

Open Front Vowels

æ & ε

Minimal Pairs						
	æ	ε			æ	ε
1	bad	bed		16	flash	flesh
2	man	men		17	gas	guess
3	and	end		18	gnat	net
4	axe	X		19	land	lend
5	bag	beg		20	shall	shell
6	had	head		21	spanned	spend
7	ham	hem		22	bland	blend
8	jam	gem		23	cattle	kettle
9	pan	pen		24	dab	Deb
10	pat	pet		25	flax	flex
11	sad	said		26	frat	fret
12	sat	set		27	rabble	rebel
13	band	bend		28	tamper	temper
14	bat	bet		29	trad	tread
15	dad	dead		30	vat	vet

Practice phrases:

1. Set a mat on the sand and get a tan.
2. Mend ten black pairs of pants for seven men in a van.
3. He cashed his check, fetched a tent he could mend and camped on a patch of grass in back of the shed.

Practice exchange:

M: You should get a pet, Pat.
P: I've got a pet, Max. I have a cat.
M: That terrible black cat out back?
P: Terrible?
M: That smelly cat?
P: Alice is an elegant cat. The best cat!
M: Mm. Well, perhaps that cat at the back isn't Alice.
P: Alice! Here, kitty! Alice! Alice, you haven't met Max. Now Max, this is Alice.
M: Yes, Pat. [sniffs] Yes, that's Alice.