

Phonetics

First year

Department of English

College of Education for Human Sciences

University of Basra

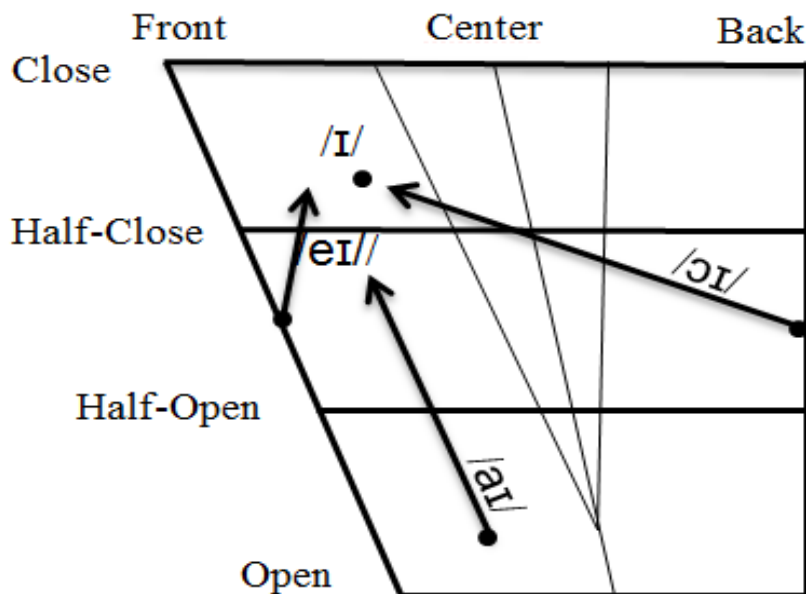
Instructor: **Dr. Wasan Alsiraih**

Closing Diphthongs

These diphthongs are divided into two groups:

1- Ending in /ɪ/: this group of diphthongs glide (end) in the close-front area of vowel /ɪ/. These diphthongs are:

/eɪ/ /aɪ/ /ɔɪ/

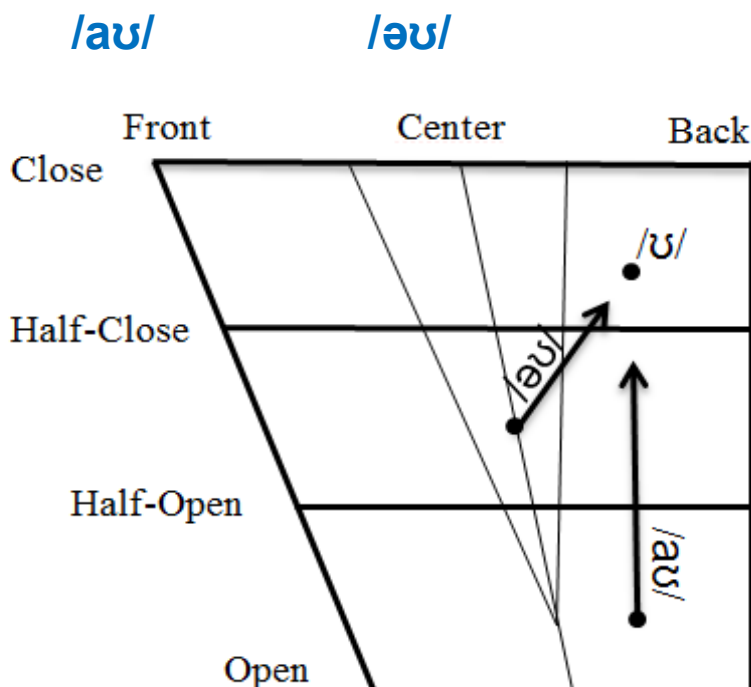


/eɪ/: a closing diphthong; the starting point is in the mid-front area of vowel **/e/** then glides towards the close-front area of vowel **/ɪ/**; the lips are spread throughout the diphthong; e.g.: **play /pleɪ/, A /eɪ/**.

/aɪ/: a closing diphthong; the starting point is in the open-front area of vowel **/æ/** then glides towards the close-front area of vowel **/ɪ/**; the lips are spread throughout the diphthong; e.g.: **high /haɪ/, I /aɪ/**.

/ɔɪ/: a closing diphthong; the starting point is in the mid-back area of vowel **/ɔ:/** then glides towards the close-front area of vowel **/ɪ/**; the lips change from rounded to spread; e.g.: **boy /bɔɪ/, voice /vɔɪs/**.

2- Ending in /ʊ/: this group of diphthongs glide (end) in the close-back area of vowel /ʊ/. These diphthongs are:



/aʊ/: a closing diphthong; the starting point is in the open-back area of vowel /ɑ:/ then glides towards the close-back area of vowel /ʊ/; the lips change from neutral to rounded; e.g.: **how /haʊ/, count /kaʊnt/.**

/əʊ/: a closing diphthong; the starting point is in the mid-centre area of vowel /ə/ then glides towards the close-back area of vowel /ʊ/; the lips change from neutral to rounded; e.g.: **low /ləʊ/, moan /məʊn/.**