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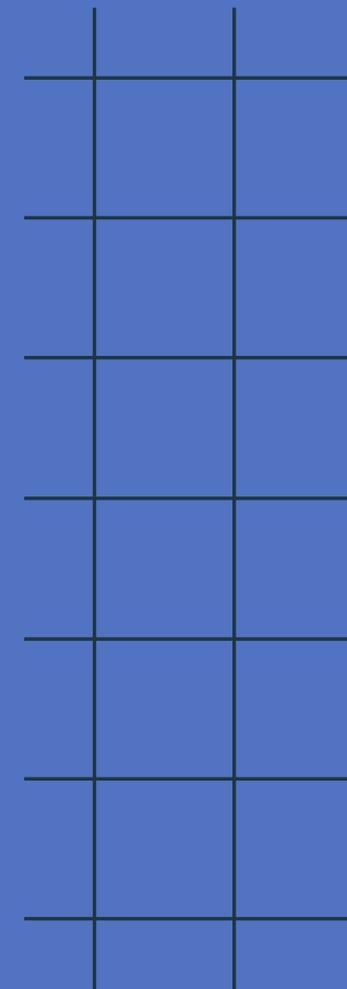
E

LONG AND SHORT VOWELS

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LESSON PLAN

English Institution

Grade/ level: Basic, Pre-intermediate

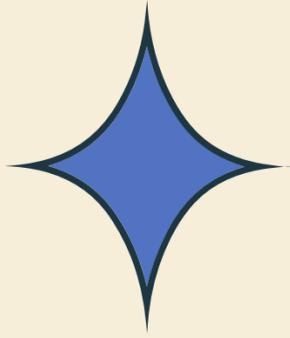
Length of class: 30 min

Number of students: 4 -10

Content: Short and long vowels - Minimal pairs

Aim: Identify long and short vowels and practice their pronunciation

Digital Resources Needed: Projector; whiteboard; markers.



WHAT ARE THEY?

- **Short vowels:** They are shorter sounds and usually appear in closed syllables (those that end in a consonant). E.g: /ɪ/ → "i" in sit, big, milk
- **Long vowels:** They have a more prolonged pronunciation and often match the letter's name in the alphabet. E.g: /iː/ → "e" in see, tree, complete

HOW TO PRONOUNCE THEM?



to access the video, click here.



Let's use this

Vowel	Short Sound	Example	Long Sound	Example
A	/æ/	cat	/eɪ/	cake
E	/ɛ/	bed	/iː/	be
I →	/ɪ/	bit	/aɪ/	bite
O	/ɒ/ɑ/	dog	/oʊ/	go
U	/ʌ/	cup	/juː/	use

MINIMAL PAIRS

Minimal pairs are pairs of words that differ from each other by only one sound, while the rest of the word remains the same.

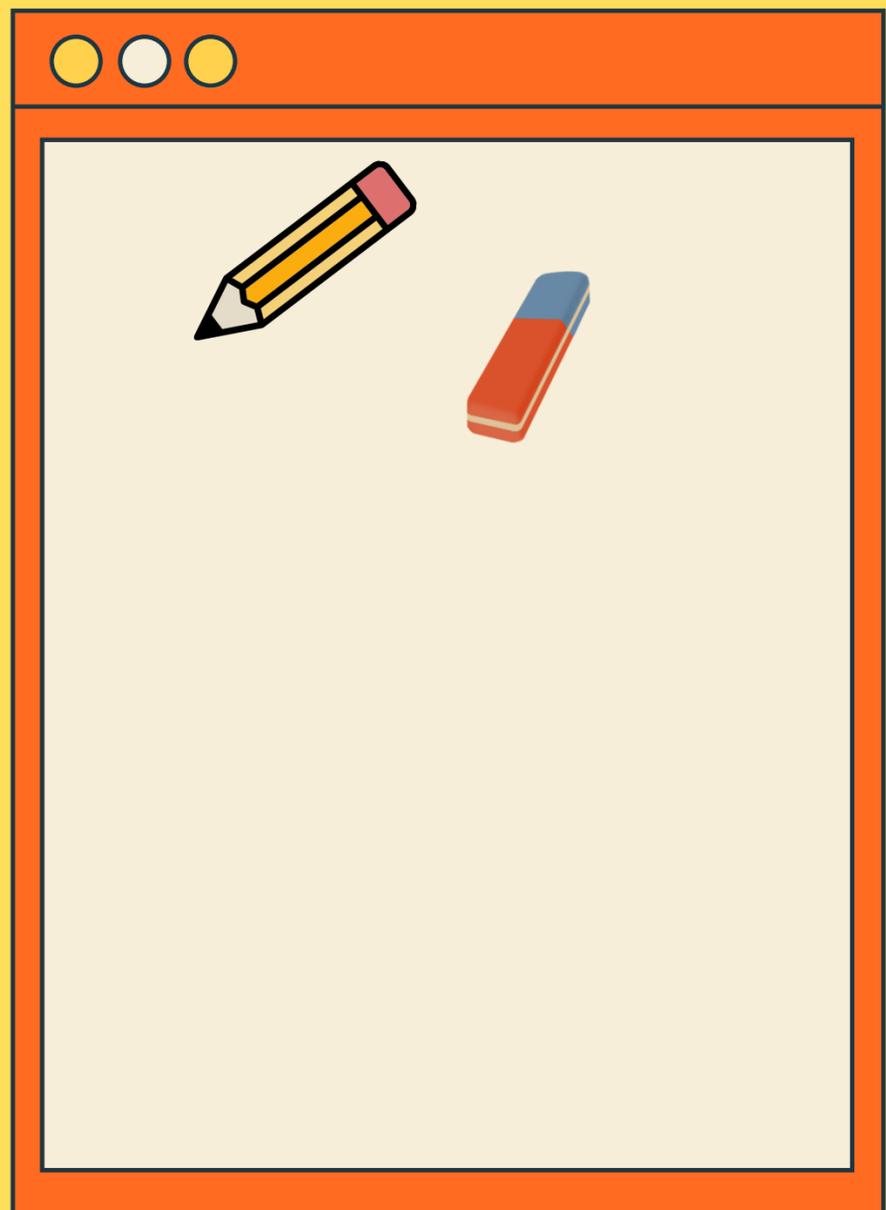


/ɪ/ - /i:/
Tim - Team
Hill - Heal
Sit - Seat
Ship - Sheep
Bit - Beat

PRONUNCIATION TIPS



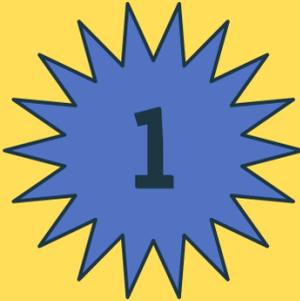
- Open your mouth **wider** for short vowels.
- **Stretch** the vowel sound for long vowels.
- Pay attention to silent 'e' at the end of words, which often makes vowels long (e.g., hat → hate).
- **Practice** as much as you can!



PRACTICE TIME!

MEMORY GAME

Click here



You will play a game with 4 minimal pairs



You have to identify the minimal pairs and try to pronounce the words correctly

STORY TIME WITH VOWEL FOCUS

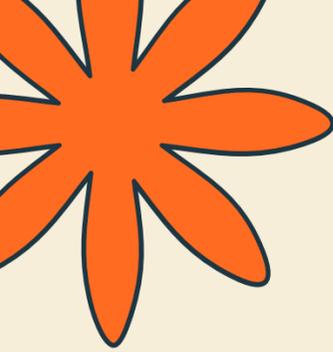
RULES

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The teacher will read a story.

2

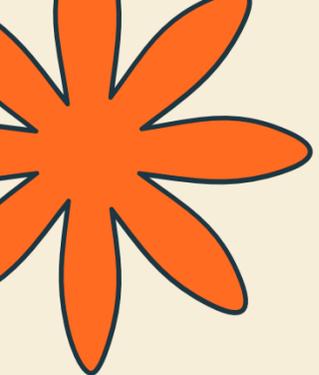
The students must clap their hands when they hear a long or a short vowel of the minimal pair I.



THE BIG SHIP AND THE LITTLE SHEEP

One big ship was sailing in the blue sea. On the ship, there was a man named Tim. Tim had a small, white sheep. The sheep's name was Pete. One day, Tim said, "Pete, let's take a trip!" but Pete didn't like the ship. He said, "Baaa! I want to sit on the beach!" Tim laughed, "Don't be silly, Pete. You're a sheep, not a fish!". As the ship moved, the waves went up and down. "Baaa!" cried Pete, feeling sick. Tim gave Pete a sweet to make him feel better. When they reached the land, Pete jumped off the ship. "Baaa! Now I can sleep on the sand!" Tim smiled and said, "You're the only sheep that hates the sea!"

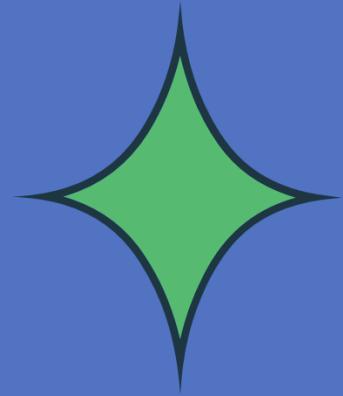
Adapted from BAKER, Ann. Ship or Sheep? An intermediate pronunciation course. 3^a ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006.



THE BIG SHIP AND THE LITTLE SHEEP

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One **big ship** was sailing in the blue sea. On the **ship**, there was a man named **Tim**. **Tim** had a small, white **sheep**. The **sheep's** name was **Pete**. One day, **Tim** said, "**Pete**, let's take a **trip**!" but **Pete** didn't like the **ship**. He said, "Baaa! I want to **sit** on the **beach**!" **Tim** laughed, "Don't **be** silly, **Pete**. You're a **sheep**, not a **fish**!". As the **ship** moved, the waves went up and down. "Baaa!" cried **Pete**, feeling **sick**. **Tim** gave **Pete** a **sweet** to make him feel better. When they reached the land, **Pete** jumped off the **ship**. "Baaa! Now I can **sleep** on the sand!" **Tim** smiled and said, "You're the only **sheep** that hates the **sea**!"



WRAP UP

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Answer the questions with the students



- How can we **identify** a short and a long vowel sound?
- What **minimal pairs** can you remember?



THANKS!

REFERENCES

BAKER, Ann. **Ship or Sheep? An intermediate pronunciation course**. 3^a ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006.

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Ficha Técnica

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