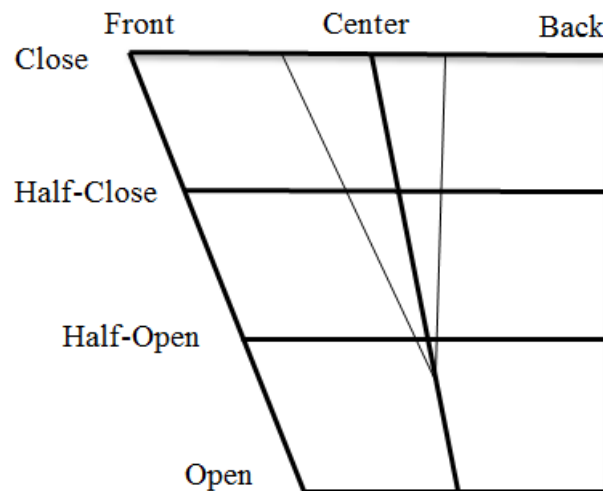


Phonetics

First year
Department of English
College of Education for Human Sciences
University of Basra
Instructor: **Dr. Wasan Alsiraih**

Vowel Sounds

Vowel Diagram: This diagram represents the tongue, its parts and its movement between the different positions when producing vowel sounds. The close-front represents the tip of the tongue. The close position is the nearest that the tongue reaches the palate without making friction or a closure. The open position is the widest the mouth can open and the furthest distance the tongue can reach away from the roof the mouth (palate).

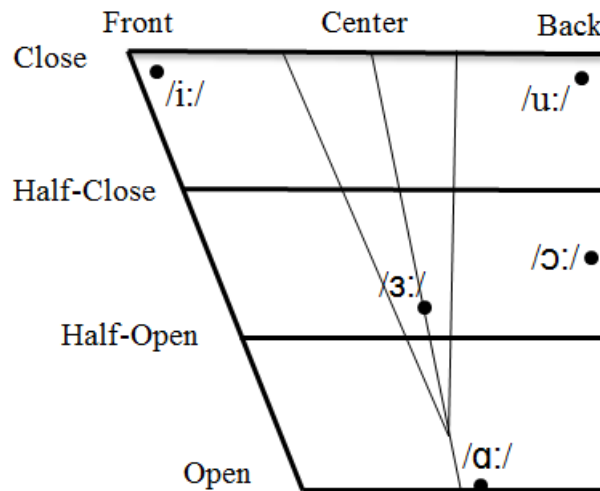


Long Vowels

Long vowels consist of one symbol added to it two dots (:). These dots refer to **Length**. It shows that they are long to differentiate them from short vowels which also consist of one symbol but with no two dots

Long vowel symbols are also very different from the symbols of short vowels to show that they do not only differ in Length but also in **Quality**.

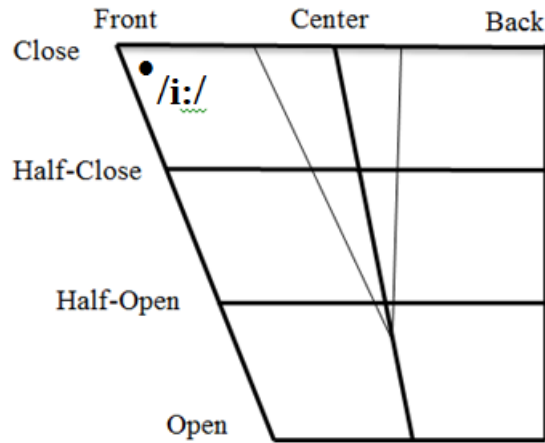
What does Quality mean? It means they also differ in at least one of the three features of vowel: the part of the tongue moving, the position of the tongue in the mouth, the shape of the lips.



/i:/

- It is a long vowel.
- It is very front.
- It is very close.
- The lips are very spread.

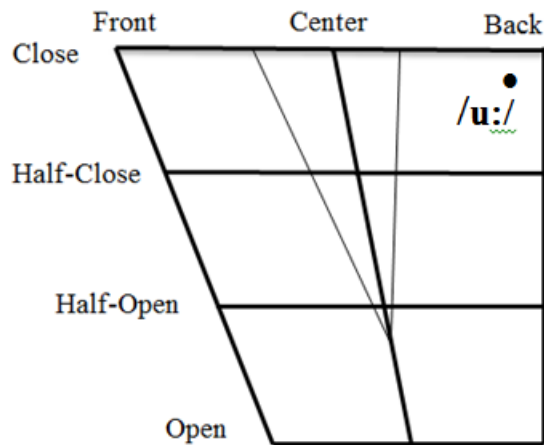
Examples: seat /si:t/ , deep /di:p/ , eat /i:t/



/u:/

- It is a long vowel.
- It is very back.
- It is very close.
- The lips are rounded.

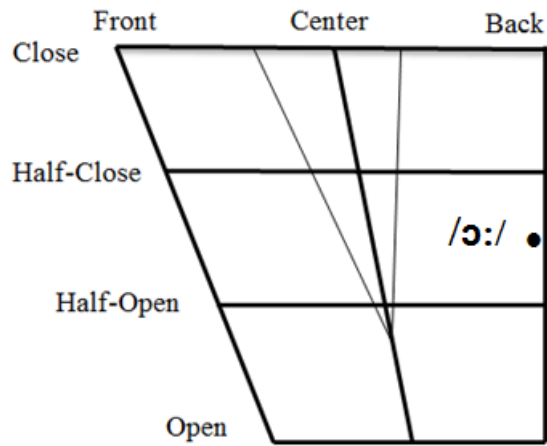
Examples: pool /pu:l/ , rule /ru:l/ , moon /mu:n/



/ɔ:/

- It is a long vowel.
- It is very back.
- It is exactly mid.
- The lips are rounded.

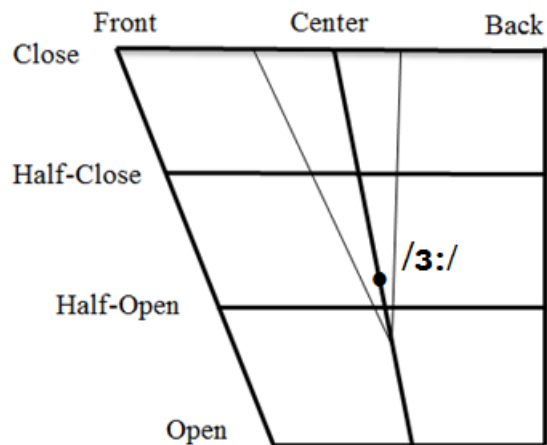
Examples: more /mɔ:/ , port /pɔ:t/ , door /dɔ:/



/ɜ:/

- It is a long vowel.
- It is exactly central.
- It is mid, but not very. It is near the half-open.
- The lips are neutral.

Examples: bird /bɜ:d/ , earth /ɜ:θ/ , word /wɜ:d/



/ɑ:/

- It is a long vowel.
- It is very open.
- It is near the back, but more central.

- The lips are neural.

Examples: car /kɑ:/ , part /pɑ:t/ , hard /hɑ:d/

