

★ LESSON 137: VOWEL REVIEW • LESSON 138: HOMOPHONES (WEEK VS. WEAK)

20 TEST WORDS • SILENT LETTERS • POETIC DICTATION

1 Lesson 137: Test Words and Review of Vowel Sounds20 TARGET WORDS • 4 VOWEL CATEGORIES • 26PX STANDARD TRACK

Study & Copy: Read each word aloud, observing the vowel diacritic symbol at the head of each column. Note silent terminal *b* in *comb* and silent initial *k* in *knot*. Copy each word on its 26px line.

1. LONG Ō (/OŪ/)	2. DIGRAPH ŌA (/OŪ/, /ɔ:R/)	3. SHORT Ő (/D/)	4. SHORT Ŭ (/Λ/)
both /bouθ/	soap /soup/	yon /jɒn/	pulse /pʌls/
comb /koum/	coach /koutʃ/	from /from/	crush /krʌʃ/
broke /brouk/	hoard /hɔ:rd/	knot /nɒt/	brush /brʌʃ/
choke /tʃouk/	throat /θrouʔ/	block /blɒk/	bunch /bʌntʃ/
smoke /smouk/	hoarse /hɔ:rs/	prompt /prɒmpt/	thrust /θrʌst/

2 Lesson 138: Words Pronounced Alike • Homophones: week vs. weakCOPY • DISTINGUISH • WRITE FROM DICTATION

Homophones /wi:k/:

week (noun: 7-day calendar cycle)

weak (adjective: lacking physical strength)

Listen to Whole Passage

"In every month, and **week**, and day,
Let loving words mark out the way."
"Her voice was low and **weak**."

Wheeler's Directive: Copy carefully, find two words pronounced alike but spelled differently, and transcribe below.

Line 1: "In every month, and week, and day,"

Line 2: "Let loving words mark out the way."

Line 3: "Her voice was low and weak."

3 Wheeler's Questions • Semantic Inquiry & Original Sentence ApplicationANSWER IN COMPLETE SENTENCES • 26PX STANDARD TRACK

1. What is Saturday the last day of? (Answer with **week**):

2. What is the opposite of strong? (Answer with **weak**):

3. Wheeler's Directive: Write sentences of your own using **week** and **weak**:

Sentence with *week* (calendar cycle):

Sentence with *weak* (opposite of strong):

1 Orthographic & Etymological Matrix (12 Key Test Words & Homophones)

LINGUISTIC BREAKDOWN • HISTORICAL ORTHOGRAPHY

WORD	IPA	ORTHOGRAPHIC KEY	GRAMMAR / CATEGORY	PHONETIC & HISTORICAL ETYMOLOGY
both	/bouθ/	Long ō; voiceless -th	Determiner / Pronoun	Old Norse <i>báðir</i> . Retains vowel lengthening in monosyllabic open root.
comb	/koum/	Silent terminal b; ō	Noun / Verb	Old English <i>camb</i> . Historical cluster simplification: /b/ ceased to be sounded in late Middle English.
hoard	/hɔ:rd/	Digraph ōa; -rd	Noun / Verb	Old English <i>hord</i> (treasure, hidden store). Vowel lengthened and spelled with digraph <i>oa</i> .
hoarse	/hɔ:rs/	Digraph ōa; silent -e	Adjective (Vocal state)	Old English <i>hās</i> → Middle English <i>hoors</i> . Intrusive /r/ developed in 14th century; final -se = /s/.
knot	/nɒt/	Silent initial k; short ɔ	Noun / Verb	Old English <i>cnotta</i> . Initial Germanic velar stop /k/ silenced before /n/ by 17th century.
prompt	/prɒmpt/	Terminal blend -mpt	Adjective / Verb	Latin <i>promptus</i> (brought forth, ready). Triple consonant cluster preserved in formal English.
pulse	/pʌls/	Short ʊ; terminal -se = /s/	Noun (Heartbeat)	Latin <i>pulsus</i> (beating, throbbing). Short ʊ before liquid blend /ls/.
thrust	/θrʌst/	Initial blend thr-	Verb / Noun	Old Norse <i>þrýsta</i> (to thrust, press). Short ʊ with dynamic dental fricative onset /θr/.
choke	/tʃouk/	Unmarked ch; split ō-e	Verb / Noun	Old English <i>ācēocian</i> . Silent terminal e marks preceding vowel as long ō.
coach	/koutʃ/	Digraph ōa; -ch = /tʃ/	Noun (Carriage)	French <i>coche</i> < Hungarian <i>Kocs</i> (village of origin for light four-wheeled wagons).
week	/wi:k/	Digraph ee = ē (/i:/)	Noun (7-day period)	Old English <i>wice</i> (turn, change, sequence). Calendar unit of time: "seven days make a week".
weak	/wi:k/	Digraph ea = ē (/i:/)	Adjective (Not strong)	Old Norse <i>veikr</i> (pliant, soft, lacking strength). Homophone for <i>week</i> : "her voice was weak".

§ 1. Vowel Quantity & Digraph Systems

- **Long ō vs. Digraph ōa:** Both represent /ou/. Note how *both*, *comb*, *broke*, *choke*, *smoke* rely on single *o* (either word-final or with silent *e*), whereas *soap*, *coach*, *hoard*, *throat*, *hoarse* employ the vowel digraph *oa*.
- **Short ɔ vs. Short ʊ:** Contrast the low-back vowel /ɒ/ in *yon*, *from*, *knot*, *block* with the central open-mid vowel /ʌ/ in *pulse*, *crush*, *brush*, *bunch*, *thrust*.

🕒 2. Silent Consonant Traps & Terminal Blends

- **Silent b in comb:** Parallel to Lesson 113's *lamb* and Lesson 122's *thumb*. Students must never write *kome or *com.
- **Silent k in knot:** Distinguish homophones *knot* (rope tie) and *not* (negation).
- **Complex Blends:** Highlight the 4-consonant span in *prompt* (/prɒmpt/) and the initial triple onset in *thrust* (/θrʌst/).

2 Wheeler's Poetic Dictation Model & Semantic Questions

HOMOPHONE PAIR: WEEK VS. WEAK • MORAL LYRIC

"Loving Words" (Poetic Master Key & Inquiry Solutions)

Complete Instructional Solutions

- **Couplet:** "In every month, and **week**, and day, / Let loving words mark out the way."
- **Sentence:** "Her voice was low and **weak**."
- **Question 1:** "What is Saturday the last day of?" → Saturday is the last day of the **week**.
- **Question 2:** "What is the opposite of strong?" → The opposite of strong is **weak**.

Oral Dictation Sentences (5 Master Speller Sentences for Classroom Drill)

DAILY PEDAGOGICAL DRILL

1. He lit the dry **brush** with care, and thick white **smoke** rose from the hearth.
2. The sick child had a **hoarse throat** and could only speak in a low, **weak** voice.
3. Untie the tight **knot** in the cord and wash your hands with warm water and **soap**.
4. Saturday is the last day of the **week**, when we **comb** our hair and ride in the **coach**.
5. In every month and **week**, give a **prompt** and kind answer to all who ask.

Evaluative Scoring Rubric (20 Points Total)

Mastery Assessment

- **1. Vowel Categorization (8 pts):** Accurately spells 20 review words across all 4 categories with zero silent consonant omissions (*comb*, *knot*).
- **2. Homophone Discrimination (6 pts):** Correctly applies *week* and *weak* in dictation and semantic question responses.
- **3. Verbatim Transcription (3 pts):** Correct capitalization and punctuation in the loving-words poetic couplet.
- **4. 26px Penmanship Baseline (3 pts):** Lowercase letters touch the 13px dashed midline; full adherence to baseline.

Socratic Discussion Prompts

Oral Inquiry

1. **Homophone Riddle:** "Why do we need two different spellings for /wi:k/? How does 'ee' in 'week' connect to 'feet' and 'meet'?"
2. **Silent Letter Clues:** "Pronounce 'comb' and 'knot'. Can you find the 'ghost letters' that our ancestors once spoke aloud?"
3. **Vowel Team Logic:** "Compare 'smoke' and 'soap'. Both have long ō. What two different tools does English use to make that sound?"