



SOUND RIGHT!

Colin Mortimer

Sound Right! Selected sounds in conversation

A Course in English Phonetics

Longman
1975



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1 /ɪ/ fit

- Does it fit?
- Yes, it fits, but it isn't very pretty.
- This *pink* one's very pretty.
- But it's a bit *big*.
- Well,... this silk one isn't *big*.
- No,... but it's a bit frilly.

- Jim's a brilliant physicist.
- Jim's a silly nitwit.
- Criticism! Nothing but criticism! If it isn't Jim, it's Billy and if it isn't Billy, it's...
- Billy's ridiculous!
- Philip, it's silly to criticise everybody!
- Yes, Jill, it is. Now, why are you criticizing *me*?

2 /i:/ tea

- Can you read tea-leaves, Peter?
- I can read *yours*, Eve.
- What can you see?
- I can see... the beach... and the sea... and two people – Eve and Peter.
- Can't you see three?
- No, Eve. Just you and me. I can't see Aunt Frieda at all.

- These feet are in the *terrible* condition! They need treatment.
- I agree, Doctor. My feet *do* need treatment.
- The treatment for these feet is to eat lots of green vegetables. But don't eat meat for at least a week.
- No meat, Doctor?
- I repeat – you must not eat meat for at least a week.
- But I *do* eat green vegetables, Doctor. And I don't eat meat at *all*.
- Then you don't seem to need the treatment.

- But Doctor – my *feet*!
- Next patient, please.

3 /ɪ/ sit /i:/ seat

- Is this seat free, please?
- No, it isn't – I'm keeping it for Miss Grimm.
- Well, can I sit in *this* seat?
- I'm afraid not – but *that* seat by the window/s free.
- Then I'll sit in it.
- But if you sit in *that* seat, you will not see a thing.

- Is there any meat?
- There's only *tinned* meat.
- Is it beef?
- It's chicken.
- Is it ready to eat?
- Well, you have to heat it before you *eat* it.

4 /e/ ten

- When?
- Next Wednesday.
- Yes?
- Take the ten-past-ten bus.
- Yes...?
- Get there at ten.
- Yes.
- Any questions?
- Yes!

- Ben said there were ten men.
- Ken said there were *twenty* men.
- Ben said the men were dressed in red.
- Ken said the men were dressed in *yellow*.
- Ben said the men were *dead*.
- Ken said the men were dead.
- Ben said ten men.
- Ken said *twenty*.

5 /ɪ/ bin /e/ ben

- Ben...
- Yes, Betty.
- Did you empty the bin?
- Yes, I *did* empty the bin.
- Did you send the letters?
- Mm?
- And did you finish the fence?
- I did everything, Betty. Everything.
- But did you remember to...
- Good night, Betty.

- You're getting thinner every minute.
- I'm slimming.
- I don't think slimming's a very good idea.
- But it isn't a very good idea to get heavy, is it?
- Who's heavy?
- Well... You *are* getting a bit thick round the middle.

6 /æ/ fat

- Have you got a marrow, Mr Sparrow?
- A marrow, madam? Yes,... there's *this* one, and that... and there's that.
- Oh, that's a nice *fat* marrow. Yes, I'll have that. Will you wrap it in paper for me?
- Gladly, Mrs Bradley. There you are. Now, madam... apples? Or... carrots, perhaps?
- Er... Actually, it's *Miss* Bradley, Mr Sparrow.

- Alfred owns a bank, Ann.
- I'm going to marry Frank, Dad.
- Harry owns a jam factory, Ann.
- I want to marry *Frank*, Dad.
- Marry *Alfred*, Ann. Or marry Harry.
- Frank, Dad! I'm going to marry Frank!
- Ann, you're mad!
- I've had a word with Grandfather.
- Your grandfather's mad too!
- Dad...
- Yes?
- I'm glad you didn't marry Miss Parry.

7 /æ/ Pat /e/ pet

- Get a pet, Pat.
- Alan, I've *got* a pet. I've got a cat!
- That terrible black cat outside?
- *Terrible?*
- That smelly cat?
- Alice is an *elegant* cat.
- Mm. Well, perhaps that cat at the back isn't Alice.
- Alice! Puss-puss! Alice! Alice, you haven't met Alan. Puss-puss!... Now Alan, this is Alice.
- Yes, Pat (*sniffs*). Yes, that's Alice.

- Thank you for your letter.
- Is your leg any better?
- My leg's *getting* better, yes.
- Well, I'm *glad* you're getting better.
- I was glad to get your letter.
- I'll be back again next Saturday.
- Yes.

8 /eɪ/ may

- Oh, may I stay, Mummy? *Please*, say I can stay all day.
- Yes. If they *say* you may.
- They've got lots of places to play and they've...
- Wait, Jane.
- I'll take my painting book, and some of my games...
- Wait – till they say you *may*!

- Wear the pale grey dress, Amy. It's my favourite.
- But I can't wear the same dress in the same place day after day, Raymond. And anyway, the waist's too big.
- Mrs Taylor's a good dressmaker. She can...
- Yes! She can make me a *new* dress. But it doesn't need to be pale grey, does it, Ray?
- Wait a minute, Amy! I didn't say a *new*...
- Well, perhaps, the different *shade* of grey.

9 /e/ went /ei/ pray

- They prayed for pennies.
- And pennies came.
- They prayed for plenty of players.
- And *twenty* came.
- They prayed whenever they went to play.
- And won every game.
- Who did they pray to?
- I forget the name.

- They say the weather's *better* in May.
- Mm. But you'll pay less in April.
- But in April it rains every day.
- They say the hotels are expensive in May.
- So, the question is – whether to pay for May weather.
- Yes. Or whether to *save* and get wet.

10 /ʌ/ cut

- Now, what've you done, young man?
- I've cut my thumb.
- Mm. Well, put out your tongue.
- But it's my thumb. I've cut my thumb.
- Put out your tongue!
- Mummy! Mummy! Why doesn't mummy come?
- Mummy's coming – put out your tongue.
- It's not my tongue, Mummy. It's my thumb.
- Please, Sonny – just put out your tongue.

- I love buns.
- Buns make crumbs.
- I love guns.
- Guns cost money.
- I love Ms Hunt.
- Ms Hunt's a honey.

11 /ɑː/ ask

- Ask it to bark, Margaret.
- I rather think it *can't* bark, Arnold.
- Can't bark? But if it can't bark, it can't guard the house. Ask it to bark, Margaret.
- Er... er... Can't you... bark?
- Bark, can't you! Bark! Bark!
- *Arnold* can bark.

- Aren't Carl and Marcia *ghastly* people?
- *Ghastly*, aren't they?
- But aren't their parties marvellous?
- Oh, they have *marvellous* parties, yes.
- Charles and Martha have *ghastly* parties.
- Mm. But they're *marvelous* people, aren't they?
- They're marvelous people, yes.
- What time does their ghastly party start, by the way?

12 /æ/ maths /ɑ:/ can't

- I shan't pass the maths exam.
- I shan't pass in art.
- Maths is too hard. I can't understand it.
- I'm very bad at art.
- Perhaps you'll pass.
- I shan't. Perhaps *you'll* pass.
- No, no! I *can't* pass.

- We've passed!
- I haven't passed in art, have I?
- You have! And *I've* passed in maths - by one mark!
- Isn't that *fabulous!*
- We must have a party!
- We'll have a fabulous party!
- Just imagine - we've passed!
- We've passed! We've *passed!*

13

 /æ/ glad /ʌ/ come

- Sally's come.
- Oh, I'm *glad* Sally's come. Has her *brother* come too?
- No her brother *hasn't* come actually. That doesn't matter much, Ann.
- No, it doesn't matter, Daddy.
- And Sally's *such* fun.
- Oh, Sally's lovely... But Daddy...
- Mm?
- Oh, Daddy, *why* hasn't he come?

- What a *lovely* sun-tan you've got! *I'm* beginning to burn.
- Cover your back. Cover your head, too.
- My hat's in the hut.
- Oh, where's my *handbag*?
- Perhaps in the hut.
- Luckily it hasn't got much money in it.
- Or perhaps under the sandcastle.

14 /ə/ Conservative

- I'm a Conservative, as a matter of fact.
- As a matter of fact, *I'm* a Conservative, too.
- There're various *varieties* of Conservative, Mr Taylor. And I'm afraid my sort of Conservative and *your* sort are different.
- Yes, Mrs Carruthers, but...
- Not another word, Mr Taylor!

- Where were you at the time of the burglary?
- I was at the cinema, Officer. And my mother and father were at the cinema, too.
- Was your brother at the cinema, too?
- At the cinema, Officer... Yes.
- And your sister?
- Er... She *wasn't* at the cinema. As a matter of fact I don't have a sister.
- I see.
- But of course if I had one, Officer...
- Don't tell me.
- Now which cinema was this?

- He wonders if he help with the cost of the dinner and the orchestra.
- No, he can't - he's one of the guests.
- Mm.
- But he can send me some flowers.
- Some flowers? Yes.

- As a surprise, of course.
- But of course.
- I *love* a surprise.

- My father was a conjuror.
- A *conjuror!*
- He was quite a famous conjuror. He performed for the President.
- For the *President! That* was wonderful!
- It was his last and *best* performance. His last trick was the greatest of all.
- What happened?
- He disappeared.

15 /ə/ locker /-/ lock

- Do you smoke?
- No, I don't. Do *you* smoke?
- Yes. I'm a *heavy* smoker.
- I used to smoke.
- Why did you stop?
- I got a smoker's cough.
- Poor chap.
- I had to *stop* smoking (*he coughs*). Soon I hope to stop coughing (*he coughs again*).

- Where can I lock up my clock while I'm away?
- Why not lock it in your locker?
- I'm afraid my locker won't lock.
- Oh.
- Can I lock it in *your* locker?
- No, I'm afraid you can't.
- But surely you've got room for a small clock.
- Yes, plenty. But my locker won't unlock.
- I see.
- That's why I've been borrowing your clock.

16 /ɜ:/ girl

- What does Irvine do?
- I'm not certain. But he earns a lot. He has money to burn.
- And Bernard?
- Oh, I prefer Bernard, of course, but...
- What a *superb* fur coat, by the way?
- As I say, I *prefer* Bernard, of course, but...
- And what *beautiful* pearls!

- Sh! There's a burglar behind the curtain!
- Are you certain, Bertha?
- Don't disturb him! He might hurt us – or worse, he might even murder us!
- But are you perfectly certain it's a burglar?
- Perfectly. Only a burglar would hide behind a curtain in that way.
- Oh, Bertha – do you remember Percy Turner?
- Sh! Gertrude! We're not the girls we were thirty years ago, you know.

17 /ʌ/ bun /ɜ:/ burn

- Something's burning.
- Oh, my buns!
- Curse this... oven! Curse it!
- But I *prefer* burnt buns.
- It's the worst... oven in the world!
- Wonderful! A perfect bun! Perfect!
- Well, there are thirty of them. Have another.
- Mm! Lovely!

- I work for your brother's company.
- Come and work for *my* company. How much money do you earn?
- Five hundred a month.
- You're worth another thirty.
- I'm worth another hundred. But I mustn't leave your brother.
- We'll discuss it on Thursday.
- We *have* discussed it.
- Six hundred?
- Six hundred and thirty.

18 /ɒ/ lot

- What does *that* model cost?
- This *modern* model?
- What does it cost?
- Oh, not a lot.
- Mm.
- What have you got?
- Er... not a lot.
- Mm.

- A frog! Look! A frog on a log!
- It's hopped off. Got it.
- No, John, stop it! Let it hop to the pond.
- Come on then... Froggy! Hop! Hop! Hop to the pond! Hop! ... Plop!

19

/ɒ/ boss /ʌ/ bus

- Sh! The boss is on the bus!
- But the boss doesn't *come* by bus.
- Well, this is a bus – and that's the boss.
- Oh, yes – at the *front*.
- Mm – next to Molly Monk
- Oh!

- What's wrong?
- Nothing's wrong.
- Something's wrong.
- It's nothing much.
- What's the trouble? Has John come?
- Mm. Come and gone.

20 /ɒ/ off /ɑː/ far

- Sorry, you can't have the office car. The boss has gone off in it.
- Where's he gone?
- Not far.
- How far's not far?
- Er...
- As far as the... golf club?

- And last, the farm cottage.
- Not the farm cottage! No, I can't sell the farm cottage!
- I've got an offer.
- I promised my father, ...
- It's a *large* offer.
- But I promised my father that I would not sell the...
- It's a very large offer, Miss Clark.
- Even so, I can't *possibly* sell the... How large is the offer?

21 /ɒ/ Tom /ʌ/ come /ɑː/ start

- Come on, Tom! Hurry up! Lunch is ready! We want to start!
- I'm coming.
- What are you *doing*?
- I'm in the bath, Mother.
- What a funny time for a *bath*! By the way, Margaret's come.
- Did you say Margaret's come, Mother?
- Tom! Put something on! You can't come to lunch in a towel!

- It was such a *wonderful* party! Oh! Am I the last? I must go!
- Wasn't Arthur funny?
- Oh, Arthur! I laughed and laughed!
- Another up?
- Er... half a cup, yes. Er... just a little more, please. Mm. Thank you. And perhaps some of that lovely chocolate cake. Wonderful! Oh, yes – Arthur! I laughed and laughed! Well, yes – perhaps just a little larger. Mm! It's such a lovely chocolate cake
Mm! *Mm!!*

22 /aɪ/ bike

- D'you like my bike?
- Yes – it's a *fine* bicycle.
- I think it's very nice.
- But – why did you buy it?
- I didn't *buy* it. I've *hired* it for a fortnight.
- But why? You don't like cycling – or any kind of exercise.
- Well, Myra likes cycling. And *I* like Myra.
- Does Myra like you?
- In a fortnight she might – if I'm still alive.

- Do you mind if I sit by the aisle? Oh, how kind! Thank you. I hate flying.
- Then – why do you fly?
- I'm a highjacker.

23

 /aɪ/ buy /ɔɪ/ boy

- What shall I buy for Simon?
- You spoil that boy.
- But he'll cry if I don't buy him a toy.
- Let him cry. He's got plenty of toys. Why not buy him an ice-cream?
- Last time he said he didn't *like* ice-cream.
- Well, *I* enjoy it.

- Would you like some rice?
- Mm. Nice.
- Boiled or fried?
- Oh, either.
- Two boiled rice, please.
- Well, I'd like fried – if I can have either.
- Two fried rice please.

24 /ɔ:/ tall

- So, this is your small daughter.
- I'm called Paula. And I'm not small, I'm tall.
- Can you walk?
- Of course – I can walk and walk. And I'm never naughty!
- Well, look, Paula – I've brought you a small present. It's a lovely ball.
- And I've got four balls already.

- What've Hawkins, Ball, Porter and Hall been doing, Corporal?
- Brawling again, sir. Here's the report.
- More brawling? All four? They're always brawling, Corporal
- Always, sir.
- Call them in.
- Hawkins! Ball! Porter! Hall! Fall in!
- They're always brawling. Hm! Now, you four – what was this brawl about? Mm?

25

/ɔ:/ call /ɑ:/ Carl

- It's Carl calling.
- At half past four in the morning?
- He says it's important – it's about the ear.
- You mean Carl's *own* ear, of course.
- No *your* ear, darling.

- Paul!
- My ball's gone in Mr Gordon's garden, Father.
- Get off the wall, Paul. Ask at the door.
- They aren't in. And Mr Gordon said that if he saw my ball in the garden once more, he'd...
- You'll fall, Paul!
- I shan't fall! This wall isn't hard to... Ouch!
- Are you all right?
- Oh, my arm hurts a bit. But I'm all right.
- The Gordons aren't in, you say?
- No, they aren't.
- All right!
- Father! Father, you'll fall!

26 /ɔ:/ bought /ɒ/ dog

- I've bought a dog, Polly.
- What sort of dog, Paul?
- Oh, just an ordinary dog, Polly.
- What's it called?
- Oh, it's got just an ordinary name.
- Is it called Spot?
- No – it's called... Polly.

- It's a sort of hog, isn't it? But it's got four horns!
- I caught it not far from the cottage, actually.
- Well, you ought to tell me what it is.
- It's a... wart-hog.
- A wart-hog! Oh! Mm... er... And what will you *call* your wart-hog?
- I shall call it – Horace.

27

/əʊ/ go /ɒ/ got /ɔː/ four

- I'm going to the grocer's.
- Call at the post-office, will you?
- It closes at four. The shop closes at four, too. Can't *you* go to the post-office? I want a lot of groceries.
- Oh, all right – I'll go.
- Get me some stamps, will you?

- I've got to go.
- Oh, don't go.
- I've got to.
- No, you don't have to go.
- I want to go home.
- What'd you want to go home for?
- Open the door.
- It's not locked. Off you go.
- I'm sorry.
- Go home if you want to. Go on.
- I'm sorry.
- It's all right. I don't mind.

28

/ʊ/ foot /ʌ/ cut

- I've cut my foot.
- Let me look. Mm. Not much of a cut. No blood. Just put a plaster. Cover it up.
- It's the other foot, actually.

- Could you come for lunch?
- I wish I could come, but...
- I'm cooking a duck.
- A duck! Mm!
- I've just made the pudding.
- Oh! A – A pudding!
- With nuts.
- Nuts! Mm – a wonderful lunch! Wonderful!
- It would be lovely if you could come.
- I'd love to come. Mother,...
- Good – come at one.
- But...

29

/ʊ/ good /u:/ boot

- Who would he choose?
- He'd choose you.
- He wouldn't choose me. I'm much too young. He doesn't think I could do it.
- Well, if he wouldn't choose you, who would he choose?
- He'd choose Wood. Wood's very good.
- Mm. Much too good to be true.

- We should be there by two.
- Yes, it's a full moon and the route's good.
- I'd put the things in the boot.
- The boot's full.
- What is that fool put in the boot?
- I wouldn't look if I were you.
- Or should I say – *who's* he put in the boot?

30

 /aʊ/ loud /əʊ/ boat

- Is Howard in or out?
- Howard! Howard!
- It sounds as if he's out.
- I'll shout a bit louder. Howard!
- Howard! Sue Brown's in town.
- Mm. It sounds as if he's in.

- What was the row about?
- He took me out in his boat. It's a motor-boat, but it broke down.
- So he rowed you home?
- No, his doctor won't allow him to row. He's had a broken shoulder, you know.
- So, I rowed and we had a row.
- Well, if he's had a broken shoulder, how could he row?
- Oh, I don't mind rowing.
- Well then?
- But he told me I was slow.

31 /w/ want /v/ very

- Where's the wagon?
- Where's *what* wagon?
- The water wagon.
- *What* water wagon?
- The wagon with the water!
- What water?
- I want water!
- We *all* want water.
- Well, *where's* the water?
- Good question.

- It's marvelous, isn't it? It's a lovely view. And over there you can see the volcano. Lovely, isn't it? A *marvelous* view! Don't you love this valley, Vera?
- Ivor! I've been feeling very tired all evening as I've said several times!

- Come on, Vicky! Time for our evening walk!
- (*Growls*)
- Vicky! Evening walk time!
- (*Growls*)
- Vicky, why won't you come for your walk this evening? You know we go for our walk at seven every evening!
- (*Growls*)

- Talk Vicky, please. Talk. Use words. You don't have to growl - you have a voice, you know.
- (*Barks*)
- Perhaps, we should've called you Rover.
- (*Barks*)
- Oh, I'm going! Here - have a bone!
- (*Growls*)

- How much do we have to give?
- You don't have to give.
- I'll give whatever Mrs Glover gave.
- She gave five.
- Very well - I'll give five pence, too.
- She gave five *pounds*.
- Tut tut! She always gives too much, Mrs. Glover.

32 /b/ big /v/ very

- I love you, Miss Bravington.
- But how can I believe you, Mr Beaver?
- I'll vault over the balcony, Miss Bravington.
- Vault over the balcony, Mr Beaver?
- It'll prove my love, Miss Bravington.
- I'll break your back, Mr Beaver.

- Seven days old. She's a *lovely* baby!
- She's a *beautiful* baby.
- And she's a *clever* baby.
- She's a *very* clever baby.
- And her voice – her voice is so... so *clear*!
- She's got a *very* clear voice!
- However, her vocabulary isn't big.
- It isn't *very* big, no.
- Not *very* big.
- But it's big for a baby of her age.

33 /θ/ third

- Date of birth?
- The third of March, nineteen thirty-three.
- The third of March, nineteen thirty-three.
- I think.
- You think what?
- I think it was the third. But perhaps it was the forth.
- You think it was either the third or the forth?
- No, I don't *think* it was either the third or the forth – I *know* it was either the third or the forth. And I *think* it was the *third*.
- Mm. Well anyway, I think you ought to know...
- Yes?
- The positions have been taken. We've filled the vacancies already.
- What, both?
- Both.

34 /f/ fifty /θ/ three

- It's got fifty pearls in it! It's worth a lot. It's worth the earth.
- I don't think it's worth the earth.
- You can have it for one thousand 500five hundred – as my friend.
- I thought a *thousand* would be enough.
- A *thousand*?
- Thirteen hundred.
- Thirteen *fifty*.
- You're an old *thief*, Felix. All right - Thirteen fifty.

- I want three thousand a month.
- We can offer two thousand five hundred.
- Two thousand seven hundred and fifty.
- Two thousand five hundred.
- Two thousand six hundred and fifty.
- Two thousand five hundred.
- And fifty?
- After a few months, perhaps.
- I'll think about it.
- Think now.
- I've thought. When do I start?
- On the fifth.

35 /ð/ they

- They've all gone bathing in the sea! I'm not going bathing in *this* weather. Are you?
- No, I'm not going bathing.
- I *loathe* bathing in the sea in this sort of weather.
- And I loathe *bathing*.

- And while you're up, Heather, could you pass me *that* one, too?
- Oh, you mean *this* one, Mother?
- No, not that – the *other*. *That* one. Yes, *that*.
- There you are, Mother. Will that be all?
- Yes – that's all for the moment, Heather.
- Then I'll shut the cupboard, Mother.
- Though... while you're still up there, could you perhaps pass me that one, too?
- *This* one, Mother?

36 /θ/ thing /ð/ they

- Arthur and Martha are such *enthusiasts*! They're so enthusiastic!
- What are they so enthusiastic about?
- Oh, about everything! Among other things, they're both very enthusiastic about the theatre.
- The theatre. Mm.
- I *loathe* the theatre. And I *loathe* enthusiasts.
- I *loathe* Arthur and Martha.

- They make my clothes from this special cloth. And they sew them with thick special cotton. There's something special about the buttons, too.
- Mm.
- Don't you think my clothes look rather special?
- To tell you the truth, I think your clothes look rather ...
- Yes? Say what you think.
- Well yes, I suppose they *do* look rather special ...

37 /s/ sing

- I'll sing you a song.
- Yes, *do* sing a song. But don't sing a *sad* song.
- Most of my songs are sad.
- Well, sing one that's not.
- I'll Simple Simon.

- That house is too expensive. Let's see what else you've got on your list.
- This is a small guest house. Close to the sea...
- Excellent accommodation consisting of... Just what you said you wanted. And the price is low, of course.
- Mm. Nice.
- You could see it for yourself next Saturday or Sunday.
- But first, could you perhaps say what the low price is?

38 /s/ sink /θ/ think

- It's not safe.
- Of *course* it's not safe.
- I think it'll sink. It's only made of thin cloth.
- It's not cloth, it's plastic. And it's not thin. It's *thick*.
- Well, even *thick* plastic can burst.
- It's quite safe. The man said so.
- And anyway, sailing makes me sick.

- Now, look at this sir – this marvelous seventeenth-century mirror. It's a thing both of beauty and of worth.
- Yes, but d'you think...
- Oh I think you'll like the price too, sir.
- Mm. Perhaps so. But to me it seems quite worthless.
- Oh – you can have complete faith in it!
- Yes – but can you see your face in it?

39 /θ/ three /t/ tree

- I think I shall plant two or three of these tress.
- Mm. Two or three trees would be nice. Where do you think you'll plant them?
- Oh both sides of the path, I think.
- And when the trees are tall,...
- I shall be a hundred and thirty.

- I'm taking mathematics and theology.
- And... who teaches you maths?
- Mr Theodore.
- But I thought Mr Theodore taught theology.
- He taught theology last term. But the maths teacher left, and now Mr. Theodore will be taking us for maths.
- Well who's taking you for theology now?
- *Mrs* Theodore.
- I didn't know *Mrs* Theodore had studied theology.
- That's how she met *Mr* Theodore.

40 /z/ zoo /s/ see

- Zoos are nice!
- Look! Zebras!
- Zebras are nice!
- And lizards!
- Lizards are nice!
- Look! Snakes!
- And snakes are nice!
- Some snakes are poisonous! They can kill people!
- Poisonous snakes are the nicest! Sssss...!

- He has lots of hobbies.
- And he's always busy with his roses and his bees.
- He's won a dozen prizes for his roses and his bees.
- But as for his business in the city...
- He lets his cousins look after his business.
- Yes, *we* look after his business in the city.
- So you see, if you want to discuss, Mr Swales...
- You must discuss it, er...
- With *us*.
- Please, Mr Swales.

41 /ð/ bathe /z/ buzz /s/ bus

- What's that, Father?
- It's a buzzer, Lesley.
- What does the buzzer do, Father?
- The bus conductor presses the buzzer, and then that stops the bus.
- But doesn't the bus driver stop and start the bus?
- Yes, he does.
- But you said the *buzzer* stops the bus, Father.
- Lesley, would you like these... sweets?

- The sun's *fabulous!* The sky's blue! This is the sort of weather for bathing, Daisy!
- This is the sort of weather for sleeping for hours in these marvelous sands!
- Oh, let's bathe!
- Please, go to sleep, Liz!
- Lazy Daisy!
- Busy Lizzie!

42 /ð/ there /d/ dare

- May we play in the mud, Mother?
- Don't you *dare* play there!
- Father doesn't mind if we play in the mud, Mother.
- Father doesn't wash the dirty clothes, dear.

- I'm the daughter. Then there's Father and Mother, and my two brothers.
- I'll write that down.
- And then there's Denis, Doctor.
- Dennis.
- Dennis is the dog.
- Oh. The dog.
- That's D-E-N-N-I-S, Dennis, Doctor.
- Dennis – yes, I've got that down. Er... now, erm...

43 /ʒ/ measure / ð/ rather /z/ does

- But how can you measure pleasure?
- You can measure anything.
- But pleasure's immeasurable.
- It's not immeasurable.
- And if it were measurable, than it wouldn't be half so pleasurable.

- Who's that over there?
- Oh, that's Sir Basil. He is the club treasurer.
- I see.
- He's come to watch television.
- And does Sir Basil always sleep when television's on?
- Usually he does.
- Ah.
- And occasionally he snores... rather noisily...
- Yes.
- Yes, you must have noticed.
- (Coughs).

44 /dʒ/ judge

- That judge had a grudge against George.
- Judges aren't allowed to have grudges.
- Well, *that* judge had a grudge.
- So he sent George to jail.
- Poor George...
- And poor Jill.
- Jill?
- His wife's called Jacqueline.
- Mm... Poor Jacqueline.

- In just a few hours we do the next part of the journey by plane. So jump into bed and get some rest, John.
- Will it be a jet, Uncle Jim?
- Probably a jet.
- A jumbo jet?
- Mm... Probably. Well good-night, John.
- Just think – a jumbo jet, Uncle.
- Good-night, John.
- (Imitates a jumbo jet).
- Sleep tight, John.

45 /ʒ/ measure /dʒ/ job /ð/ this /s/ yes

- This is a job for you to do.
- What time?
- The usual time.
- Where?
- The usual place.
- Is it dangerous?
- I imagine so – these jobs usually are.
- Yes...
- Enjoy yourself.
- Thank you very much.
- Always a pleasure.
- Hm!
- And now, if you don't mind, I have another engagement, so, er... see you later... perhaps!
- You measured me in July, Mr Jennings.
- Yes, sir. But I'd rather measure you again...
- Oh, yes – just a small adjustment here, sir.
- So my bulge is getting larger. It's... middle age!
- It's only a small adjustment, sir.
- That's what you said when you measured me in July.

46 /tʃ/ child /dʒ/ job /ð/ that

- And which child is this?
- That's Charles.
- What a large child!
- All my children are large.
- And which child is this?
- That's James.
- What an agile child!
- All my children are agile.
- And which child is this?
- That's Joanna. Joanna hopes to go to college!
- Mm. All my children go to college.
- You can't do that!
- Of course I can. It's my bridge.
- But you can't chop it down!
- It's my bridge, and I'm chopping it down.
- Don't chop it down! How shall we cross? We can't manage without it.
- Well, you'll just have to ju... (bridge begins to collapse) Jump! Juuuump!
- Well, I did jump. Why didn't he?

47

/ʃ/ show /s/ so

- A shirt, sir? Yes, sir. This will suit you – it’s in a very fashionable shade.
- Mm. I want something simpler.
- A silver one, perhaps? It’s got some special sewing on the sleeve.
- Can’t you show me a simple shirt in an ordinary shade? Perhaps I should try the next shop.
- Now... let me see, sir. Let me see... er... *Ab!*
- Mm. Yes – perhaps I *will* try the next shop.

- You're blushing.
- I'm shy.
- It suits you. I'm glad you're shy.
- I wish I didn't blush – it's silly. I'm not a school girl. I should have stopped blushing by now. Why am I still so *shy*? It's so silly.
- It's not silly. It suits you. Honestly!
- And worse still – it's old-fashioned.

48

/ʃ/ shop /tʃ/ chop /s/ seem

- The Chairman shouted at Miss Chase.
- Shouted at Miss Chase! Oh, a Chairman shouldn't shout, should he?
- No, he shouldn't.
- Not even at Miss Chase!

- Will you watch Sheila for me while I finish shopping? I must fetch some fish and some cheese and – oh, yes – I must ask the butcher for some nice chops. Watch her, won't you?
- She seems to need a wash. Shall I wash her?
- I wish you would.
- If I can catch her! Sheila! Sheila! Come for a nice wash. Sheila! Sheila! Oh! Ouch! She scratched me!
- Sheila! I'm *ashamed* of you, Sheila!
- Oh, it's only a *small* scratch.
- Are you sure?
- Fortunately, she's only a *small* cheetah.

49

 /h/ hall /-/ all

- How handsome Henry is.
- Henry is handsome, isn't he?
- And how hard-*working* Henry is!
- Henry *does* work hard.
- And how *honest* Henry is!
- Oh? Is Henry honest?

- Hurry up, Harvey – the exhibition opens in half an hour.
- I don't really understand painting, dear. But Hugh here is an art lover, aren't you Hugh?
- Now, Harvey...
- And do you know, I suddenly feel rather ill, Hilda. Perhaps it's the heat – or something I've eaten.
- Harvey!
- Oh, all right, Hilda.

50 /l/ long /r/ wrong

- Have you got a *lot* of relations?
- Millions.
- Isn't that rather a lot, Roland?
- Well I *have* got several – as you probably realize when you get the bill for the lunch!

- Valerie, it was very wrong of you to be away so long. Mother's very worried.
- I'm sorry I'm late. But Larry's car broke down.
- I don't really like Larry. Why not marry someone older – like Ronald?
- I don't *love* Ronald, and I do love Larry.
- But Ronald's got a lot of money.
- Ronald's a *fool*.
- Really, Valerie, you are terrible!
- Why don't *you* marry Ronald, Laura?

51 /p-b/ /t-d/ /k-g/

- You can't keep a pet in these apartments.
- Can't I keep a puppy?
- You can't keep a pet in these apartments.
- Or a kitten, perhaps.
- You can't keep a pet in these apartments.
- Not even a tortoise?
- You can't keep a pet in these apartments.
- You ought to keep a pet yourself, you know.
- You can't keep a pet in these apartments.
- Why not a parrot, for instance?

- When the rain stops, you will see how beautiful the beach is.
- But the rain's been pouring down for two days! We've both caught cold. Let's pack our bags and go back to town.
- The bedroom *is* a bit damp, yes. But it's better than a tent. You wanted to go camping, remember?
- You're impossible, Tom! (She sniffs).
- Well you did! You wanted to sleep in a tent!
- (She sneezes).

- Was it a good game?
- It was a terrific game.
- You had a good day for it.

- A *beautiful* day.
- Did Tom score?
- He scored twice.
- And you?
- Now, where did I put that can of beer?
- Did you score?
- Ah, I got it.
- Perhaps next time.
- Hm!

- How d'you do? I'm Parker.
- How d'you do, Barker.
- Parker.
- Oh – Parker with a P.
- With a P, yes.
- Er... I'm Barker.
- Barker with a B. Of course.
- A B. Yes.
- Ah!
- Mm.
- Er... well, good-bye, Barker!
- Good-bye, Parker!