

جامعة الأنبار

الكلية / الآاب

قسم او الفرع / اللغة الانكليزية

المرحلة / الثانية

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اسم المادة باللغة العربية : الصوت

اسم المادة باللغة الإنكليزية : Phonetics

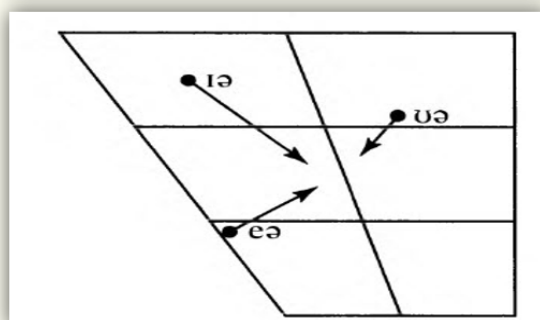
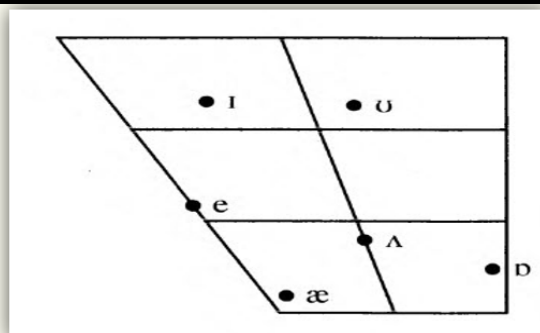
أسم المحاضرة الأولى باللغة العربية: اصوات العلة الثنائية و الثلاثية

أسم المحاضرة الأولى باللغة الانكليزية: Diphthongs and Triphthong
Vowels

محتوى المحاضرة الخامسة

➤ Diphthongs

- **A pure vowel:** vowel which remains constant and does not glide.
- **Diphthongs:** sounds that consist of a movement or glide from one vowel to another. In terms of **length**, diphthongs are similar to the long vowels.

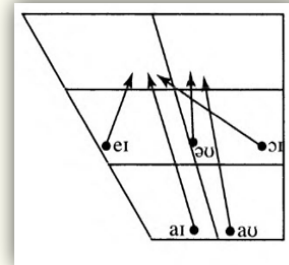
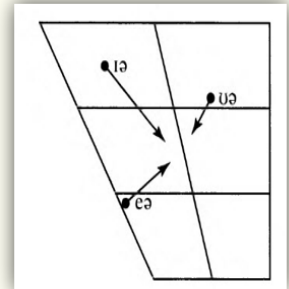
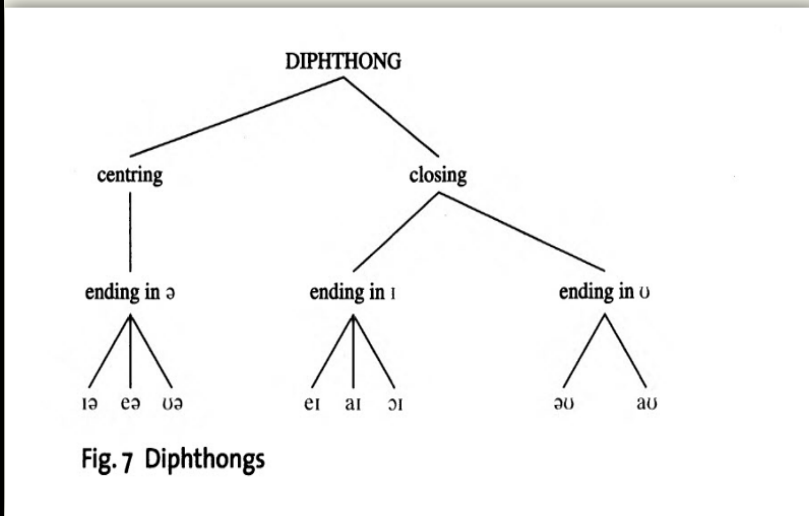


- It is important to remember that the first part of the diphthongs is much longer and stronger than the second part; for example, most of the diphthong **ai** (as in the words 'eye', 'I').
- The total number of diphthongs is **eight**.

DIPHTHONGS	
/eɪ/	as in 'take'
/aɪ/	as in 'buy'
/ɔɪ/	as in 'boy'
/ɪə/	as in 'fear'
/eə/	as in 'care'
/əʊ/	as in 'go'
/uə/	as in 'poor'
/aʊ/	as in 'cow'

eɪ	as in	page	/peɪdʒ/
əʊ	as in	home	/həʊm/
aɪ	as in	five	/faɪv/
aʊ	as in	now	/naʊ/
ɔɪ	as in	join	/dʒɔɪn/
ɪə	as in	near	/nɪə(r)/
eə	as in	hair	/heə(r)/
ʊə	as in	pure	/pjʊə(r)/

- The easiest way to remember diphthongs through dividing them into **three groups** as in this diagram (Fig. 7):



The centring diphthongs glide towards the ə (schwa) vowel, as the symbols indicate.

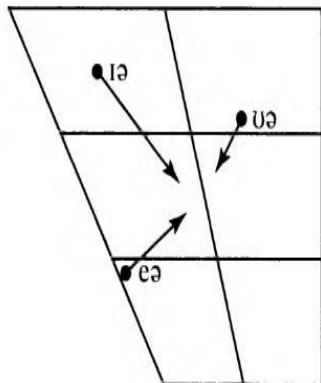
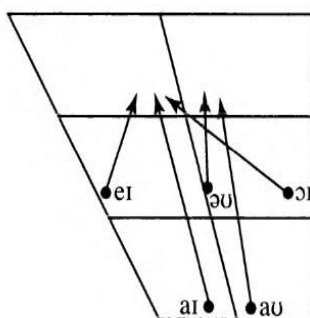


Fig. 8 Centring diphthongs

- ɪə (example words: 'beard', 'weird', 'fierce') The starting point is a little closer than ɪ in 'bit', 'bin'.
- eə (example words: 'aired', 'cairn', 'scarce') This diphthong begins with a vowel sound that is more open than the e of 'get', 'men'.
- ʊə (example words: 'moored', 'tour', 'lure') For speakers who have this diphthong, this has a starting point similar to ʊ in 'put', 'pull'. Many speakers pronounce ɔ: instead.

The closing diphthongs have the characteristic that they all end with a glide towards a closer vowel. Because the second part of the diphthong is weak, they often do not reach a position that could be called close. The important thing is that a glide from a relatively more open towards a relatively closer vowel is produced.

Three of the diphthongs glide towards ɪ, as described below:



eɪ (example words: 'paid', 'pain', 'face') The starting point is the same as the e of 'get', 'men'.

əʊ (example words: 'tide', 'time', 'nice') This diphthong begins with an open vowel which is between front and back; it is quite similar to the ʌ of the words 'cut', 'bun'.

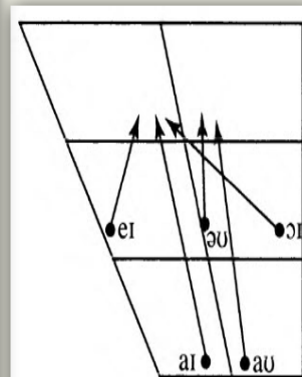
oɪ (example words: 'void', 'loin', 'voice') The first part of this diphthong is slightly more open than ɔ: in 'ought', 'born'.

Fig. 9 Closing diphthongs

- Two diphthongs glide towards ʊ, so that as the tongue moves closer to the roof of the mouth there is at the same time a rounding movement of the lips.

əʊ (example words: 'load', 'home', 'most') The vowel position for the beginning of this is the same as for the "schwa" vowel ə, as found in the first syllable of the word 'about'. The lips may be slightly rounded in anticipation of the glide towards ʊ, for which there is quite noticeable lip-rounding.

aʊ (example words: 'loud', 'gown', 'house') This diphthong begins with a vowel similar to aɪ. Since this is an open vowel, a glide to ʊ would necessitate a large movement, and the tongue often does not reach the ʊ position. There is only slight lip-rounding.



➤ Triphthongs

- **Triphthongs** are the most complex English vowel sounds.
- They can be rather difficult to pronounce, and very difficult to recognise.
- A triphthong is a glide from one vowel to another and then to a third, all produced rapidly and without interruption.
- For example: **hour'** ... **a:** → **ʊ** → **ə** = auə

eɪ + ə = eɪə	əʊ + ə = əʊə
aɪ + ə = aɪə	aʊ + ə = aʊə
ɔɪ + ə = ɔɪə	

- The triphthongs are composed almost in the same way of the five closing diphthongs.

- The middle of the three vowel qualities of the triphthong (i.e. the **ɪ** or **ʊ** part) can hardly be heard and the resulting sound is difficult to distinguish from some of the diphthong and long vowels.
- There is also the problem of whether a triphthong is felt to contain one or two syllables.
- For example : fire faɪə or hour auə consist of **one** syllable.
player pleɪə or slower sləʊə are more likely to be heard as **two** syllables.
- A careful pronunciation can be found by looking at the description of the corresponding diphthong and adding **ə** to the end.

eɪə 'layer', 'player'	əʊə 'lower', 'mower'
aɪə 'liar', 'fire'	aʊə 'power', 'hour'
ɔɪə 'loyal', 'royal'	