

Level C

Other Vowels

Group 26

ou / ow Words

When 'ou' and 'ow' play fair, they make the same sound. Students should be able to generate two possible spellings and pick out the correct one.

our
out
without
outdoors
outside
round
pound
proud
flour
couch
amount
sound
south
found
around
bound
sprout
stout
shout
about
cloud
ground
loud
mouth
how
down
brown
now
clown
town
crowd
crown
brow
growl
howl
plow
prowl

drown
scowl
frown
flower
shower
tower
chowder
confounded
compound
*contour
discount
*discourage
dismount
dumbfounded
Difficult words which use 'ou'
*viscount
surround
*glamour
*hour
*touch
*young
*your
*cougar
*group

Group 27

The Snow Family

The Snow Family is a family that doesn't play fair because the "w" acts as a vowel to help the "o" say its name, but is then sounded itself.

own
ownership
know
snow
slow
slowly
flow
flown
row
show
bowl
mow
grow
grown

throw
thrown
glow
blow
below
elbow
widow
hollow
window
fellow
follow
yellow
pillow
shadow
arrow
shallow
Halloween
*meadow

Group 28

oi / oy & Words

Although 'oi' and 'oy' sound the same, 'oy' is more commonly found at the end of the word, and 'oi' in the middle. Prompt words are 'oil' and 'boy'.

joy
toy
royal
boy
boil
coil
soil
coin
join
point
spoil
moist
broil
pointed
toilet
loyal
enjoy
destroy

Challenge Words

pointed
toilet
typhoid
turmoil
*tortoise
thyroid
tabloids
*porpoise
adenoids
disjointed
embroidery
embroiled
exploit
deployed
employee
gargoyle
annoyance
annoyed
appointment

Group 29

The Old Family

The Old Family is a large family that doesn't play fair because the vowel "o" says its name without a helper.

old
older
hold
gold
sold
told
retold
post
most
fold
unfold
colt
bolt
volts
postage
host
both
scold
yolk
folk

troll
clothes
Many believe words such as 'hotel' and 'stolen' are members of this family, but they are not. In two syllable words, a vowel on the end of an open syllable can say it's name without a helper. See Level D for open syllable words.

Kind Family

The Kind Family is an average sized family of words that don't play

fair
because the vowel 'i' says
its name without a helper.
find

mind
remind
blind
unkind
kind
mankind
grind
bind
binder
behind
wind
rewind
child
wild
mild

Group 30 The Wrong Family & ff words

The Wrong Family is a family of words that don't play fair

because the "w" is silent, often before the "r".

wrestle
wreath
wreck
wren
wrench
wiggle
wring
wrinkle
wrist
write
wrong
wrote
wrap
answer
off
puff
stuff
stiff
sniff
staff
bluff
fluff
cliff

Group 31

The Night Family

It is likely that the 'igh' combination came from the Old German in which the letters were likely all pronounced.

The 'igh' combination is often difficult for some students to remember, until that learn, "At **Night**, Ivan the **Ghost** goes **Home for Toast**".

sight
tight
right
bright

fright
light
slight
flight
plight
might
fight
blight
sigh
nigh
high
thigh
lightning
highway
twilight
delight
enlighten
frighten
blight
flighty
height
knight
plight
sprightly

In these words, use the prompt "EVEN Ivan the Ghost goes Home for Toast

eight
weight
weighed
freight
sleigh
neighbo(u)r

QU Review

The letters "qu" do not have a sound of their own but borrow sounds from the letters "k" and "w". In English we do not use "kw" together. "Q" is always followed by a "u", and "qu" together is considered a

consonant rather than "q" as a consonant and "u" as a vowel.

quiet
quilt
quite
square
quaint
quick
quickly
quit
quiz
squeeze
squirrel

Group 32

er / ir / ur Words

Because 'r' is very "bossy" and does not let the vowels say their sounds,

these three combinations end up sounding exactly the same, as in "her", "sir", and "fur". Students should be able to generate three possible spellings and pick out the right one.

fern
jerk
term
clerk
herd
alert
perch
verse
first
shirt
skirt
stir
girl

bird
dirt
firm
birth
third
thirty
squirt
chirp
twirl
turn
return
burn
blur
slur
spurt
scurry
flurry
turtle
curb
hurt
curl
churn

Here are a group of words in which the sound suggests the spelling to be either 'er', 'ir', or 'ur'.

In fact it is 'or' and so can be taught as the "World" family or just learned as exceptions to the rule.

*world
*word
*work
*worry
*worse
*worth
*worship
*worthy
*worm
*worst

Group 33

ar / or Words

When they play fair,

"ar" is pronounced as in "car" and "or" as in "for".

yarn
party
arm
art
bar
bark
barn
car
card
dark
hard
March
mark
far
jar
part
yard
lard
harp
harm
Mars
marsh
start
army
born
thorn
fork
stork
fort
sort
sport
horn
forth
nor
north
porch
scorch
storm
short
snort
forget
forgot
*fourth
*store
*swarm
*ward

*quart
*floor
*door
*war
*poured
*court

Group 34 oo Words

Two separate vowel sounds are made by two 'o's together.

They can be sounded as in "foot" or as in "boot". I prompt phrase can be made from "Put your foot in the boot".

cook
wool
look
hook
crooked
brook
good
shook
stood
poor
room
cool
fool
food
fool
tool
hoof
hoop
pool
bloom
spool
tooth
spoon
roof
zoo
root
soon
moon
scoop

lose
loose
choose
rooster
spooky

These are words in which the vowel sound is the same as in 'boot' but are spelled irregularly. Some of them belong to the "Lazy U" Family.

*fruit
*suit
*soup
*blue
*true
*glue
*cruel
*truth
*prove
*June
*whose
*movie
*super

Group 34b: Challenge Words

bamboo
caboose
*cocoon
cartoon
choose
lagoon
tycoon
marooned
*heirloom
macaroons
mushroom
shampoo
gloomy
crooked
bloopers
baboon
balloon

Group 35

au / aw Words

In English, there are three common spellings for the

/o/ sound:

o, au & aw.

Children should be able to generate all three possible

spellings and pick out the correct one.

haul
fault
haunt
haunted
maul
vault
August
saw
draw
claw
jaw
raw
law
paw
dawn
fawn
hawk
lawn
thaw
yawn
shawl
*autumn
*sauce

Group 35b: Challenge Words

applauded
applause
holocaust
defraud
hydraulic
schnauzer
tarpaulin
guffaw
scrawled
scrawny

sprawled
squawk
autograph
authorize
authority
audience
auction
auburn
assault
exhaust
default

Words in this group which don't play fair also include "ough" words such as "bought", "thought" and "brought" as well as the "augh" word "taught" and "caught". Note: the "ough" combination is probably the most difficult in the English language as it can be said 8 different ways. It is addressed more thoroughly in Level F.

*ought
*thought
*brought
*bought

Group 36

The Call Family

The Call Family is a large family of words that don't play fair because they borrow the /o/ sound. When students are taught to flex vowel sounds when decoding, the vowel some that /a/

flexes to is /o/ as that combination is much more common than /ae/.

all
tall
mall
stall
small
swan
want
father
wash
salt
also
bald
walk
palm
talk
chalk
stalk
calm
always
false
watch
water
wasp
almost
appall
recall
squall
install

It is not possible to hear the vowels in the last syllable of these words, and the "ai" combination in these words can be taught as the 'Mountain' Family or memorized.

*fountain
*captain
*curtain
*mountain
*bargain
*certain

Group 37

The Bread Family

When 2 vowels go walking, the first one does the talking and he says his name. In this family, the two vowels go walking, but the first one says his sound instead of his name. These words can be decoded accurately by flexing.

dead
read
sweat
meant
head
deaf
thread
breath
Heather
tread
threat
spread
heavy
ready
weapon
instead
death
wealth
leather
weather
sweater
already
health
pheasant
pageant
pleasant
heaven

These are words in which the vowel says its name although it should not as 'E' can only

jump one letter.
They can be taught
as the 'Ache' family
or as words which
are the exception to
the rule.

*strange
*stranger
*range
*ranger
*waste
*taste
*ache

The 'a', by itself, is
saying it's name.

Group 38
Miscellaneous
Silent Letters

knee
knife
knew
knock
knot
knelt
knob
knapsack
knead
kneel
knight
knit
know(n)
knuckle
gnat
gnarl
gnaw
castle
listen
fasten
soften
often
hasten
moisten
whistle
bustle
hustle
jostle
nestle

apostle
bristle
gristle
thistle
trestle
wrestle
rustler
glisten
island
limb
comb
thumb
bomb
climb
debt
dumb
crumb
plumber
tomb
jamb
numb
doubt
half
walk
talk
stalk
calm
qualm
chalk
salmon
salve
halve

Group 39
Some Family
The Some family
does not play fair
because "o"
borrows the /u/
(short u) sound.

love
above
glove
shove
son
ton
done
some
something
sometimes

someone
other
another
mother
brother
Monday
front
month
wonder
cover
money
monkey

'Ng' Family

long
song
bring
spring
string
king
wing
sling
sang
strong
hang
rang
stung
sting
swing
swung

In most cases, when
2 Vowels go
Walking, the
first one talks and
says it's name. In
these words the
second vowel says
it's name. They can
be taught as the
"Great Family" or
learned as
exceptions to
the rule.

*great
*bear
*pear
*break
*swear
*wear

Group 41
k / ck Words
2 + 1 Rule

In one syllable
words ending with
the /k/sound, one
vowel is followed
by two consonants
and two vowels are
followed by one
consonant. A single
consonant on the
end is almost
always "k". There
are only about three
one syllable words
ending in "c". Many
two and three
syllable words end
is 'ic'.

black
crack
slick
struck
check
thick
brick
quick
clock
truck
puck
luck
duck
brook
cook
peak
peek
week
weak
creak
creek
cheek
cloak
croak
soak
drank
wink
drink

milk
trunk
clerk
sink
silk
*zinc
*disc
*picnic
*picnicking

Group 42

E Tack Words

When people are learning English, they usually assume that a word ending in “s” is a plural.

These words end with the /s/ sound, but are not plurals.

Therefore, an ‘e’ is added to show that the “s” is not simple a plural, but part of the whole word.

The “e” is a tack that shows the “s” cannot be taken away, as it can be in plurals.

else
curse
dense
false
goose
geese
horse
house
lease
loose
please
moose
mouse
noise
nurse
pause
pulse

purse
raise
rinse
sense
tease
tense
verse
worse
blouse
cheese
choose
clause
please

All these words end in “e” because in English there are no words that end in “v” .

give
live
have
love
move
above
curve
halve
heave
active
groove
motive
native
shelve
sleeve
starve
festive
captive
deserve
remove
twelve
above
carve
glove
leave
nerve
olives
valve
solve
weave
cursive

mauve
revolve
fugitive
swerve
adaptive
delve
detective
elusive
adjective
adhesive
alternative
preserve
dissolve
involve
exclusive
creative

Group 43

C Train Words

When there is an ‘i’, ‘e’ or ‘y’ directly after the letter “c”, the “c” is sounded as /s/. This rule is very accurate.

ice
nice
mice
rice
price
slice
spice
twice
ace
face
lace
pace
race
place
space
fence
dance
France
since
prince
chance
voice
choice
force

spruce
piece
peace
trace
concert
concern
nicely
decide
circus
cedar
lance
force
race
once
cell
cent
cider

*police
*juice
*soccer
*notice

Harder C Train
Words - Level D
Group 69

Group 44

G Train Words

age
cage
huge
page
wage
stage
orange
large
charge
agent
danger
angel
garbage
damage
*engine

When an “e” is required for the “g” to say /j/ but the vowel is short, a blocker must be put

in the word to stop the “e” from making the vowel say it’s name. That “blocker” is usually the letter ‘d’.

edge
badge
budge
dodge
fudge
hedge
hinge
judge
ridge
bridge
pledge
smudge
lodge
ledge
budget

When another consonant stops the ‘e’ from ‘jumping’ to help the vowel, then a ‘d’ is not required.

plunge
large
bulge
largest
fringe
urgent

Harder G Train words are found in Level D Groups 70 and 71.

Combined Review of Group 43 & 44 C & G Train Words

pencil
parcel
cedar
celery
cellar

cement
spice
decide
bicep
concert
recess
twice
peace
piece
circus
cereal
accent
fancy
recent
concern
sauce
grace
huge
wage
badge
dodge
stage
judge
wedge
damage
urgent
budget
congest
legend
pledge
gadget
ginger
ledger
fidget
bridge
lounge

Group 45 Ch/tch endings on 1 Syllable Words

When the vowel is short, use a ‘t’ before a ‘ch’ in a one syllable word.

There are four common exceptions to the rule:

such, much, rich, & which and a few less common words such as sandwich and bachelor.

etch
Dutch
match
sketch
itch
fetch
notch
clutch
snatch
dispatch
scratch
matches
batch
hatch
patch
crutch
stitch
pitch
switch
catch
watch
thatch
ditch
latch
witch
twitch
each
peach
teach
crouch
poach
vouch
grouch
coach
pooch
bleach
preach
couch
pouch

Group 46 The Phone Family

phase
phrase

phone
telephone
telegraph
dolphin
phrase
sulphur
orphan
photo
photograph
autograph
elephant
nephew
phantom
gopher
hyphen
typhoon
typhoid
alphabet
trophy

Group 47

The Few Family

This is a family that says the same thing as “ue” when it plays fair, or as a “lazy ue” as in ‘blue’, ‘true’ and ‘glue’.

new
blew
dew
pew
brew
chew
crew
flew
grew
knew
stew
threw
nephew
*view
*review
*preview
*interview

Group 48
Contractions &
Homonyms

I'd
he'd
we'd
they'd
I'm
we're
they're
I've
we've
you've
they've
isn't
haven't
hasn't
weren't
can't
didn't
don't
won't
couldn't
wouldn't
shouldn't
aren't
doesn't
he'll
she'll
I'll
they'll

48. b.
Homonyms

read - red
here - hear
heel - heal
wore - war
sail - sale
hour - our
break - brake
ate - eight
rain - rein - reign
new - knew
for - fore - four
some - sum
male - mail
beat - beet
bare - bear

blue - blew
flew - flu - flue
fir - fur
wood - would
caught - cot
no - know
die - dye
week - weak
cent - scent - sent
plain - plane
knows - nose
tail - tale
fair - fare
vein - vane - vain
see - sea
meat - meet
aunt - ant
road - rode
stair - stare
sew - so
won - one
flour - flower
hymn - him
bow - bough
piece - peace
great - grate
threw - through
steel - steal
sun - son
buy - by - bye
to - too - two
their - there -
they're
write - right
daze - days
pail - pale
tail - tale
horse - hoarse
course - coarse
feet - feat
doe - dough
leak - leek
deer - dear
here - hear
hair - hare
cents - sense -
scents

Group 49
Doozer 1 Syllable
Words

blue
bought
break
brother
brought
built
cough
fourth
forty
friend
from
guess
guest
guide
heard
once
our
piece
right
write
said
straight
tear
their
they're
though
through
thought
wear
would
could
should
you're
tongue
toque
sword
cheque
gnome
sign
ache
drawl
pawn
squawk
clause

Group 50
Review Lessons
50A Misc. Vowel
Combinations

frost
woolen
brook
scoop
autumn
jaunt
tower
flower
discount
bongo
awning
otter
saucer
laundry
cartoon
proof
brawl
spume
choice
oyster
module
probe
choke
shawl
prawn
slope
feline
recite
squire
poison
avoid
sirloin
loyal
annoy
ground
flour
powder
stream
athlete
umpire
rescue
argue
squeeze
breeze
awoke

**50 B. Words from
Families That
Don't Play Fair**

calm	knob
want	knife
father	knight
swan	wreck
salty	wrench
dread	wrist
instead	wrap
ahead	often
already	castle
weather	whistle
breath	fasten
meant	soften
threat	sign
learn	gnat
colt	lamb
volt	climb
both	thumb
comb	plumber
behind	numb
unkind	
child	
chew	
flew	
grew	
cashew	
bowling	
thrown	
window	
elbow	
growth	
barrow	
arrow	
sight	
fright	
slight	
bright	
nephew	
orphan	
photo	
typhoon	
dolphin	
brother	
glove	
shove	
monkey	
money	