



Vowel Sounds Phonics Assessment

Teacher Notes

The purpose of this “whole class” assessment is to determine which vowel sounds students can and cannot accurately read. Although, the test actually determines word recognition, rather than pronunciation, the correlation between the two is statistically significant and the results are valid and prescriptive. In other words, teachers can reliably use this diagnostic data to effectively differentiate instruction.

Using nonsense words helps eliminate the variable of sight word prior knowledge. This is especially necessary for remedial reading students, who may have acquired a bank of sight words, but still lack decoding ability. Nonsense words help students attend to the vowel sounds so that the teacher can accurately assess student decoding ability.

Directions/Grading/Recording

Pass out the **Vowel Sounds Phonics Assessment** to students. Say—“This is a short test to see if you can identify the nonsense words I say out loud. Listen carefully because I won’t repeat the words after the test is finished. On your test, find the first row of four words. [Pause] After I say each word, fill in the capital letter that best matches the spelling of that word I say. Let’s start with Number One. Ready? Number One is *hux* (repeat twice more).” Note that the teacher reads only the underlined word in each row. Follow this script for the rest of the test.

Once the assessments have been scored using the Teacher Answer Key, the errors should be recorded on the **Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, Sight Words, and Fluency Mastery Matrix** with a / for each vowel sound component not meeting mastery criteria of 80% for each student. The numerical mastery criteria are listed in the right-hand margins.

Helpful Hints

- Do not elongate the vowel sounds.
- Use the (rhyme) as a key to correct pronunciation.
- Keep a consistent pace of about seven seconds per test item. Any longer and students will lose their place or begin daydreaming.

TRS Vowel Sounds Phonics Assessment (Teacher Copy)

TEACHER DIRECTIONS: Read each underlined word three times. Use the (rhyme) as a key to correct pronunciation. Do not elongate the vowel sounds.

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|--------|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| ___ 1. | A. hox | B. hix | C. <u>hux</u> (ducks) | D. hax |
| ___ 2. | A. pem | B. pum | C. pim | D. <u>pom</u> (mom) |
| ___ 3. | A. gud | B. ged | C. <u>gid</u> (bid) | D. gad |
| ___ 4. | A. <u>meg</u> | B. mig | C. mog | D. mag |
| ___ 5. | A. kes | B. kus | C. kos | D. <u>kas</u> (pass) |
| ___ 6. | A. suef | B. <u>seaf</u> (deaf) | C. saef | D. sif |

Short Vowels 5/6 Mastery ___/6

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|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| ___ 7. | A. bin | B. <u>bine</u> (fine) | C. bian | D. byan |
| ___ 8. | A. diak | B. dak | C. <u>dake</u> | D. diek |
| ___ 9. | A. yut | B. yeat | C. <u>yute</u> (chute) | D. yiout |
| ___ 10. | A. toup | B. <u>tope</u> (rope) | C. teop | D. taop |
| ___ 11. | A. buot | B. buat | C. buit | D. <u>bute</u> (mute) |
| ___ 12. | A. <u>fene</u> (bean) | B. feun | C. fen | D. faen |

Silent Final e 5/6 Mastery ___/6

- | | | | | |
|---------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| ___ 13. | A. vaudy | B. vawdy | C. <u>vady</u> (lady) | D. viedy |
| ___ 14. | A. <u>fay</u> (bay) | B. fiay | C. foay | D. fuay |
| ___ 15. | A. kaek | B. keak | C. kik | D. <u>kaik</u> (rake) |
| ___ 16. | A. <u>bein</u> (rain) | B. boan | C. bian | D. baun |
| ___ 17. | A. motfew | B. <u>motfe</u> (motley) | C. motfeu | D. motfoa |
| ___ 18. | A. jeu | B. jiu | C. jeo | D. <u>jee</u> (me) |
| ___ 19. | A. cid | B. <u>ceid</u> (need) | C. cide | D. ceud |
| ___ 20. | A. kybo | B. kybi | C. <u>keby</u> (freebie) | D. keyb |
| ___ 21. | A. <u>deat</u> (meat) | B. diut | C. dight | D. diegt |
| ___ 22. | A. zean | B. zein | C. <u>zine</u> (bean) | D. zen |
| ___ 23. | A. pioson | B. piason | C. piuson | D. pison (bison) |
| ___ 24. | A. beu | B. <u>bigh</u> (high) | C. bei | D. bia |
| ___ 25. | A. ceter | B. caeter | C. <u>cyter</u> (writer) | D. coutter |
| ___ 26. | A. mip | B. miap | C. mippe | D. <u>miep</u> (wipe) |

- ___ 27. A. biuped B. beoped C. boped (moped) D. baoped
 ___ 28. A. koel (goal) B. kuol C. kiol D. kaol
 ___ 29. A. moip B. mup C. moop D. moap (soap)
 ___ 30. A. kow (show) B. kuiw C. keiw D. kaw
 ___ 31. A. puwtest B. poutest C. poitest D. putest (cutest)
 ___ 32. A. kuo B. kuh C. kew (few) D. kau
 ___ 33. A. bau B. bui C. cue (view) D. beo

Long Vowels/Vowel Digraphs 17/21

___/21

- ___ 34. A. goot (boot) B. guite C. giot D. gueth
 ___ 35. A. croi B. crue (blue) C. crau D. criu
 ___ 36. A. saeyt B. soty C. siuty D. suty (duty)
 ___ 37. A. taed B. tewd (food) C. tid D. teed
 ___ 38. A. wut (foot) B. waht C. weut D. wat
 ___ 39. A. muek B. mowk C. mook (book) D. mauk
 ___ 40. A. mayl B. mawl C. mool D. mowel (towel)
 ___ 41. A. sud B. soad C. soud (loud) D. siud
 ___ 42. A. pown B. poun C. poan D. poin (coin)
 ___ 43. A. luy loy (boy) C. lowy D. luyh
 ___ 44. A. bawn (dawn) B. ban C. boun D. bown
 ___ 45. A. loind B. loond C. lound D. laund (fond)
 ___ 46. A. algo (also) B. owlgo C. ailgo D. argo
 ___ 47. A. rael B. roul C. rall (tall) D. rial

Diphthongs 11/14

___/14

- ___ 48. A. loirt B. loort C. lawrt D. lort (sort)
 ___ 49. A. gar B. gur (fur) C. gier D. gor
 ___ 50. A. dorb B. dowb C. derv (serve) D. darb
 ___ 51. A. tir (sir) B. ture C. teer D. tier
 ___ 52. A. morve B. marve (carve) C. merve D. mawrv

r-controlled Vowels ___/5



Vowel Sounds Phonics Assessment

Name _____

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|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------|
| ___ 1. | A. hox | B. hix | C. hux | D. hax |
| ___ 2. | A. pem | B. pum | C. pim | D. pom |
| ___ 3. | A. gud | B. ged | C. gid | D. gad |
| ___ 4. | A. meg | B. mig | C. mog | D. mag |
| ___ 5. | A. kes | B. kus | C. kos | D. kas |
| ___ 6. | A. suef | B. seaf | C. saef | D. sif ___/6 |
| ___ 7. | A. bin | B. bine | C. bian | D. byan |
| ___ 8. | A. diak | B. dak | C. dake | D. diek |
| ___ 9. | A. yut | B. yeast | C. yute | E. yiout |
| ___ 10. | A. toup | B. tope | C. teop | D. taop |
| ___ 11. | A. buot | B. buat | C. buit | D. bute |
| ___ 12. | A. fene | B. feun | C. fen | D. faen ___/6 |
| ___ 13. | A. vaudy | B. vawdy | C. vady | D. viedy |
| ___ 14. | A. fay | B. fiay | C. foay | D. fuay |
| ___ 15. | A. kaek | B. keak | C. kik | D. kaik |
| ___ 16. | A. bein | B. boan | C. bian | D. baun |
| ___ 17. | A. motfew | B. motfe | C. motfeu | D. motfoa |
| ___ 18. | A. jeu | B. jiu | C. jeo | D. jee |
| ___ 19. | A. cid | B. ceid | C. cide | D. ceud |
| ___ 20. | A. kybo | B. kybi | C. keby | D. keyb |
| ___ 21. | A. deat | B. diut | C. dight | D. diegt |
| ___ 22. | A. zean | B. zein | C. zine | D. zen |
| ___ 23. | A. poison | B. piason | C. piuson | D. pison |
| ___ 24. | A. beu | B. bigh | C. bei | D. bia |
| ___ 25. | A. ceter | B. caeter | C. cyter | D. couter |
| ___ 26. | A. mip | B. miap | C. mippe | D. miep |

___ 27.	A. biuped	B. beoped	C. boped	D. baoped
___ 28.	A. koel	B. kuol	C. kiol	D. kaol
___ 29.	A. moip	B. mup	C. moop	D. moap
___ 30.	A. kow	B. kuiw	C. keiw	D. kaw
___ 31.	A. puwtest	B. poutest	C. poitest	D. putest
___ 32.	A. kuo	B. kuh	C. kew	D. kau
___ 33.	A. bau	B. bui	C. bue	D. beo ___/21
___ 34.	A. goot	B. guite	C. giot	D. gueth
___ 35.	A. croi	B. crue	C. crau	D. criu
___ 36.	A. saeyt	B. soty	C. siuty	D. suty
___ 37.	A. taed	B. tewd	C. tid	D. teed
___ 38.	A. wut	B. waht	C. weut	D. wat
___ 39.	A. muek	B. mowk	C. mook	D. mauk
___ 40.	A. mayl	B. mawl	C. mool	D. mowel
___ 41.	A. sud	B. soad	C. soud	D. siud
___ 42.	A. pown	B. poun	C. poan	D. poin
___ 43.	A. luy	B. loy	C. lowy	D. luyh
___ 44.	A. bawn	B. ban	C. boun	D. bown
___ 45.	A. loind	B. loond	C. lound	D. laund
___ 46.	A. algo	B. owlgo	C. ailgo	D. argo
___ 47.	A. rael	B. roul	C. rall	D. rial ___/14
___ 48.	A. loirt	B. loort	C. lawrt	D. lort
___ 49.	A. gar	B. gur	C. gier	D. gor
___ 50.	A. dorb	B. dowb	C. derv	D. darb
___ 51.	A. tir	B. ture	C. teer	D. tier
___ 52.	A. morve	B. marve	C. merve	D. mawrv ___/5