

Phonetics

First year

Department of English

College of Education for Human Sciences

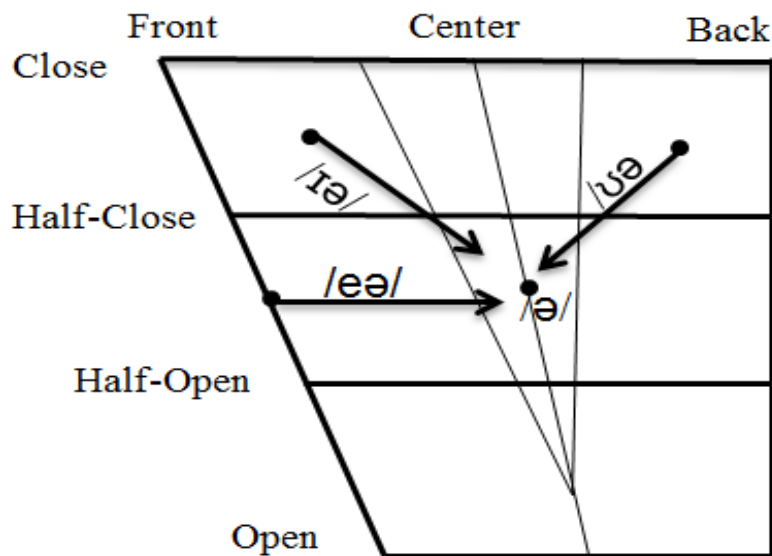
University of Basra

Instructor: **Dr. Wasan Alsiraih**

Centring Diphthongs

Centring Diphthongs (ending in /ə/): this group of diphthongs glide towards (end in) the mid-centre area of vowel /ə/. These diphthongs are:

/ɪə/ **/eə/** **/ʊə/**



/ɪə/: a centring diphthong; the starting point is in the close-front area of vowel /ɪ/ then glides towards the mid-centre area of vowel /ə/; the lips change from spread to neutral; e.g.: **here** /hɪə/, **ear** /ɪə/.

/eə/: a centring diphthong; the starting point is in the mid-front area of vowel **/e/** then glides towards the mid-centre area of vowel **/ə/**; the lips change from spread to neutral; e.g.: **share** /ʃeə/, **air** /eə/.

/ʊə/: a centring diphthong; the starting point is in the close-back area of vowel **/ʊ/** then glides towards the mid-centre area of vowel **/ə/**; the lips change from rounded to neutral; e.g.: **cure** /kjʊə/, **tour** /tʊə/.