

Identifying unstressed vowels

Print, laminate and assemble the segments below into vowel fans.

Call out a polysyllabic word that includes an unstressed vowel (some examples are given overleaf). Pupils should then use their fans to show which is the vowel sound that they cannot hear or is not said within the word.

Example words with unstressed vowels

abandoned animal category conference dictionary explanatory flattery generally widening library marvellous abominable description catholic offering difference extra smuggler generous interest literacy miserable original boundary poisonous deafening

different factory formal Wednesday disinterest literate memorable predict business centre desperate doctor family freedom heaven interested illiterate reference familiar stationary company definite

jewellery literature messenger carpet stationery compromise definitely easily primary general separate voluntary lottery prepare

prosperous

secretary

hospital

frightening

abandoned	animal	category	conference
dictionary	explanatory	flattery	generally
widening	library	marvellous	abominable
description	catholic	offering	difference
extra	smuggler	generous	interest
literacy	miserable	original	boundary

Sorting word cards

Print these words onto card (or laminate) and cut out. (We've includes small and large cards).

Use these for pupils to sort by various criteria. Children can decide on their own groupings - they could be sorted by unstressed vowel, number of syllables, word length etc.

poisonous	deafening	different	factory
formal	Wednesday	disinterest	literate
memorable	predict	business	centre
desperate	doctor	family	freedom
heaven	interested	illiterate	reference
familiar	stationary	company	definite
prosperous	secretary	frightening	hospital
jewellery	literature	messenger	carpet

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stationery	compromise	definitely	easily
primary	general	separate	voluntary
lottery	prepare		

abandoned	animal	category
dictionary	explanatory	flattery
widening	library	marvellous
description	catholic	offering
extra	smuggler	generous
literacy	miserable	original

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conference	poisonous	deafening
generally	formal	Wednesday
abominable	memorable	predict
difference	desperate	doctor
interest	heaven	interested
boundary	familiar	stationary

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Finding unstressed vowels

different	prosperous	secretary
disinterest	jewellery	literature
business	frightening	hospital
family	messenger	carpet
illiterate	stationery	compromise
company	primary	general

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definitely	easily	
separate	voluntary	
lottery	prepare	