

Listen to your Kit List on the mp3 that was emailed out to you and then look at the groups of words below each word. Once you can say the Kit List word correctly, it will help you be able to pronounce the groupings below it as well.

## KIT LIST GROUPS

These sets of words are grouped for **Standard English and Standard American**. This means that in Standard English and Standard American every word in the set takes the same vowel shape as the principal word. These groups are adapted from J C Wells, *Accents of English, An Introduction* (Cambridge University Press 1982).

If an accent uses a different vowel shape for the key word of the set they are likely to change the whole set to that vowel, though sub-sets may behave differently. Of course, accents are always making innovations and it is worth pointing out that individual word pronunciation does fluctuate over time. Words are affected by peer groups, social aspiration etc. This can make individual words jump from one set to another over time. For example, in Standard English all the 'TRANS' words (translate, transport, transaction etc) have jumped from the BATH set, with a long AH, to the TRAP set, with a short A, back to the BATH set, and are now in a state of flux between the two!

### KIT

a) ship, bit, sick, stiff, pith, this, wish,  
rib, kid, dig, bridge, give, his,  
dim, skin, sing, fill, milk, limp, hint, drink, lift, list, plinth, mix, slither, vision, spirit, dinner,  
silly, winter, sister, ...; myth, symbol, rhythm, ...; pretty, England, English, ...;  
build, guilt, women, sieve,  
busy, business.

### DRESS

a) step, bet, neck, fetch, Jeff, mess, mesh,  
ebb, bed, egg, edge, rev, fez,  
hem, pen, bell, shelf, hemp, tent, theft, best, next,  
effort, method, terror, tenor, jelly, centre/er, pester, ...;  
threat, sweat, deaf, death,  
bread, dead, head, health, realm, meant,  
ready, jealous, pleasant, weather, treacherous, ...;

b) any, many.

### STRUT

a) cup, cut, suck, much, snuff, fuss, rush,  
rub, bud, jug, budge, buzz,  
hum, run, lung, dull,  
pulse, bulge, punch, lump, hunt, trunk,  
butter, study, punish, number, mustn't, Guthrie,...;  
done, come, love, mother, stomach,  
monk, tongue, onion, money, front,...;  
touch, enough, young, double, southern,  
country,...;  
blood flood.

## **FOOT**

*(in some accents set b merge with GOOSE words)*

a) put, puss, bush, full,  
butcher, cushion, pudding, bullet,.....;  
good, stood, wood, wool,.....;  
woman, wolf, bosom,  
could, should, would, shouldn't;

b) cook, look, shook.

## **GOOSE**

a) loop, shoot, spook, smooch, proof, loose,  
mood, groove, smooth, choose,  
boom, spoon, fool, too,  
boost, schooner, booty, ....;  
move, prove, lose, whose,.....,  
tomb, do, who, two,.....,  
group, youth, ghoul, you, through,.....;  
dupe, mute, duke, truth, obtuse,  
cube, rude, fugue, huge, amuse,  
plume, tune, blue,  
funeral, lucre, prudent,.....;  
flu, duty, pupil, mucus, lucid, crucial, confusion,  
ludicrous, music, human, lunatic,....;

b) sleuth, deuce, feud, neutral, feudal, eunuch,....;  
fruit, juice, cruise, nuisance,....;  
newt, lewd, few, knew, pewter, sewage,....;  
view, review, beauty, beautiful;

c) tooth, roof, hoof.

## **FLEECE**

a) creep, meet, seek, beech, reef, teeth,  
seed, sleeve, seethe, cheese,  
seem, green, feel,  
see, tree, agree,  
needle, feeder, sweeten,...;  
grebe, these, Peter, even,...;  
shriek, brief, piece, believe, field,...;  
ceiling, Keith, Sheila,...;  
be, me,...;  
key, people;

b) reap, meat, speak, teach, leaf, beneath, peace, leash,  
bead, league, leave, breathe, please,  
team, mean, deal,  
sea, tea,  
feats, reason, weasel, easy, Easter,...;  
deceive, receive, seize,...;  
Caesar, anaemic, Aesop,...;  
Phoenix, subpoena, foetus,...;  
Quay;  
police, unique, machine, prestige, elite, mosquito, casino, visa, trio, ski, chic;

c) metre, equal, decent, legal, penal,  
complete, scene,...;

## **NURSE**

a) usurp, hurt, church, turf, purse, curb, curd, urge, curve, furze,  
turn, curl, spur, occurred, burnt, burst, murder, further;  
myrrh, myrtle, Byrne;

b) shirt, irk, birch, birth, bird, dirge, firm, girl, fir, stirred, first, circus, virtue;

c) twerp, assert, jerk, perch, serf, berth, terse, verb, emerge, nerve, term, stern, deter,  
err, preferred, certain, person, immersion,  
emergency, kernel;  
earth, dearth, hearse, search, heard,  
earn, yearn, earl, pearl, rehearsal, early,  
earnest;

d) wort, work, worth, worse, word, worm,  
whorl, worst, worthy;  
scourge, adjourn, courteous, journal,  
journalist, journey;  
attorney, colonel.

## **TRAP**

tap, cat, batch, gaff, math(s) mass, dash, cash,  
mad, rag, badge, have, jazz,  
ham, man, hang, shall  
scalp, lam, ant, hand, thank, lapse, tax,  
arrow, carriage, banner, abbey, tassel, cancel, panda.

## **BATH**

a) staff, giraffe, path, lath,  
brass, class, glass, grass, pass,  
raft, craft, graft, daft, shaft, aft, half, draft,  
clasp, grasp, rasp, gasp,  
blast, cast, fast, mast, aghast, last, past, contrast, vast, avast,  
ask, bask, mask, flask, cask, task,  
after, rafter, Shaftesbury,  
master, plaster, disaster, castor, pastor, nasty, disastrous,  
basket, casket, rascal,  
fasten, raspberry, ghastly, castle,  
laugh, laughter, draught;  
dance, advance, chance, France, lance, glance, enhance, prance, trance,  
grant, slant, aunt, chant, plant, advantage, vantage, chantry, supplant, enchant,  
branch, blanch, ranch,  
demand, command, remand, slander, chandler,  
commando, Alexander, Sandra, Flanders,  
example, sample,  
chancel, chancellor, France, Francis, lancet, answer;  
calf, half, halve, rather, Slav,  
shan't can't, Iraq, corral, morale, Iran, Sudan, banana

*(The following subset are in a state of flux in the Standard English accent. Many of these words are crossing over to the TRAP set)*

b) chaff, graph, alas, hasp, Basque, masque,  
plastic, drastic, elastic, gymnastic, enthusiastic, paschal, pastoral, masculine, masquerade,  
exasperate, blasphemy, Glasgow, lather, stance, askance, circumstantial, intransigent,  
substantial, transit, transport, transfer, transform, transitory, transient, transept, contralto,  
alto, plaque, Cleopatra.

## **PALM**

*Set C are most likely to switch to the TRAP vowel in some speakers/accents.*

a) calm, balm, psalm, alms, father,  
ma, pa, mamma, papa, aha, ah, blah, hurrah;

b) Bach, façade, roulade, raj, taj, salaam, Brahms, Kahn, Afrikaans, Transvaal,  
spa, Shah, Armagh, schwa,

cantanta, innamorato, legato, sonata, staccato, pizzicato, mafia  
Dada, bravado, incommunicado, Mikado, lager, Zhivago, maharajah, kava, guava, Java, Dali,  
Mali, Guatemala, Somalia, lama, Yokohama, swami, Brahmin, guano, iguana, Botswana,  
Malawi, Bahai, Sumatra, candelabra.

c) Koran, khan, Pakistan, Shan, chorale, rationale, locale, khaki, pasha, Nazi,  
Colorado, enchilada, Nevada, lava palaver, plaza,  
almond, drama, pajama/pyjama, panorama, Ghama, nirvana, sultana, soprano, pirhana, Bali,  
finale.

## **START**

a) far, star, bar, bazaar;  
sharp, part, bark, arch, scarf, farce, harsh,  
garb, card, large, carve, parse,  
farm, barn, snarl, Charles,  
party, market, marvellous,  
sari, safari, cascara, atria, scenario, Sahara, tiara

b) heart, hearken, hearth, sergeant

## **LOT**

stop, pot, sock, notch, Goth,  
rob, odd, cog, dodge,  
Tom, con, doll,  
Solve, romp, font, copse, box,  
Profit, possible, proverb, bother, rosin,  
Honest, ponder;  
swan, quality, yacht, wasp, watch, squabble, waffle;  
knowledge, acknowledge.

## **CLOTH**

*In some accents the cloth set or sub sets may merge with the LOT set; in others they may merge with the THOUGHT set.*

a) off, cough, trough, broth, froth, cross, across, loss, floss, toss, doss,  
soft, croft, lost, oft, cost, frost, lost,  
often, soften, lofty,  
Australia, Austria, Austin,  
Gone;

b) moth, boss, gloss, joss, moss, Ross,  
long, strong, wrong, gong, song, tongs, throng,  
coffee, coffer, coffin, offer, office, officer, glossy,

foster, Boston, Gloucester, sausage;  
wash;

b) origin, Oregon, oratory, orator, orange, authority,  
borrow, categorical, correlate, coroner, coral,  
florid, Florida, florist, historic,  
horrid, horrible, majority, horrify, horror,  
metaphoric, morrow,  
Morris, moral, porridge, rhetorical, sorrel,  
sorrow, tomorrow, sorry,  
Laurence, laurel, quarrel, quarry, warrant, warren, warrior.

## **THOUGHT**

a) taught, caught, Maugham, Vaughan, Waugh,  
naughty, haughty, slaughter, daughter,  
ought, brought, wrought, brought, fought, nought, sought,  
taut, debauch, sauce,  
applaud, cause, faun, haul, Paul,  
autumn, author, taunt, laundry, gauntlet;  
gawp, hawk, crawl, sawn, yawn,  
jaw, law, saw, draw, awe;  
chalk, talk, walk, stalk, calk,  
all, fall, small, wall, appal, install,  
bald, water, broad;

b) halt salt malt false,  
alter, also, alderman, walrus;  
fault, vault.

## **NORTH**

a) or, for, nor, Thor;  
war;

b) Thorpe, assort, cavort, consort, distort, exhort, resort, retort, short, snort, tort, cork, fork,  
stork, torque, York, scorch, torch, morph, gorse, horse, remorse,  
orb, absorb, accord, chord, cord, lord, George, gorge,  
form, reform, storm, adorn, born, corn, horn, morn, scorn, shorn, thorn, corpse,  
porpoise, torpid, torpor, fortify, fortunate, fortune,  
important, mortal, mortar, shorten, tortoise, orchestra, orchid, torture, forfeit,  
morpheme, morphine, orthodox, torso,  
orbit, order, border, ordinary, organ, organism, organise,  
dormer, Mormon, normal, ornament, corner, forward, fortress;  
quart, quarter, quartz, sward, swarm, swarthy, warble,  
ward, warden, wardrobe, warlock, warm, warmth,  
wan, warp, Warsaw, wart;

c) aural, aura, Laura, Taurus

## **FORCE**

*In the vast majority of accents NORTH and FORCE words have merged. In those that haven't NORTH words have the THOUGHT vowel plus R, while FORCE words have the GOAT vowel plus R.*

a) ore, adore, afore before, bore, core, chore, core, deplore, explore, fore galore, gore, ignore, implore, more, pore, restore, score, score, shore, snore, sore, spore, store, swore, tore, wore, yore;

b) deport, export, fort, import, port, report, sport, support, pork, porch, forth, divorce, afford, ford, horde, sword, forge, borne, shorn, sworn, torn, worn, portent, porter, portrait, proportion, Borneo;

c) course, hoarse, board, hoard, boarder; court, fourth, course, resource, source, courtier;

d) oral, adorable, angora, aurora, borax, boron, choral, Dora, fedora, flora, floral, glory, gory, moron, Nora, porous, story, thorax, Tory, censorious, euphoria, Gloria, glorious, Gregorian, historian, laborious, memorial, meritorious, moratorium, notorious, pictorial, praetorian, stentorian, Victoria(n), hoary, uproarious.

## **FACE**

a) tape, late, cake, safe, case, babe, fade, vague, age, wave, bathe, craze, name, mane, vale, change, waste..; taper, bacon, nature, station, lady, raven, invasion, April; bass(in music) gauge, gaol/jail;

b) wait, faith, plaice, aitch, raid, nail, main, faint,...; day, play, way, grey/gray,...; rein, veil, beige, feint,...; they, whey, obey,...; weigh, weight, eight, straight,...; rein, campaign, deign,...;

c) great, steak, break, yea.

## **GOAT**

*(in many accents of England this has a sliding vowel from LOT in set c and a steady LOT vowel in set d)*

a) soap, boat, oak, roach, oaf, loaf,  
road, loathe, roam, loan, boast, coax,...;  
note, rope, joke, both, gross,  
robe, code, rogue, grove, close, rose,  
home, tone,  
so, no, toe, foe, don't, host,  
noble, ocean, explosion, holy,...;  
brooch, beau, gauche, mauve;

b) own, know, grow, owe, Owen,...;  
sew, dough, though, although.

c) coal, bowl, soul, poultry, mould, shoulder, old;  
roll, scroll, control,..;

d) colt, holster, bolt.

## **PRICE**

*(NB: in Canada, Virginia and coastal South Carolina there is a marked distinction between a narrow slide before a voiceless consonant and a wider one everywhere else)*

a) ripe, write, like, knife, ice,  
tribe, side, arrive, writhe, rise,  
time, fine, mile, fire, die, tried,..;  
Friday, tiger, silent, violent, liar, science,  
indict, isle, child, pint, find, ninth, Christ, viscount, bicycle, island,..;  
type, try, Cyprus, hybrid, dye,...;  
eider, kaleidoscope, eye, height, aisle, but, choir,..;

b) fight, high, sign,..

## **CHOICE**

a) boy, toy, joy, annoy, oyster...;  
noise, voice, choice, rejoice,  
void, moist,..;

b) coin, join, oil, boil, soil, spoil, toil,  
poison, ointment,,,  
employ..;

c) groin, hoist joist.



## **MOUTH**

*(NB: in Canada, Virginia and coastal South Carolina there is a marked distinction between a narrow slide before a voiceless consonant and a wider one everywhere else)*

a) out, pouch, south, house,  
loud, gouge, mouth(verb) , rouse,  
noun, foul, thou,  
count, round, pronounce, oust,  
flour, sour, trousers, mountain, council, boundary,,,,  
crowd, browse, owl, down, cow, allow,  
dowry, flower, coward, towel, powder,..;  
bough, plough, doughty,..;  
MacCleod.

## **NEAR**

a) beer, deer, career,..;  
here, mere, sincere, interfere,..;  
bier, pier, cashier,..;  
weir;  
fear, ear, appear, yearling,..;

b) fierce, pierce;  
weird, Deidre;  
beard;

c) serious, mysterious, period, serum,  
diphtheria, hero,..;  
eerie, peerage, Madeira, dreary;

d)idea, Korea, diarrhoea, Galatea,..;  
European, Jacobean, Crimean,..;  
Maria, Sophia,..;  
Museum, Colosseum,..;  
Real, ideal.

## **SQUARE**

*(NB in North America the SQUARE - TRAP - DRESS distinction is lost when the vowel is followed by R and another vowel, eg: Mary - marry - merry, hairy - Harry, fairy - ferry.)*

a) care, share, bare,..;  
air, fair, pair,..;  
bear, pear, wear, swear,..;  
heir, their, there, where, Ayr, Eyre, prayer, mayor;

b) scarce;

c) vary, canary, Mary, aquarium, various, rarity, area, Pharaoh,..;  
dairy, prairie, fairy,..;  
aerial, Eire.

## **CURE**

*(in aii and cii this vowel is frequently preceded by Y. This vowel is, in many accents, in a process of merging with NURSE or NORTH words)*

ai) boor, moor, Moor, poor, spoor,  
amour, tour, your;

aii) abjure adjure, allure, assure, demure, endure, ensure, immune, insure, inure, lure,  
manure, mature, obscure, procure, pure, secure, sure;

b) bourse, gourd, Bourbon, bourgeois, gourmand, gourmet, tournament,  
tourney, tourniquet;

ci) boorish, tourism, tourist;

cii) Ural, angostura, assurance, bravura, bureau, caesura, Huron, incurable, insurance,  
mural, plural, rural, Truro,  
centurion, curious, furious, injurious, luxurious, Muriel, penurious, spurious,  
curate, during, fury, jury, lurid, maturity, obscurity, purify, purity, security, sulphuric;  
Europe, neural, neuron, pleurisy