BOOT:** room / push / soup / juice
- 8. **BOOT:** true / move / lucky / view
- 9. **BOOT:** moon / although / through / shoe
- 10. **BOOT:** bus / roof / who / suit

Homework:

10: Part 1- Record yourself reading these sentences:

Focus on **BUT**:

- My mother and brother love money very much.
- This country sometimes doesn't punish young troublemakers.
- We had fun in the sun with a couple of our cousins.

Focus on **FOOT**:

- Look in the cookbook for a pudding recipe with no sugar.
- The woman stood on one foot.
- I took the cushion and put it on the wooden chair.

Focus on **BOOT**:

- Julia's blue shoes are near the pool.
- The food at the school will improve soon.
- I always ch<u>oo</u>se the n<u>ew</u> fr<u>ui</u>t j<u>ui</u>ce to b<u>oo</u>st my energy.



Lesson 10 Part 2: HELL / WELL / YELL

In today's lesson, you're going to practice the **H**/**h**/, **W**/**W**/, and **Y**/**j**/ sounds in **hell**, **well**, and **yell**.

As you can see, the starting mouth positions for these three sounds are very different – for the H sound, your mouth is open. At the beginning of the W sound, your lips are very close together. And at the beginning of the Y sound, your lips are open and wide.







H-HELL

W - WELL

Y - YELL

Let's practice each sound and the sounds that are easily confused with them.

Practice these words with H:

- φ. **<u>h</u>ere**
- κ. **<u>h</u>**im
- λ. <u>h</u>elp
- μ. **h**air
- ν. **h**ave
- o. **h**eart



- π . **h**ot
- θ. **<u>h</u>**ope
- ρ. **h**unt
- σ. **wh**o
- τ. **wh**ose
- ບ. <u>wh</u>ole
- ϖ . a**h**ead
- ω . be**h**ind
- ξ . in**h**erit
- ψ. in**h**abit
- ζ . in**h**ale

This sound is always spelled with the letter **H**. In the majority of words beginning with WH, it sounds like W – **what, when, where**. But there are a few exceptions in which the W is silent – **who, whose, and whole**.

There are also some words that have a **silent H** in English – such as **hour, honor, honest, herb,** and **heir.**

The H sound is very soft, so it's easy to confuse words with H and words with no H – such as **hair** and **air**. Practice these pairs of words to help make the difference:

```
\alpha\alpha. hair / air
```

 $\beta\beta$. hall / all

 $\chi\chi$. heat / eat

 $\delta\delta$.heart / art

εε. hear/ ear

 $\phi\phi$. hand / and

γγ. harm / arm

ηη. hat / at

ιι. hedge / edge

φφ. high / eye

κκ. hold / old\



Practice these words with W:

 $\lambda\lambda$. **w**eek

μμ. **wh**eel

νν. **w**ind

00. <u>w</u>ild

 $\pi\pi$. **w**est

 $\theta\theta$. worse

ρρ. <u>w</u>ay

σσ. **wh**y

ττ. one

υυ. once

ច្ច s<u>w</u>im

ωω. s**w**ear

ξξ.s**w**allow

ψψ. t<u>w</u>ice

ζζ.t**w**eak

This sound is spelled with W. Remember that in the majority of words beginning with WH, you pronounce only the W and not the H – as in **wheel** and **why.** The words **one** and **once** are interesting because they begin with a W sound even though there's no W in the written form.

Remember from a previous lesson that words with **QU** also contain this sound. QU is pronounced KW, so it's *kwestion* and not *kestion*:

```
\alpha\alpha\alpha. quip, queen, quirk, quota \beta\beta\beta. earth quake, request, equal
```

English learners sometimes confuse ${\bf W}$ with ${\bf R}$, so let's practice some pairs of

words with this difference:

Practice the difference: W and R

Be Huent ~

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χχχ. raise / ways δδδ. rare / wear εεε. read / weed φφφ. right / white γγγ. run / won ηηη. crest / quest ιιι.room / womb φφφ. rip / whip

Which word do I say?

κκκ. rake / wake $\lambda\lambda\lambda$. real / wheel $\mu\mu\mu$. ride / wide $\nu\nu$. rich / which ooo. rest / west

Practice these words with Y:

πππ. **v**ear $\theta\theta\theta$. **v**esterday ρρρ. **<u>v</u>**ellow σσσ. **v**ard **v**awn τττ. υυυ. **v**oung യയ. **y**olk ωωω. <u>v</u>ou $\xi\xi\xi$. use ψψψ. unit ζζζ. uniform $\alpha\alpha\alpha\alpha$.be $\underline{\mathbf{v}}$ ond ββββ. can**y**on χχχχ. human δδδδ. music

~ Be Fluent ~

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The words **use**, **unit**, **uniform**, **human** and **music** are interesting, because there's no Y in the written form, but the pronunciation includes an "invisible" Y sound before the U.

USE

Incorrect: ooz

Correct: yooz

MUSIC

Incorrect: *moo - zik*

Correct: myoo - zik

Here are some more words with the "invisible Y" sound:

εεεε. uniform

φφφφ. university

γγγγ. community

ηηη. ridiculous

1111. continue

φφφφ. issue

кккк. reunion

λλλλ. distribute

μμμμ. regular

νννν. huge

oooo. cute

ππππ. fuel

Practice the difference: Y and W

 $\theta\theta\theta\theta$. yet / wet

ρρρρ. your / wore

σσσσ. year / we're



ττττ. you / woo υυυυ. yonder / wander

Practice Sentences

Try these practice sentences – once slowly, and once fast.

Focus on H:

 $\varpi \varpi \varpi \varpi$. **H**elen **h**as **h**ardly any **h**air on her **h**ead.

You might notice that when we say sentence #3 fast, the H sound in the word **her** disappears – "on her" sounds like "oner." We'll study this in a later lesson.

Focus on W:

ωωωω. <u>Wh</u>ich <u>w</u>atch is <u>W</u>illiam <u>w</u>earing?

ξξξξ. Focus on Y:

The **v**oung **v**oga teacher **v**elled at the **v**awning student.

Focus on M:

 α . **M**ary re**m**e**m**bers **m**any **m**e**m**orable **m**oments from the summer.

Focus on N:

 β . Nancy never noticed the nine new neon signs.

Focus on NG:

 χ . The you**ng** woman with lo**ng** hair sa**ng** the wro**ng** so**ng**.



Homework: 10:

Part 2- Record yourself reading these sentences:

Focus on H:

 $\Psi\Psi\Psi\Psi$. **H**arry **h**id the **h**elmet be**h**ind the **h**ouse on the **h**ill.

 $\zeta \zeta \zeta \zeta$. **Wh**o can **h**elp **H**annah **h**old that **h**uge **h**ammer?

 $\alpha\alpha\alpha\alpha\alpha$. Helen has hardly any hair on her head.

Focus on W:

βββββ. **Wh**ich **w**atch is **W**illiam **w**earing?

χχχχχ. I <u>w</u>onder <u>wh</u>ether <u>w</u>e <u>w</u>on.

δδδδ. <u>W</u>endy's <u>w</u>orried that the <u>w</u>indy <u>w</u>eather <u>w</u>ill <u>w</u>orsen next

week. Focus on Y:

εεεεε. You used your yellow uniform yesterday.

 $\phi \phi \phi \phi \phi$. The **v**oung **v**oga teacher **v**elled at the **v**awning student.

γγγγγ. The comm**u**nity distrib**u**ted the f**u**el in h**u**ge tanks.

Focus on M:

- δ. **M**ary re**m**embers **m**any **m**emorable **m**oments from the summer.
- ε. I'<u>m m</u>ad that Sa<u>m</u>'s <u>m</u>o<u>m m</u>ade <u>m</u>e et hi<u>m</u>.
- φ. It's time for the team to come into the room.

Focus on N:

- γ . **N**a**n**cy **n**ever **n**oticed the **n**i**n**e **n**ew **n**eo**n** si**gn**s.
- η . **N**o**n**e of the **n**apki**n**s are made of **n**ylo**n**.
- ι. The **n**orther**n n**atio**n**s ofte**n n**eed to**n**s of grai**n**.

Focus on NG:

- φ. The you**ng** woman with lo**ng** hair sa**ng** the wro**ng** so**ng**.
- κ . The swings hung from rings in the ceiling.
- λ . Please bri**ng** the thi**ng**s to the weddi**ng**.

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References:

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