

/i/ and /u/

- The distinction between /i:/ and /ɪ/, and /u:/ and /ʊ/ is neutralized in open weak syllables. (No phonemic contrast). Easy /i:zi/, busy /bɪzi/, to eat /tu i:t/
- /i/ is found in: ➡

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/i/ is found in:

- 4. unstressed *he, she, we, me, be* and the word *the* when it is followed by a vowel.

🔊 AU9, Ex 2
pp. 184-185

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/i/ is found in:

1. word-final position in words ending in –y or –ey in spelling.
Happy /hæpi/, valley /væli/
It is also found at the end of a morpheme when suffixes beginning with a vowel are added to such words.

Happier /hæpiə/, easiest /i:ziəst/, hurrying /hʌrɪŋ/

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/u/ is found in

- 1. words such as *you, to, into, do* when they are unstressed and followed by a vowel
- 2. the words *through* and *who* in all unstressed positions.
- 3. the middle of a word before a vowel.
Evacuate /ɪ'vækjuet/, influence /'ɪnfluəns/

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/i/ is found in:

- 2. an unstressed prefix such as *pre-, re-,* and *de-* followed by a vowel. React /ri'ækt/, preoccupied /pri'ɒkjupaɪd/, deontic /di'ɒntɪk/, but deactivate /,di:'æktɪveɪt/
- 3. *–iate* and *–ious* suffixes when they are pronounced as two syllables. Associate /ə'səʊʃieɪt/, various /'veəriəs/

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