

STUDENT NAME: _____

DATE: _____

CLASS: _____

SCORE: _____

LESSON 150 • THE SOUND OF CK = K (/k/) AFTER SHORT VOWELS

CK = K (/K/) • CLOSED SYLLABLE

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Cardinal Orthographic Law • The Digraph CK after Short Vowels

In native English words of one syllable, the /k/ sound immediately following a **single short vowel** is spelled **-ck** (e.g., *back, neck, stick, lock, duck*).

CONCEPT

16 Core Words: *nēck, dēck; bāck, lāck, blāck, trāck; blōck, clōck, lōck, sōck; dūck, lūck, trūck; stīck, brīck, pīck.*

1

16 Target Words Sorting by Short Vowel Family • 26px Track

Group the 16 words under their short vowel (ă, ě, ĭ, ō, ŭ):

Short A [ă]: back, lack, black, track Short E [ě]: neck, deck

Short I [ĭ]: stick, brick, pick Short U [ŭ]: duck, luck, truck

Short O [ō]: block, clock, lock, sock

2

Penmanship & Diacritical Marking Studio

Copy the words neatly. Place a breve over each short vowel:

blāck trāck tīck-tōck clōck rēd brīck whīte dūck

3

Contextual Sentences • Application

Fill each blank with an appropriate -ck word:

1. The ship's captain stood firmly upon the wooden _____.

2. Turn the iron key in the heavy door _____.

WHEELER'S ORTHOEPIC RULES • THE DIGRAPH CK LAW

1. 1. The CK Rule: Use -ck to spell /k/ only at the end of a one-syllable word immediately following a single short vowel (*neck, back, pick, rock, duck*).

2. 2. Contrast with -k and -ke: After a consonant or vowel team, write -k (*bark, milk, book*). After a long vowel separated by a consonant, write -ke (*bake, smoke*).

3. 3. The Sound Value ck = k: The letters c and k combine to make a single voiceless velar plosive /k/. The c protects the preceding vowel from lengthening.

LESSON 150 TEACHER GUIDE & ANSWER KEY

ORTHOEPY • DIGRAPH CK • CLOSED SYLLABLES

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WORD	IPA	SHORT VOWEL	ORTHOGRAPHIC PRESCRIPTION
deck	/dɛk/	ĕ (/ɛ/)	Single short vowel + ck. Deck of a ship or boat.
track	/træk/	ă (/æ/)	Initial blend tr- + short a + terminal ck.
brick	/brɪk/	ĭ (/ɪ/)	Initial blend br- + short i + terminal ck.
block	/blɒk/	ɔ (/o/)	Initial blend bl- + short o + terminal ck.
truck	/trʌk/	ʊ (/ʌ/)	Initial blend tr- + short u + terminal ck.
clock	/klɒk/	ɔ (/o/)	Initial blend cl- + short o + terminal ck.

COMPLETE ANSWER KEY & SOLUTIONS

WHEELER'S EXERCISES

Exercise 1 Sorting:

- Short A: back, lack, black, track.
- Short E: neck, deck.
- Short I: stick, brick, pick.
- Short O: block, clock, lock, sock.
- Short U: duck, luck, truck.

Exercise 3 Solutions:

- deck** (ship's floor).
- lock** (door fastener).

Rule Summary: Short vowel + /k/ at the end of a 1-syllable word = -ck!

SOCRATIC GUIDING PROMPTS & PEDAGOGICAL INSIGHTS

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

- Why is 'duck' spelled with -ck, but 'milk' is spelled with only -k?
- What kind of vowel sound comes right before -ck in all these words?
- Can a word ever begin with 'ck' in English? Why only at the end?

DICTIONATION & ORAL APPLICATION SENTENCES (READ SLOWLY AT NORMAL SPEAKING PACE):

- The sailor stood upon the deck of the black ship.
- Turn the key in the lock before you leave the house.
- The mother duck led her ducklings along the muddy track.
- A tall brick chimney rose high above the school house.