

English Long Vowels

There are Five long vowels in English. They are different from the Seven short vowels that have already been studied. You need to know their location on the diagram, description and transcription.

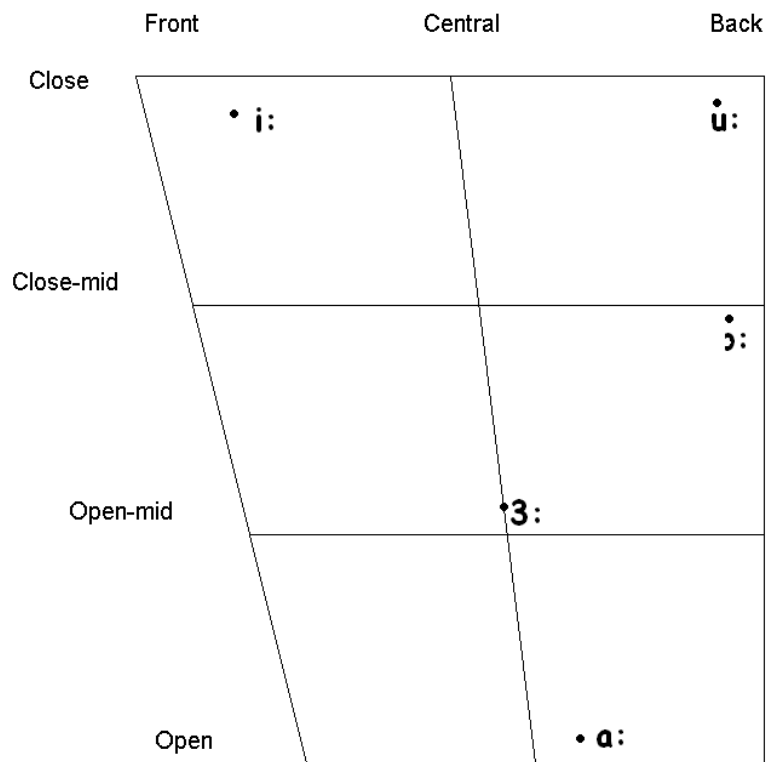


Diagram of English Long Vowels

1. /i:/: seat /si:t/, feel /fi:l/, we /wi:/
2. /ɜ:/: third /θɜ:d/, church /tʃɜ:tʃ/, burn /bɜ:n/
3. /ɑ:/: card /kɑ:d/ car /kɑ:r/ Clerk /klɑ:k/
4. /ɔ:/: port /pɔ:t/, horse /hɔ:s/, four /fɔ:/
5. /u:/: spoon /spu:n/ moon /mu:n/, loose /lu:z/

Description of English Long Vowels:

Q: Describe each of the following long vowels.

1. /i:/: it is long between close and close-mid, front. The lips are slightly spread.
2. /ɜ:/: it is long between close-mid and open-mid, central. The lips are neutral.
3. /ɑ:/: it is long between open-mid and open, back. The lips are neutral.
4. /ɔ:/: it is long between close-mid and open-mid, back. The lips are rounded.
5. /u:/: it is long between close and close-mid, back. The lips are rounded.

Q: Transcribe the following words phonemically.

1. Word. → /wɜ:d/
2. Speak. → /spi:k/
3. Map. → /mɑ:p/
4. Fool. → /fu:l/
5. Turn. → /tɜ:n/
6. Shore. → /ʃɔ:/