

clarity and authenticity

A Simplified Cockney Dialect

I – Consonant Changes:

1. **Drop initial H's**

Hat, home, hot, house, hello, Harry
How, hide, Henry, home, prohibit, rehearse, inhale

What's so hideous about your hound, Henry?
Hey, Harry, hey – listen here to her!

2. **Final L's – thick, dark with rounded lips (like a "w")**

Pill, hail, chill, sell, build, conceal
Will, build, pal, hill, still, conceal

Well, there's a pal.
Health will tell.

3. **T's – between vowels, final and followed by a pause – uses a glottal stop. ****

City, little, mitten, water, pity, great, got
It is a matter of little importance.
Little, bottle, rot, glottis, pretty, literary, gentleman, citizen, knit, got

The tittle-tattle paid off for pretty Betty.
You've got a lot of nerve to close the glottis.

(**The glottal stop is made by contracting the glottis, as if compressing the air or sound below, and then abruptly opening the glottis, letting the air or sound out. Alone it sounds like a grunt.)

4. **ING becomes IN'**

Talking, walking, laughing, making, doing, sitting, carrying, providing.

Walking, running, hopping, feeling
Talking and hitting and hurting.

5. **Final R's - (if not followed by a vowel sound) are dropped**

Car, fear, poor, peer, pair, governor (gov'ner)

If R is between 2 vowel sounds, pronounce a "hard" R, linking it directly into the following vowel.

Very, morale, spirit, merry, sorry

These chores bore me more and more each morning.
Year after year, Murray has to be carried out for imbibing too many spirits.

II – Vowel Changes:

1. **AY (“hey”) becomes EYE (“hi”)**
stay, lay, obey, mail, educate, paper, sail, tail, rain, save, place,
name, break, obtain, paper, stranger, great, able, representation, Shakespeare

It was a great shame the paper got lost in the rain.
Shakespeare is an able representation in the case.
2. **EYE (“tie”) becomes OY (“toy”)**
mine, try, fine, buy, invite, night, five, rhyme, tiger
sign, night, time, buy, why, light, like, dry, crime

We had a right fine time.
At night, Eliza signs the pipe.
3. **OH (“home”) becomes OW (“how”)(think Philly!)**
So, no, dough, alone, oh, boat, go
Go, don’t, stone, slow, old, over, staccato

Don’t throw the stone at Joe.
He told the old gentleman to hold the rope.
4. **OW (“how”) becomes a combination of the vowel sound in “hAd” plus “OO”**
Cow, allow, vow, brow, stout, how, now
Soud, down, now, found, about, proud, flower

There’s always an house about town.
About now, the mouse has got the flower.
5. **EE (“Lee”) becomes uh-EE**
Be, me, seen, believe, complete, treat, knee, see speak, tea, sieze, Japanese, eat,
need

The bee did not like my tea.
She beat the tree with a key.
6. **OO (“you”) becomes uh-OO**
Doom, you, move, blue, too, boot, who, boost, coo, prove, cool, rule

Coo, it’s too cool to put the glue through.
Who gave the boot to the youth?
7. **Some words with flat A (“ask”) become AH (“father”) - See “Ask Word List”**
Ask, bath, fast, answer, basket, can’t, dance, aunt
It’s half past five in the afternoon.
Did the staff take advantage of the crafts?

If flat A (“ask”) is not on the list, no change is made!
Fancy, pants, miraculous, gather, damsel, ant

A SIMPLIFIED STANDARD BRITISH DIALECT

A. Specific Sound Substitutions

(æ)

1. The "ask-list" - "a" is pronounced as "ah"

ask, answer, after, half, past, bath, demand, disaster, master, command, castle, vantage, France, example

Father passed down the primrose path.

The pastor asked that the answer be given by half-past four.

I can't get the ant off the basket, but Auntie can.

2. "aw" uses much more lip rounding.

all, law, ought, off, abroad, falls, George, horse, remorse, pause, hawk, talk, stall, Paul, wall

All that fear the law ought not to be caught.

After the falls, Paul felt remorse for his daughter left at the resort in Albany.

They saw that the water ought not to stain the wall in the loft.

3. y-endings are pronounced as a short unstressed "ih"

ability, necessity, policy, many, vary, funny, lovely, rarely, cautiously, carefully, hilly

The lovely lady had many friendly calls on Friday.

It was really, awfully silly of Mary to marry Harry.

Obstinacy in diplomacy is not always the best policy.

4. the diphthong "oh" becomes əu

so, don't, go, told, over, holy, omit, most, moment, tone

He was told to row over the river.

She did not know she possessed the old and holy stone.

...? the most cones at the last moment.

5. -ary, -ery, -ory word endings əri

secretary, necessary, evolutionary, cemetery, laboratory, satisfactory

My secretary has not been revolutionary for the last half century.

It is not necessary to go to the elementary conservatory.

6. Liquid "u" - "oo" becomes "yoo"

Duke, duplicity, new, Tuesday, beauty, student

The new duke came on Tuesday.

The duplicity was due to the students' stupidity.

7. No r-coloring – “r” is only pronounced when before another vowel sound.

observe, short, word, bird, Portia,

hard, car, far, her, slur, are,

year, there, here, after, empire, prefer, matter, letter, your

*keep strong
down & relaxed*

Neither the orchestra or the organ were heard on Friday.

The car struck the bar with a fearful jar.

We were there, year after year.

The letters were sent here and there about the Empire.

8. Crisp syllables – especially with medial “r” and “t”

very, sorry, character, mirror, variant, merry, paragraph (character, little, better)

Harry was very sorry about the loss of the terrier.

Every variant was a cause for worry to Harry.

*optional: *tap* r is :
vedy*

9. Special pronunciations

privacy, issue, figure, patent, clerk, Derby, laboratory, hostile, process, nephew,

schedule, been,

clerk Derby

nephew

again, either, neither

Every schedule has been set by a special process.

We must either settle the issue about the patent in the laboratory or go over it again and again.

The nephew followed the figure of the clerk at the Derby.

10. London Place Names

Royal Albert Hall, Old Bailey, St. Paul, Beaux belle, Soho, Berkeley Square,

Grosvenor Square, Leicester Square, Haymarket Theater, Bayswater Road, ?,

Thames River

THE "ASK LIST"

(æ) - **a** - *Standard American*

ɑ: - *Standard British, London working class, South African, etc...*

abaft	castoff	enhance	hasp
advance	castor	ensample	headmaster
advantage	castor-oil	entrance	hereafter
aft	cenotaph	epigraph	impassable
after	chaff	epitaph	implant
"after" prefixes	chaffer	everlasting	indraught
aghast	chance	example	lance
alabaster	chancel	Falstaff	lance-corporal
alas	chancer	fast	lancer
answer	chancery	fasten	last
ask	Chandler	"fast" suffixes	lath
aunt	chant	flabbergast	lather
autograph	Chantrey	Flanders	laugh
avalanche	chanty	flask	laughter
avast	clasp	forecast	mask
bask	class	France	masking
basket	classroom	Francies	masque
bath	classy	Francis	mast
bathroom	command	freelance	master
behalf	commander	gasp	"master" prefixes
blanch	counterblast	gasping	suffixes
Blanche	craft	ghastlier	masterpiece
blast	craftsmen	ghastly	masthead
blastment	"craft"	giraffe	mastiff
branch	suffixes	glance	mischance
brass	daft	glass	mooncalf
brass-hat	daftest	glassful	mooncalves
brassie	dance	glassier	nastier
brassy	dancer	graft	nasty
broadcast	deathmask	"graft" suffixes	outcast
calf	demand	grafted	outclass
calve	disadvantage	grant	outlast
can't	disaster	granted	overcast
cask	disastrously	graph	overglance
casket	distaff	"graph"	overtask
cast	downcast	suffixes	paragraph
castaway	downdraught	Grasmere	passes
caste	draft	grasp	passable
caster	"draught"	grass	passbook
Castelnau	prefixes	grasshopper	passer
casting	encephalograph	grassy	passerby
casting-vote	enchant	half	passkey
cast-iron	enchantment	"half" prefixes	passman
castle	enclasp	halve	Passover
Castlebar	engraft	handicraft	past

past-master
pastor
pastoral
pastorate
pasturage
pasture
path
pathfinder
pathway
perchance
planch
planchette
plant
plaster
prance
prancer
quaff
quaffed
quaffer
quaffing
raft
rafter
rascal

rasp
raspberries
raspiness
rather
recast
repass
repast
repasture
reprimand
reprimanding
salve
salving
sample
sampler
schoolmaster
shaft
Shaftesbury
shan't
slander
slanderer
slandorous
slant
slantwise

staff
staffing
stagecraft
stanch
stanching
stanchion
statecraft
steadfast
steadfastness
supplant
surpass
surpassingly
taft
tafting
task
tasked
taskmaster
taskmistress
telecast
telegraph
thereafter
topmast
trance

transplant
transplantable
trespass
trespassing
unstanch
unsurpassed
upcast
vantage
vast
vaster
vastest
vastness
vasty
waft
waftage
wafted
wafting
witchcraft
wrath
wrathful