

# **PHONETICS**

## **VOWEL SOUNDS**

**Prepared by----**

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# Vowel sounds (20)

- Vowel sounds are those which are uttered without any obstruction of air.
- **Monophthongs/pure** vowel sounds--- They are **single vowel sounds.** They are **12** in number
- Diphthongs/impure vowel sounds/glides---  
**A diphthong is a combination of two vowel sounds.** They are **8** in number.

# Monophthongs (12)

1. /i:/ --heat, beat, feat
2. /ɪ/ -- hit, sit, clip
3. /e/ -- net, bet, let
4. /æ/ -- bat, cat, lad
5. /ɜ:/ --burn, turn, earn
6. /ə/ --about, alone, away
7. /ʌ/ --mutton, cut, crust
8. /ɒ/ -- not, cot, lot
9. /ɔ:/ --bought, caught, ought
10. /ʊ/ --put, should, foot
11. /u:/ -- cool, tool, rule
12. /a:/ -- ask, heart, mask

# Diphthongs (8)

1. /eɪ/ --- tail, sail, nail, rail, main
2. /aɪ/ --- sight, right, might, night, blithe
3. /ɔɪ/ --- boil, coil, soil, toil
4. /ɪə/ --- hear, near, fear, clear
5. /ʊə/ --- poor, sure, cure, tour
6. /eə/ --- bare, care, fare, rare
7. /əʊ/ --- go, no, so, row, low
8. /aʊ/ --- how, cloud, clout, now, bow

## DIPHTHONGS

/eɪ/ as in 'take'

/aɪ/ as in 'buy'

/ɔɪ/ as in 'boy'

/ɪə/ as in 'fear'

/eə/ as in 'care'

/əʊ/ as in 'go'

/ʊə/ as in 'poor'

/aʊ/ as in 'cow'

- sail, rail, mail, tail
- fight, cry, right, sight
- boil, coil, toil
- hear, near, clear, tear
- bare, rare, fare, fair
- so, go, row, no, foe
- tour, cure, sure,
- cloud, clout, now, fowl

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- <https://www.englishbix.com/12-pure-vowel-sounds-examples/>