

## Diphthongs

A diphthong is a glide from one vowel to another, and the whole glide acts like one of the long, simple vowels. The diphthongs of English are in three groups: those end in /ʊ/ , as in / əʊ/ and /aʊ/ , and those which end in /ɪ/ , as in /eɪ/ , /aɪ/ and /ɔɪ/ and those which end in /ə/ as in /ɪə, eə , ʊə/. To sum up, the diphthongs are 8 in number.

**The following table shows the difference between / əʊ/ and /aʊ/**

/ əʊ/	/aʊ/
Low-snow-close-coal-so-boat-coke-know-load-phoned-row-dote-tones	Now-loud-found-row-doubt-towns

**The following table shows the difference between /eɪ/ , /aɪ/ and /ɔɪ/**

/eɪ/	/aɪ/	/ɔɪ/
Late-paper-rake-sail-trade-fail-wait-race-lake-liad-raise-fail	White-rice-like-lied-rise-file-	Boy-oil-voice-toy-join-hoist-annoy-avoid-joint-noise-boils-loiter

**The following table shows the difference between /ɪə, eə , ʊə/**

/ɪə/	/eə/	/ʊə/
Ear-fear-Korean-really-year-real-fierce-beer-beard-pierce-clear-ideas-nearer-here-steered-really-beer-ears-weary	Hair-stared-rarely-bare-airs-wary	Poor-surely-furious-insurance-curiosity-cure-pure-sure-tourist-purely

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### -Vowel Sequences

There are vowel sequences as well as consonant sequences but they are not difficult. When one vowel( or diphthong) follows another you

should pronounce each one quite normally but with a smooth glide between them. The most common sequences are formed by adding /ə/ to a diphthong .The vowel sequences include the following :

/a ɪə/, /aʊə/ , /e ɪə/ , /ɔ ɪə/

**-The following table explains the differences among them:**

/a ɪə/	/aʊə/	/e ɪə/	/əʊə/	/ɔ ɪə/
Tyre-trail- quiet- coward- buyer-flyer- iron- riot	Ours-tower- trowel-tired- powerful- bower- flower – showery	Greyer- grower- player- betrayal	Followers- thrower-	Royal- employer- lawyers

**-The verbs ending –ing , give various sequences in words like:**

being-doing-allowing –drawing-going-seeing ( see page 88)

**-Other vowel swquences are found both within words and between words**

as in page 88 "

chaos / k eɪɔs/

**beyond-bluish-**

**two hours**

**Words in Company**

When we talk we do not talk in single words but in groups spoken continuously , with no break or pause; we may pause after a group, but not during it. These groups may be long or short. When we have longer things to say we break them

up into manageable groups. When one group is very closely connected grammatically to the next, there is a very slight pause, marked by | . When two groups are not so closely connected, there is a longer pause, marked by || . **And this double bar is also used to mark the end of a complete utterance. For example,**

I could **hardly believe** my eyes

**The words, ( hardly, believe, eyes ) are stressed .** This means that they are said with greater force and effort than others. We put the symbol (\*) before the stressed syllable . Only content words have stressed like ( nouns- adjectives- verbs-adverbs).

## **Stressed and unstressed syllables**

All words of more than one syllable are stressed . Next, words of one syllable are generally not stressed if they are purely grammatical words .like( pronouns, prepositions ,articles) . Syllables which are not stressed often contain the vowel /ə / . This vowel only occurs in unstressed syllables.(see page 92).

**Q/ Place the stress(\* mark) on the following words:**

permit-provide-photograph-combine- convent-invent-combination-preparation-progress-perfect-utility-window-maintain-vibrate- decide.

## **Weak forms of words**

The use of weak forms is an essential part of the English speech and you must learn to use the weak forms of 35 English words if you want your English sound English. For more example see page 92-94 in your textbook.

**The use of strong forms:**

1- Whenever the word is stressed

2-Whenever the word is in final position.