

# Vowels

A, E, I, O, U + Y

## Tense vowels

- Articulate your words using your mouth muscles
- /ɑ/, /ɔ/, /u/, /i/, /ɛ/, /æ/, etc.

## Lax vowels

- Relax your mouth muscles as you speak: /ə/, /ɪ/, /ʊ/
- *Vowel Reduction* typically occurs when tense vowels are unstressed.

## Diphthongs:

- A combination of two or more vowels. *Vowel Reduction* does not occur here!

### Tense Vowels

bee	/i/
bat	/æ/
bah	/ɑ/
but	/ʌ/
bow	/o/
bore	/ɔ/
boo	/u/

### Lax Vowels

/ə/	list <u>e</u> n, butt <u>e</u> r
/ɪ/	<u>e</u> quipment, <u>b</u> elieve
/ʊ/	p <u>u</u> sh, f <u>u</u> ll
/ɛ/	<u>b</u> est fri <u>e</u> nds
word ends with 'r' ?	
+ /ər/	me <u>r</u> e, ma <u>r</u> e, mo <u>r</u> e
word ends with 'l' ?	
+ /əl/ or /ʊl/	mea <u>l</u> , mu <u>l</u> e, ma <u>l</u> e, mi <u>l</u>

## Diphthongs

I like <u>pie</u>	/aɪ/
day, pay	/eɪ/
low	/oʊ/
how	/aʊ/
boy	/ɔɪ/
man	/ɛə/
look, good	/ʊə/

## 'Y' Sounds

/j/	<u>y</u> ou, sec <u>u</u> re, val <u>ue</u>
/z/ + /j/ = /ʒ/	a <u>z</u> ure, clos <u>u</u> re
/s/ + /j/ = /ʃ/	<u>s</u> ure, fis <u>s</u> ure
/d/ + /j/ = /dʒ/	e <u>d</u> ucation, sold <u>i</u> er
/t/ + /j/ = /tʃ/	mat <u>u</u> re, got <u>t</u> y <u>ou</u>