

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class / Grade: _____ Score: _____

LESSON 22. SOUND OF Y AS IN CRY = I LONG, MARKED Ȳ

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Phonological Study: Vowel function of y representing long ī (/aɪ/), marked with a macron (ȳ). Discover silent letters in *eye*, *buy*, *dye*, *rye*, *type*.

VOWEL Y = LONG Ī (Ȳ)

1. Copy these words carefully. • 2. Spell them orally.

Pronounce each word clearly, noting the long /aɪ/ vowel sound of y, then transcribe neatly:

COL 1 • BLENDS

cry _____
try _____
sky _____
spy _____

COL 2 • -Y ENDINGS

fly _____
sty _____
shy _____
dry _____

COL 3 • IRREGULAR

pry _____
spry _____
eye _____
buy _____

COL 4 • SILENT E / VCE

dye _____
rye _____
why _____
type _____

2. Write them neatly from dictation.

Listen as your teacher dictates the 16 target words. Write each word accurately on the numbered line:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____

3. Phonological Discovery Question: Silent Letters

In which of the above words do you find silent letters?

Ans. I find silent letters in the words: _____

4. Write these lines from dictation.

Listen attentively to the poem couplet. Transcribe from oral dictation with proper punctuation and capitalization:

Line 1: _____

Line 2: _____

PHONICS & SPELLING RULES TO REMEMBER

★ 1. Vowel 'y' as Long ī (ȳ)

At the end of open one-syllable words, y functions as a vowel representing the long ī sound /aɪ/ (*cry*, *try*, *sky*, *fly*, *dry*, *spry*). Marked with a macron: ȳ.

★ 2. Silent 'e' in 'dye', 'rye' & 'type'

In *dye* and *rye*, letter e is silent (vowel team -ye). In *type*, silent final e creates a y_e split digraph making y say its long sound /aɪ/!

★ 3. Silent Letters in 'buy' & 'eye'

In *buy*, the letter u is silent (rhymes with *sky*). In *eye*, the letters e are silent historical relics, pronounced identically to long vowel /aɪ/!

LESSON 22: SOUND OF Y AS IN CRY (Ȳ) — MASTER KEY

Vowel Y (/aɪ/), Orthographic Classification, Silent Letter Analysis & Science of Reading Guide

Official Solution

1. COMPLETE 16-WORD PHONETIC & ORTHOGRAPHIC MATRIX (4 × 4)

COL 1 • BLENDS			COL 2 • -Y ENDINGS			COL 3 • IRREGULAR			COL 4 • SILENT E / VCE		
cry	/kraɪ/	crȳ	fly	/flaɪ/	flȳ	pry	/praɪ/	prȳ	dye	/daɪ/	dȳe
try	/traɪ/	trȳ	sty	/staɪ/	stȳ	spry	/spraɪ/	sprȳ	rye	/raɪ/	rȳe
sky	/skaɪ/	skȳ	shy	/ʃaɪ/	shȳ	eye	/aɪ/	ēye	why	/waɪ/	whȳ
spy	/spaɪ/	spȳ	dry	/draɪ/	drȳ	buy	/baɪ/	būy	type	/taɪp/	tȳpe

2. MASTER ANSWERS & DISCOVERY ANALYSIS

Question: "In which of the above words do you find silent letters?"

→ Official Answer: Students should identify the following 5 or 6 words:

- eye : The letters e are silent relics (pronounced solely as vowel diphthong /aɪ/).
- buy : The letter u is silent (rhymes with by and cry).
- dye : The final letter e is silent (homophone with die).
- rye : The final letter e is silent (homophone with wry).
- type : The final letter e is silent (acts as split-digraph marker y_e for long /aɪ/).
- why : In standard modern English, letter h is silent (pronounced /waɪ/).

Poem Couplet Dictation Verification:

- Line 1: "A pretty little cloud, away up in the sky,"
[Check: Capital 'A', double 't' in 'pretty' and 'little', comma after 'cloud' and 'sky'].
- Line 2: "Said it did not care if the earth was dry."
[Check: Capital 'Said', irregular spelling 'said' /sed/, 'earth' capitalized/lowercase as in original, period at end].
- Rhyme Pair: sky • dry (both exemplifying vowel y = /aɪ/).

THE VOWEL ROLE OF LETTER 'Y'

English orthography observes a fundamental structural constraint: native English words almost never end in the letter *i* (with rare foreign adoptions like *ski*, *spaghetti*). During the Middle English period, Norman scribes systematically substituted letter *y* for final *i* to avoid visual confusion with handwritten minims (strokes of *m*, *n*, *u*, *i*). Thus, word-final /aɪ/ in single syllables is consistently spelled with -*y* (*cry*, *try*, *fly*, *dry*).

HISTORICAL ETYMOLOGY OF RELIC WORDS

- eye derives from Old English ēage (/æ:a.ȝe/). Over centuries, the voiced velar fricative /ȝ/ collapsed into a diphthong, leaving both surrounding 'e's as orthographic fossils.
- buy stems from Old English bycgan; the modern spelling retains the *u* from Anglo-Norman spelling conventions.
- dye / rye: The addition of final *e* historically differentiated meaningful roots and signaled long vowel quality before standard spelling normalized.

4. ASSESSMENT RUBRIC (25 POINTS TOTAL)

Task Focus	Instructional Standard & Criteria	Scoring
1. Copying Accuracy	Legible, baseline-aligned transcription of all 16 target words without letter reversals.	6 pts (0.375 pt / word)
2. Oral Spelling Fluency	Clear oral spelling and phonological articulation of long /aɪ/ across all 4 word categories.	4 pts (1 pt / column)
3. Dictation Precision	Accurate spelling of all 16 words from oral teacher dictation without visual aid.	6 pts (0.375 pt / word)
4. Silent Letter Discovery	Correctly identifying target words with silent letters (<i>eye</i> , <i>buy</i> , <i>dye</i> , <i>rye</i> , <i>type</i> , <i>why</i>).	5 pts (1 pt / recognized word)
5. Couplet Dictation	Flawless transcription of the 2 poetic lines with proper capitalization, comma, and period.	4 pts (2 pts / line)