

Part 1: Lesson 154 • Review of *ōō*, *ow*, *ē/ī*, and *û* (20 Test Words)

LESSON 154 • 20 WORDS

<i>ōō</i> Sound	/u:/	<i>ow</i> Sound	/au/	<i>ē & ī</i> Sound	/ɜ:r/	<i>û</i> Sound	/ɜ:r/
woo	seek affection	prow	bow of a ship	flirt	dart playfully	hurt	inflict pain
ooze	flow gently	prowl	roam stealthily	birth	entry into life	burnt	scorched by fire
tooth	enamel in jaw	scowl	angry frown	verse	stanza of poetry	purse	coin pouch
droop	hang downward	browse	graze or skim	verge	brink or border	churn	agitate to butter
choose	pick by choice	drowse	doze half-asleep	merge	blend together	church	sacred chapel

Part 2: Lesson 155 • Review of *ä*, *ą*, *ou*, and *ěa* (16 Test Words)

LESSON 155 • 16 WORDS

<i>ä</i> (Italian)	/ɑ:r/	<i>ą</i> (Broad)	/ɔ:/	<i>ou</i> Sound	/au/	<i>ěa</i> (Short e)	/ɛ/
harsh	severe, rough	bald	lacking hair	count	number or tally	tread	step heavily
marsh	low wetland	scald	burn with steam	south	cardinal compass	dread	fear with awe
spark	flying fire ember	false	not true; deceit	stout	brave, thickset	spread	extend outward
starve	suffer hunger	stall	horse enclosure	ground	solid earth floor	thread	fine sewing cord

Part 3: Socratic Phonic Inquiry & Sound Classification

ACTIVE INQUIRY • 26PX TRACKS

1. Diphthong Equivalence (/au/): Write two words with <i>ow</i>, then two words with <i>ou</i> that make the /au/ sound:	2. The Nurse-Vowel Merger (/ɜ:r/): Write one word each with <i>ē</i>, <i>ī</i>, and <i>û</i> that share the /ɜ:r/ sound:
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Part 4: Oral Dictation Transcription & Creative Sentence

PENMANSHIP • 26PX TRACKS

Dictation Model: "The stout sailor stood on the prow and watched dark clouds spread south." Standard 26px track • 13px dashed midline

Original Sentence: Compose an original sentence using at least two review words (e.g., *spark*, *choose*, *thread*, *ground*):

Section 1: The Orthographic Architecture of Wheeler's 8 Review Vowel Categories

PHONOLOGY • DIACRITIC KEY

19th-Century Diacritic Notation vs. Modern IPA:

- **Macron over double-o (ōō):** Denotes long high back vowel /u:/ (*woo, ooze, tooth, droop, choose*).
- **Italian a (ă):** Denotes open back /ɑ:r/ before /r/ (*harsh, marsh, spark, starve*).
- **Broad a with lower dot (ạ):** Denotes open-mid back /ɔ:/ before -l (*bald, scald, false, stall*).
- **Breve over ea (ĕa):** Denotes short front vowel /ɛ/ (*tread, dread, spread, thread*).

Pedagogical Contrast Strategies:

- **The /au/ Diphthong Duo:** Contrast Germanic *ow* (often preceding -l or terminal) with French/Anglo-Norman *ou* (preceding dental consonants -t, -th, -nd).
- **The Nurse-Vowel Merger (/ɜ:r/):** Explain that historical Middle English distinguished *ĕ* (fern), *ī* (fir), and *ū* (fur), which merged in modern English into the identical phoneme /ɜ:r/.

Section 2: 36 Test Words Master Phonics, IPA & Etymology Key

36 WORDS • 8 CATEGORIES

Word	IPA	Category & Phonic Rule	Word	IPA	Category & Phonic Rule
woo	/wu:/	ōō (/u:/); OE <i>wōgian</i> (court)	churn	/tʃɜ:rn/	û (/ɜ:r/); OE <i>cyrin</i> (butter tub)
ooze	/u:z/	ōō (/u:/); silent -e prevents bare z	church	/tʃɜ:rtʃ/	û (/ɜ:r/); Greek <i>kyriakon</i> (Lord's house)
tooth	/tu:θ/	ōō (/u:/) + unvoiced digraph th (/θ/)	harsh	/hɑ:rf/	ă (/ɑ:r/); ME <i>harsk</i> (rough)
droop	/dru:p/	ōō (/u:/); ON <i>drūpa</i> (hang down)	marsh	/mɑ:rf/	ă (/ɑ:r/); OE <i>mersc</i> (wetland)
choose	/tʃu:z/	ōō (/u:/); soft s = /z/; OE <i>cēosan</i>	spark	/spɑ:rk/	ă (/ɑ:r/); OE <i>spearca</i> (fire ember)
prow	/prau/	ow (/au/); French <i>proue</i> (ship bow)	starve	/stɑ:rv/	ă (/ɑ:r/); final -ve avoids bare v
prowl	/praul/	ow (/au/) before -l; ME <i>prohlen</i>	bald	/bɑ:ld/	ạ (/ɔ:/); broad a before -ld
scowl	/skaul/	ow (/au/) before -l; ON <i>skyli</i>	scald	/sko:ld/	ạ (/ɔ:/); broad a before -ld
browse	/brauz/	ow (/au/) + voiced -se (/z/); OF <i>broster</i>	false	/fɑ:ls/	ạ (/ɔ:/); Latin <i>falsus</i> ; soft s = /s/
drowse	/drauz/	ow (/au/) + voiced -se (/z/); OE <i>drūsian</i>	stall	/stɑ:l/	ạ (/ɔ:/); broad a before -ll
flirt	/flɜ:rt/	ī (/ɜ:r/); onomatopoeic darting motion	count	/kaunt/	ou (/au/); OF <i>conter</i> (tally)
birth	/bɜ:rtθ/	ī (/ɜ:r/); ON <i>byrð</i> ; unvoiced th	south	/sauθ/	ou (/au/) + unvoiced th (/θ/)
verse	/vɜ:rs/	ĕ (/ɜ:r/); Latin <i>versus</i> (line of poetry)	stout	/staut/	ou (/au/) + dental -t; OF <i>estout</i>
verge	/vɜ:rdʒ/	ĕ (/ɜ:r/); soft g = /dʒ/ before -e	ground	/graund/	ou (/au/) + voiced cluster -nd
merge	/mɜ:rdʒ/	ĕ (/ɜ:r/); Latin <i>mergere</i> (plunge/blend)	tread	/tred/	ĕa (/ɛ/); OE <i>tredan</i> (step)
hurt	/hɜ:rt/	û (/ɜ:r/); OF <i>hurter</i> (strike/collide)	dread	/dred/	ĕa (/ɛ/); OE <i>drædan</i> (fear)
burnt	/bɜ:nt/	û (/ɜ:r/); past of <i>burn</i> ; OE <i>byrnan</i>	spread	/spred/	ĕa (/ɛ/); OE <i>sprædan</i> (extend)
purse	/pɜ:rs/	û (/ɜ:r/); Latin <i>bursa</i> (leather pouch)	thread	/θred/	ĕa (/ɛ/) + cluster thr-; OE <i>þræd</i>

Section 3: Master Oral Dictation Script, Socratic Inquiry & Evaluative Rubric

DICTIONATION • SOCRATIC • 20-POINT RUBRIC

Master Oral Dictation Sentences (Administer at 12 wpm):

1. "The stout sailor stood upon the ship's prow and gazed south." (Tests: *stout, prow, south*)
2. "A red spark flew from the hearth and burnt a fine thread in her purse." (Tests: *spark, burnt, thread, purse*)
3. "Wild beasts prowl across the wet marsh and tread softly upon the ground." (Tests: *prowl, marsh, tread, ground*)
4. "Do not scowl or spread false rumors while standing beside the church stall." (Tests: *scowl, spread, false, stall, church*)
5. "The wounded bird began to droop its wing, but did not starve in the forest." (Tests: *droop, starve, hurt, birth*)

Socratic Inquiry Key:

Teacher: "Look at 'verse', 'birth', and 'church'. What sound do e, i, and u make before r?"
Pupil: "They all make the exact same /ɜ:r/ sound!"

Historical Spelling Note:

Short e spelled *ea* (*tread, dread, spread, thread*) is an ancient Anglo-Saxon spelling remnant from Old English *æ* that shortened before consonant clusters.

1. Phonic Sorting (5 pts)

Accurate identification of /au/ and /ɜ:r/ words across spelling varieties.

2. Orthography (5 pts)

Flawless spelling of all 36 test words in classification and dictation.

3. Penmanship (5 pts)

Strict 26px line discipline; proper ascenders and descenders touching midlines.

4. Synthesis (5 pts)

Accurate dictation transcription and grammatically sound original composition.

Total: 20 Points • Mastery: 18–20 | Proficient: 15–17 | Developing: 12–14 | Emerging: <12