

☆ LESSON 92: MEMORY LESSON • POETRY & RETRIEVAL

1. COPY CAREFULLY • 2. WRITE FROM MEMORY

EUGENE FIELD (1850–1895)

STANZA 1

Away out yonder I see a star, —
Silvery star with a tinkling song;
To the soft air falling I hear it calling —
Calling and tinkling the night along.

1. Copy or write neatly from memory:

MARGARET E. SANGSTER (1838–1912)

STANZA 2

The little snowflake fluttered,
And gave a wee, wee sigh,
And fifty million other flakes
Came softly floating by.

2. Copy or write neatly from memory:

⌚ LESSON 93: SOUND OF A AS IN CARE â • DIGRAPH AI AS IN FAIR = â

COPY • DICTATION • MARK CARET (ˆ) OVER A

Rule of Orthoepry: The sound of a in câre is marked with a caret (â). Vowel digraph ai in fâir has the same sound (â). Notice the letter r immediately follows in every word!

Acoustic: /ɛər/

FAMILY 1: -ARE	FAMILY 2: -AIR	FAMILY 3: -ARING	FAMILY 4: BLENDS
fare	air	daring	snare
bare	hair	caring	share
glare	chair	flaring	spare

? Wheeler's Socratic Orthography Inquiries: Think carefully and write your answers on the handwriting lines: 4 Concept Checks

1. What other sound of a is most like that in these words?

2. What consonant follows the vowel in each of these words?

3. What other sound of a is often found before r?

4. What becomes of silent e when ing is added?

Exercise 4 • Application & Dictation Practice: Write 3 original sentences using words from Lesson 93 (mark each caret â): Target: 3 Sentences

Line 1 (e.g., using air, chair, or share):

Line 2 (e.g., using bare, daring, or spare):

Line 3 (e.g., using glare, flaring, or snare):

PEDAGOGICAL STANDARD: RETRIEVAL PRACTICE & CARET A â ORTHOEPEY

MASTER KEY

1. Complete Word Matrix • Caret A (â) & Digraph ai = â

All 12 Words Decoded

Word	Marked	Phonetic Value	Morphological Structure	Orthoepic & Etymological Rationale
fare	fâre	/fɛðr/	Base root + silent e	Old English <i>faran</i> (to travel); vowel conditioned by <i>r</i> .
bare	bâre	/bɛðr/	Base root + silent e	Uncovered; contrast homophone <i>bear</i> (animal / endure).
glare	glâre	/glɛðr/	Initial blend <i>gl-</i> + silent e	Fierce bright light; liquid <i>r</i> prevents long <i>ā</i> glide.
air	âir	/ɛðr/	Digraph <i>ai</i> = â	Pure vowel team before <i>r</i> ; contrast homophones <i>heir</i> , <i>ere</i> .
hair	hâir	/hɛðr/	Digraph <i>ai</i> = â	Natural growth on head; contrast homophone <i>hare</i> (rabbit).
chair	châir	/tʃɛðr/	Digraph <i>ch-</i> + <i>air</i>	Compound articulation: voiceless palato-alveolar affricate.
daring	dâring	/dɛðr.lɪŋ/	<i>dare</i> – e + -ing	Silent e is dropped before vowel suffix -ing.
caring	câring	/kɛðr.lɪŋ/	<i>care</i> – e + -ing	Silent e is dropped; preserves root caret â.
flaring	flâring	/flɛðr.lɪŋ/	<i>flare</i> – e + -ing	Initial blend <i>fl-</i> ; drop e before suffix -ing.
snare	snâre	/snɛðr/	Initial blend <i>sn-</i> + silent e	Trap / noose; vowel retains open caret quality.
share	shâre	/ʃɛðr/	Consonant digraph <i>sh-</i> + silent e	Portion or allotment; regular silent e caret pattern.
spare	spâre	/spɛðr/	Initial blend <i>sp-</i> + silent e	Extra, lean, or to show mercy; identical vowel onset.

2. Wheeler's Socratic Inquiries • Comprehensive Teacher Answer Key

1901 Pedagogical Rationale

Q1: What other sound of a is most like that in these words?
▶ Expected Student Answer: The short sound of e (or short a lengthened).
Teacher Talking Points: In classic orthoepy (Webster/Wheeler), the vowel in *care* is an open-mid front vowel [ɛ], identical to short e in *pet* or *ebb*, but elongated by the subsequent liquid consonant *r*. Have children compare the vowel in *bed* with *bare*.

Q2: What consonant follows the vowel in each of these words?
▶ Expected Student Answer: The consonant r.
Teacher Talking Points: The liquid consonant *r* exerts a profound phonetic coloring effect ("r-coloring"). It prevents the vowel from closing into the tense glide of long ā [eɪ], holding the vocal tract open into a centered gliding sound [ɛə].

Q3: What other sound of a is often found before r?
▶ Expected Student Answer: The Italian a sound (ä), or broad a (a).
Teacher Talking Points: Italian ä is standard in *arm*, *star*, *far*, *park*, *dark*, *yard*. Broad *a* occurs in *warm*, *ward*, *swarm*. This reinforces Wheeler's acoustic comparison framework.

Q4: What becomes of silent e when ing is added?
▶ Expected Student Answer: The silent e is dropped.
Teacher Talking Points: Primary spelling rule: When a word ends in silent e, drop the e before adding an inflectional suffix beginning with a vowel (-ing, -ed, -er). *dare* → *daring*; *care* → *caring*; *flare* → *flaring*.

3. Wheeler-Aligned Decodable Dictation Sentences

Administer Orally

Sentence 1: "The daring boy did not bare his head in the cold night air."
[Focus: daring (drop e), bare vs bear, air digraph]

Sentence 2: "Please sit down in the soft chair and take your fair share."
[Focus: chair, fair digraph, share blend]

Sentence 3: "The brilliant glare of the fire was flaring across the yard."
[Focus: glare blend, flaring (drop e), contrast Italian ä in yard]

Sentence 4: "Take gentle care that the rabbit does not run into the hidden snare."
[Focus: care, snare blend, homophone rabbit/hare concept]

4. Memory Pedagogy (Lesson 92) & Author Context

Teaching Strategy

Literary Profiles:

- Eugene Field (1850–1895): Chicago journalist and "Children's Poet," beloved for whimsical, rhythmic bedtime verses (*Wynken, Blynken, and Nod*). His stanza builds vivid auditory imagery ("tinkling song").
- Margaret E. Sangster (1838–1912): Renowned editor of *Harper's Bazaar*, celebrated for gentle nature poetry that personifies the quiet wonder of snowflakes.

Memory Lesson Protocol (Wheeler Method):

- Auditory Recitation: Read aloud twice, marking rhythm and internal rhyme.
- Visual Punctuation Sweep: Note the em-dash (—), semicolon (;), and hyphenation.
- Cover & Recall: Have students cover the printed stanza and write line-by-line from memory.

Common Diagnostic Pitfalls:

- Dropping E Failure: Writing *dareing* or *careing* instead of *daring*, *caring*.
- Homophone Confusion: Writing *bear* for *bare*, or *fare* for *fair*.
- Diacritic Omission: Omitting circumflex/caret (^) over a in *câre* words.