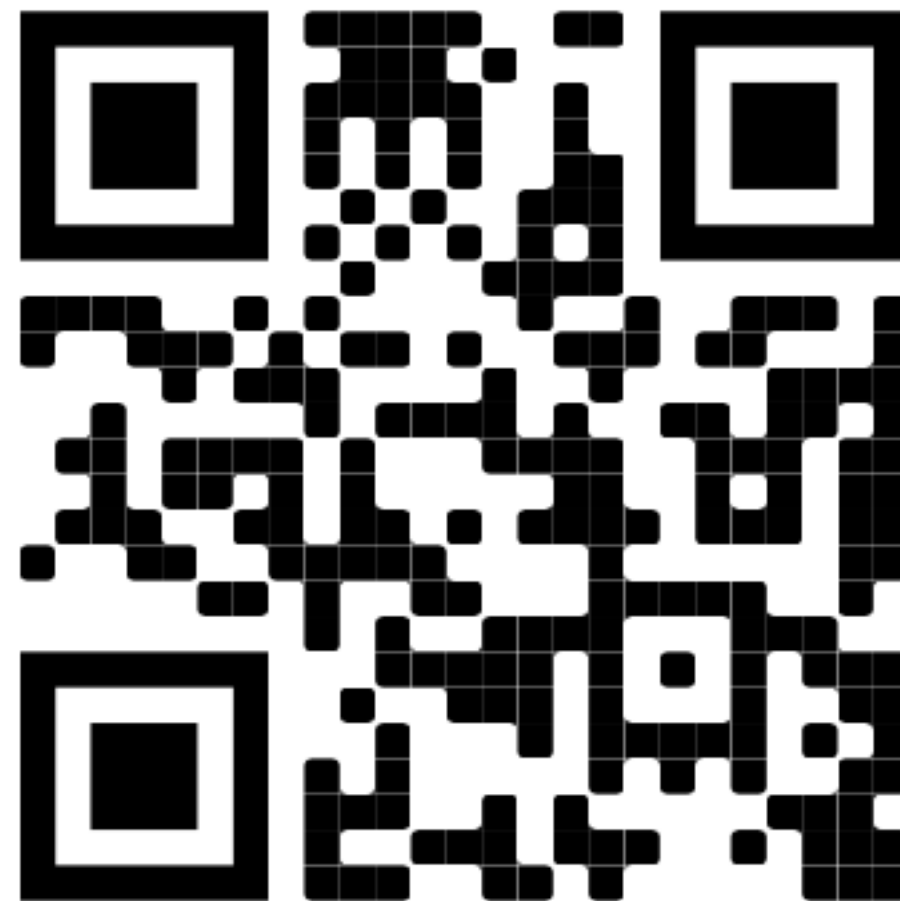


<https://iamsoundingenglish.com>

I am **sounding**



ENGLISH





Vowels

Getting you better understood

Why the quality of the vowel?

The role of vowel quality in maintaining intelligibility in ELF interactions

- Sound more natural
- Easier for others to understand
- Improves listening
- A start to improving your pronunciation
- This is what gives accents



Pronunciation Focus



- Accents do not impede communication (Munro & Derwing, 1995)
- Prudent to focus on elements of speech that will contribute to comprehensibility and intelligibility (Derwing & Munro, 2005)
- Concentrate on the production of the suprasegmental feature when providing pronunciation practice
- Perception of lexical stress plays an important role in the segmentation of speech and location of word boundaries (Cutler, 2005; Tyler & Cutler, 2009)

Order to teach pronunciation

- Vowels
- Syllable stress in words
- Syllable stress in phrases
- Rhythm & Chunking
- Schwa
- Sentence chunking
- Intonation
- Connected Speech



Vowels

What are these vowel sounds?

Open vocal tract, with vibration of the vocal cords but without audible friction

A unit of the sound system of a language that forms the nucleus of a syllable

A vowel is a sound that when paired with a consonant makes a syllable

y

/a/

cat

cake

/e/

bed

greet

/i/

sit

might

/o/

top

grow

/u/

sun

cute

/e^y/

/i^y/

/ai^y/

/o^w/

/u^w/

Short and Long Vowel Practice

mat

mate /e^y/

led

lead /i^y/

sit

site /ai^y/

hop

hope /o^w/

young

you /u^w/

Vowel quality

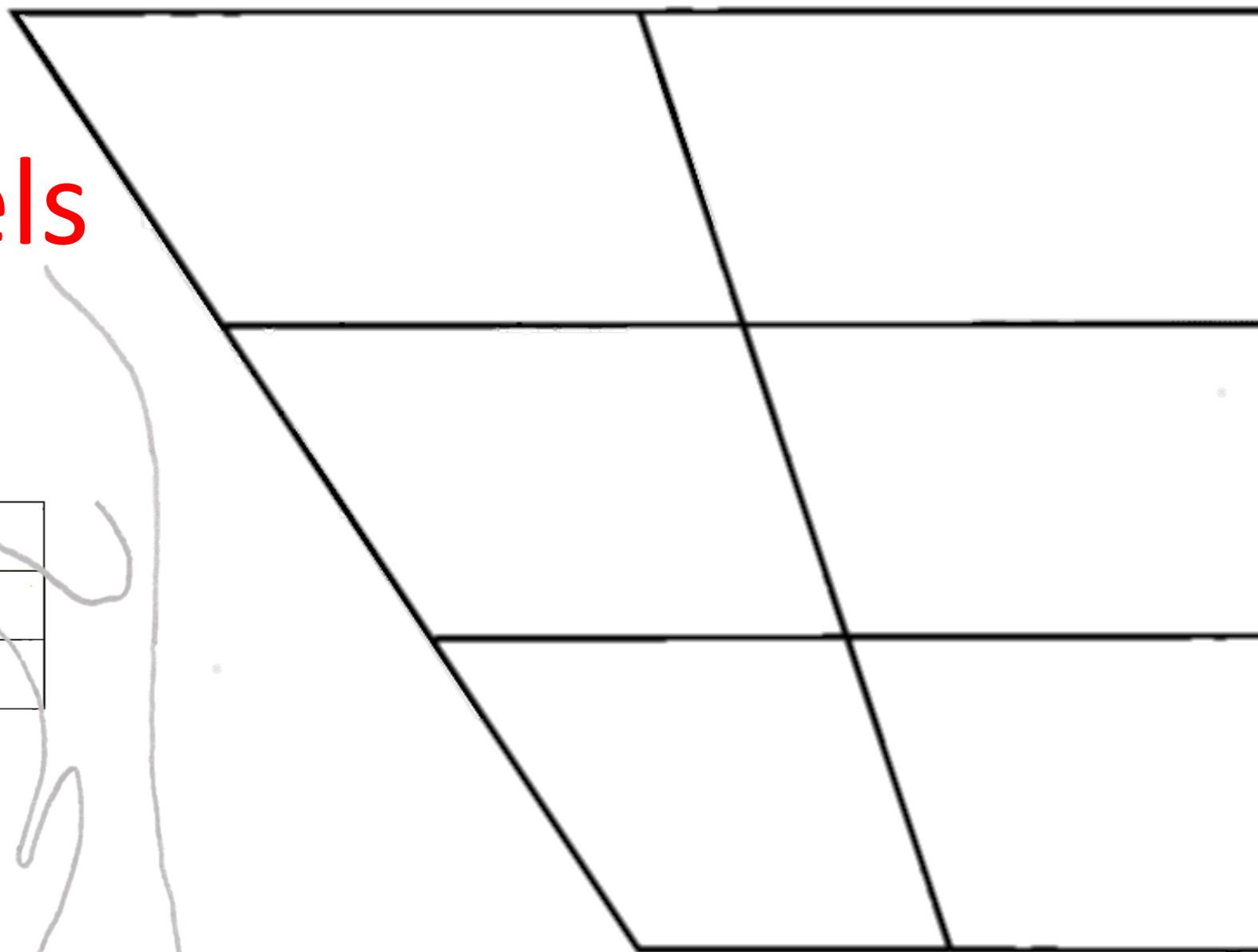
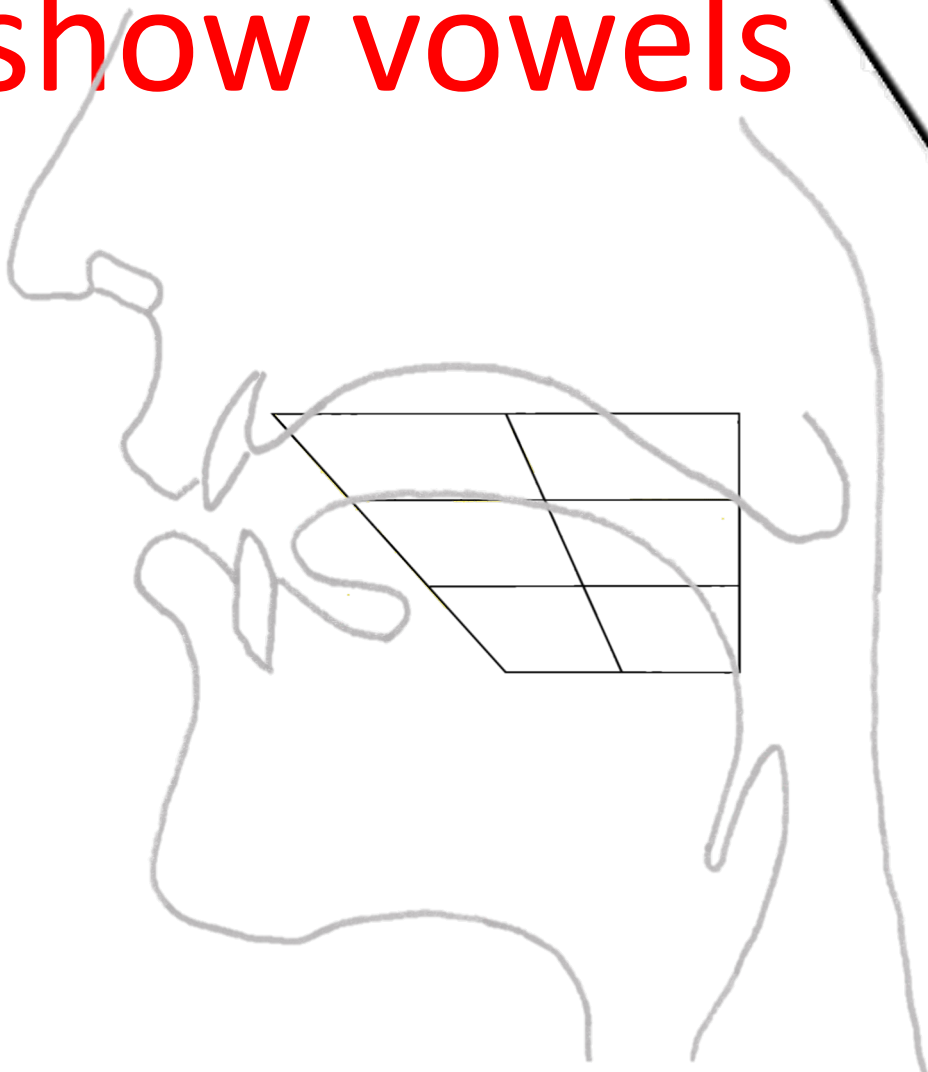
Vowel quality is not important and can be excluded from the Lingua Franca Core Jenkins (2000)

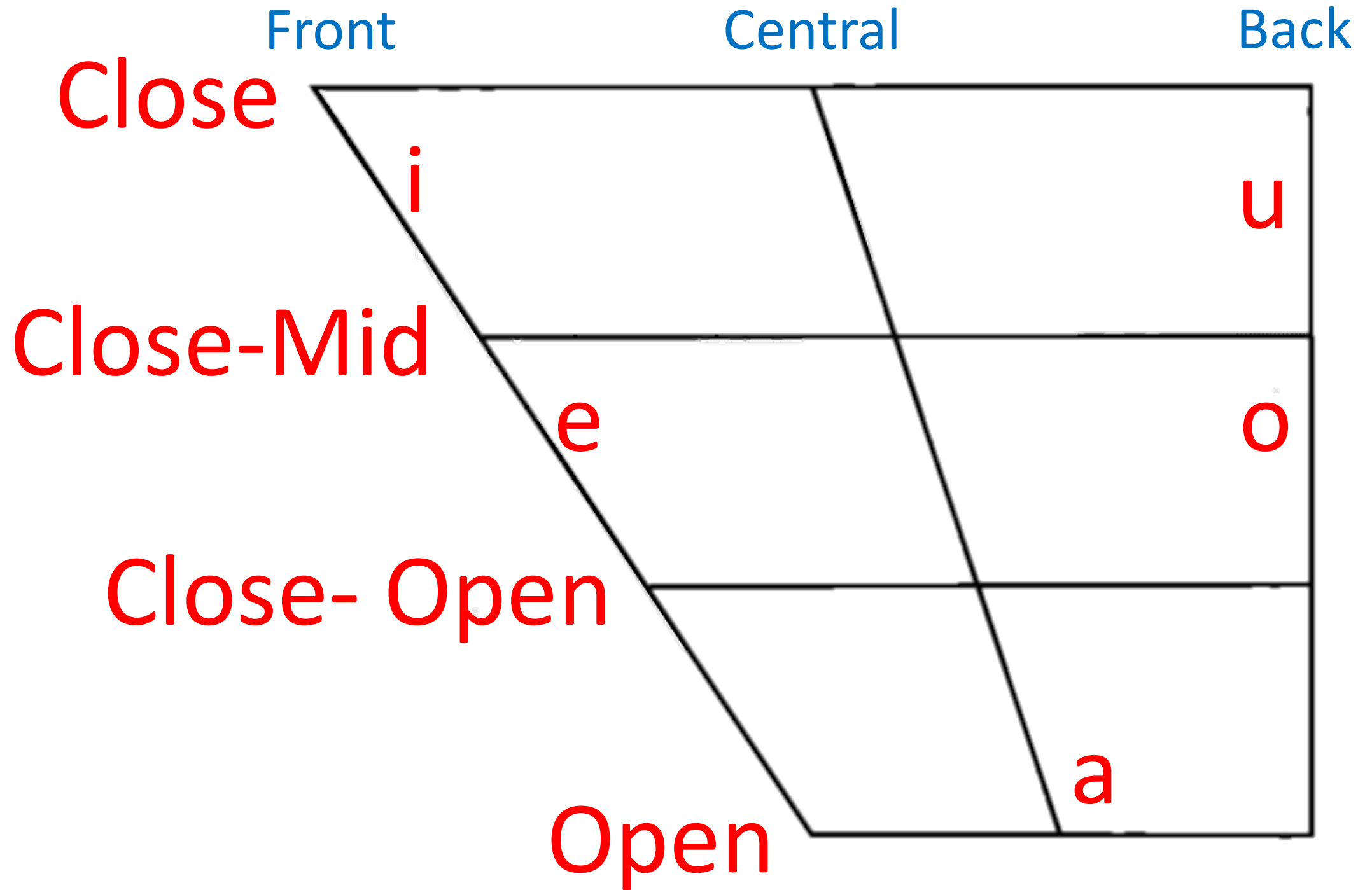
More attention placed on observing and producing language leads to better intelligibility and comprehensibility (Munro et al., 2006)

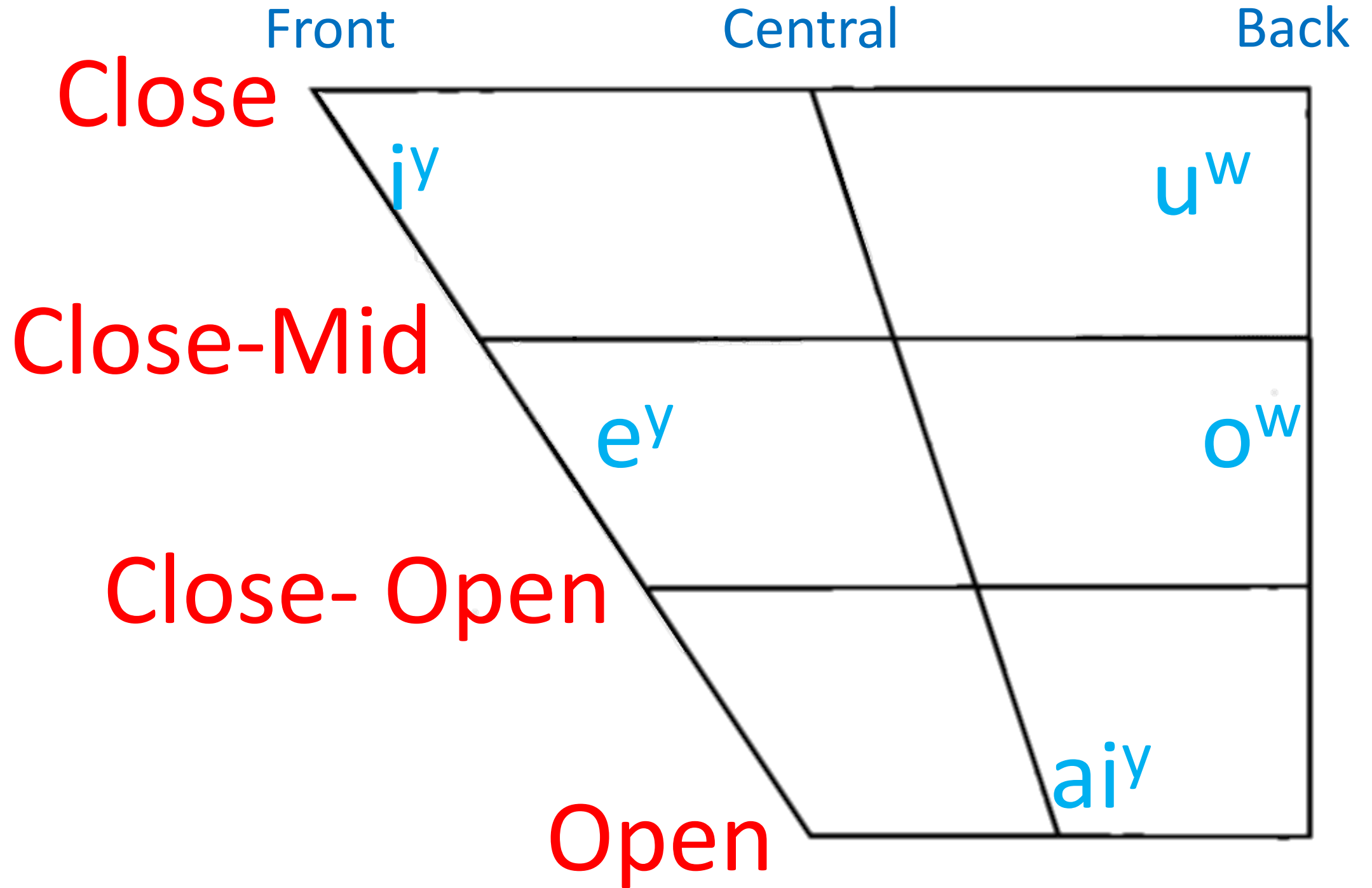
Good practice for link sounds that glide in connected speech: /y/ and /w/

- It is the **y**end
- Why don't we go **w**out

Chart to
show vowels







Vowel quality considerations: POsiTIVE & poSItion

- Consonants that are before and after
- Tense and Lax nature of the syllable
- Where the sound is placed in the mouth
- Use of tongue
- Duration / Intensity / Pitch
- Intention of the speaker

Duration / Intensity / Pitch

make

I'll m **a** ke some tea

I'll m **a** ke some tea

m **a**

I'll ke some tea

/eʏ/

/e^y/

great

/i^y/

clean

/ai^y/

mine

/o^w/

coat

/u^w/

you

make

week

I

woke

you

hate

green

mine

hope

flew

change

sleep

why

go

who

plate

mean

height

grow

shoot

great

clean

swipe

coat

rude

/e^y/

great

/i^y/

clean

/ai^y/

mine

/o^w/

coat

/u^w/

you

make

week

I

woke

you

hate

green

mine

hope

flew

change

sleep

why

go

who

plate

mean

height

grow

shoot

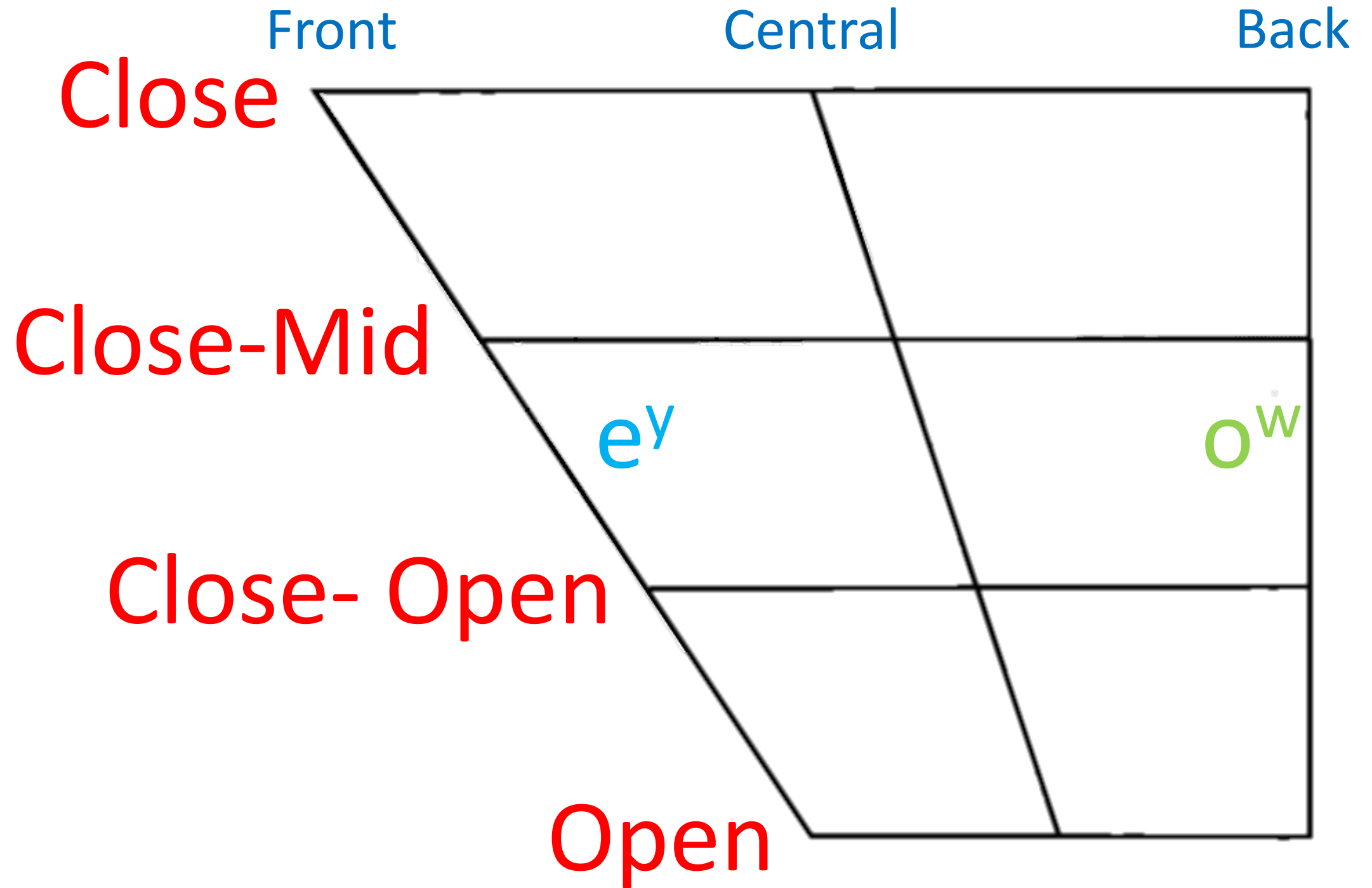
great

clean

swipe

coat

rude



/e^y/

great

/i^y/

clean

/ai^y/

mine

/o^w/

coat

/u^w/

you

make

week

I

woke

you

hate

green

mine

hope

flew

change

sleep

why

go

who

plate

mean

height

grow

shoot

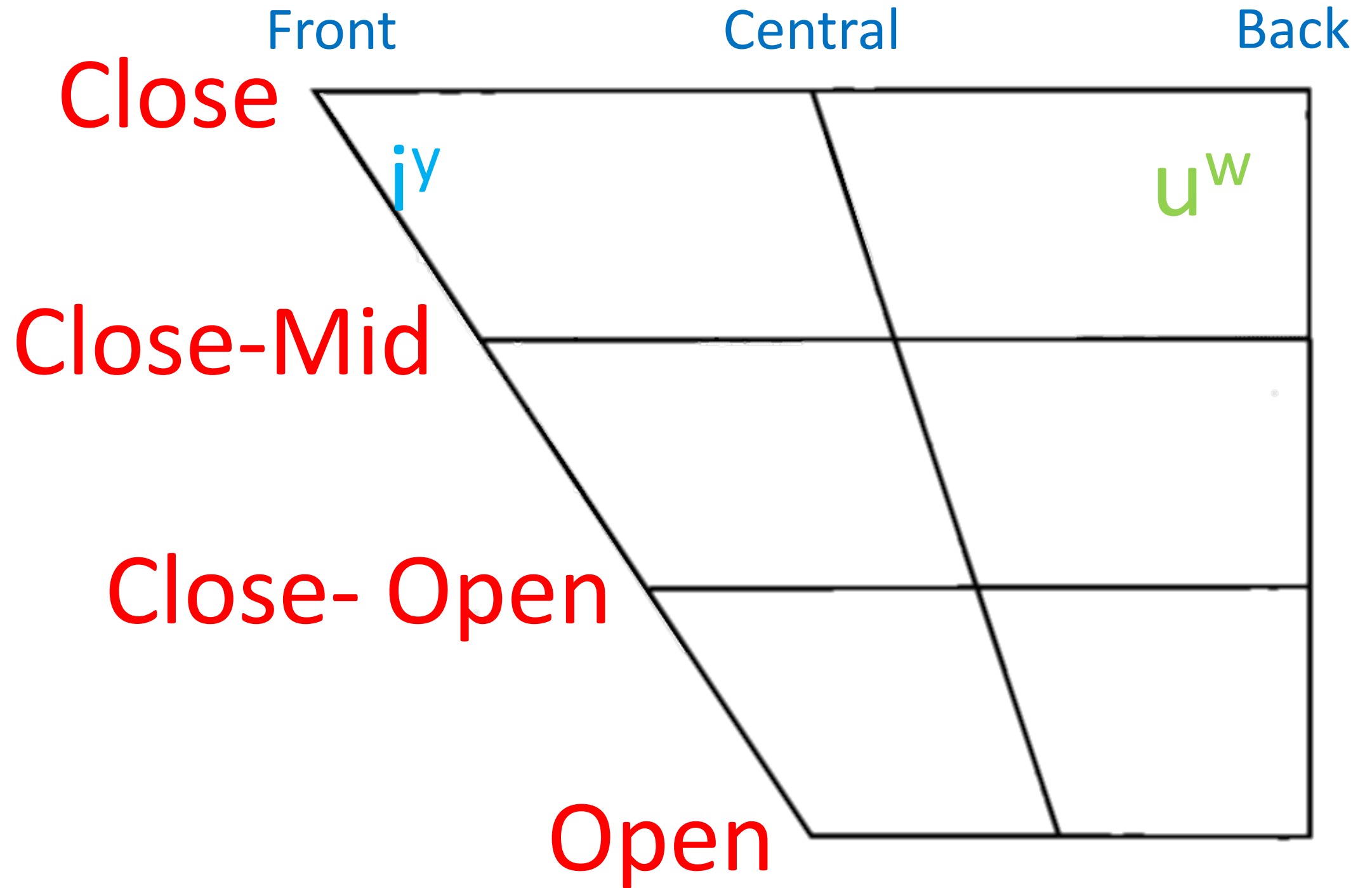
great

clean

swipe

coat

rude



/e^y/

great

/i^y/

clean

/ai^y/

mine

/o^w/

coat

/u^w/

you

make

week

I

woke

you

hate

green

mine

hope

flew

change

sleep

why

go

who

plate

mean

height

grow

shoot

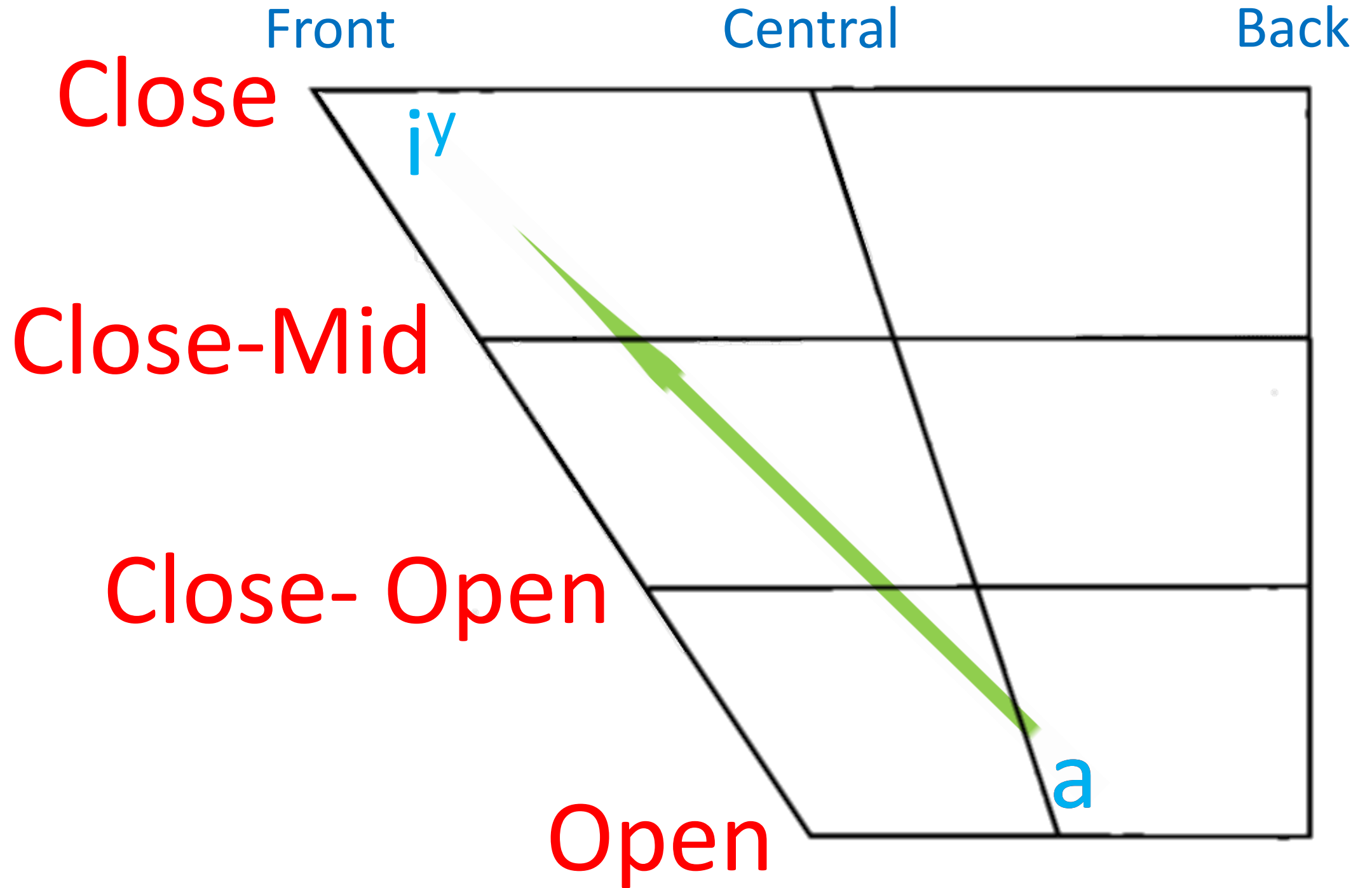
great

clean

swipe

coat

rude



/e^y/

great

/i^y/

clean

/ai^y/

mine

/o^w/

coat

/u^w/

you

make

week

I

woke

you

hate

green

mine

hope

flew

change

sleep

why

go

who

plate

mean

height

grow

shoot

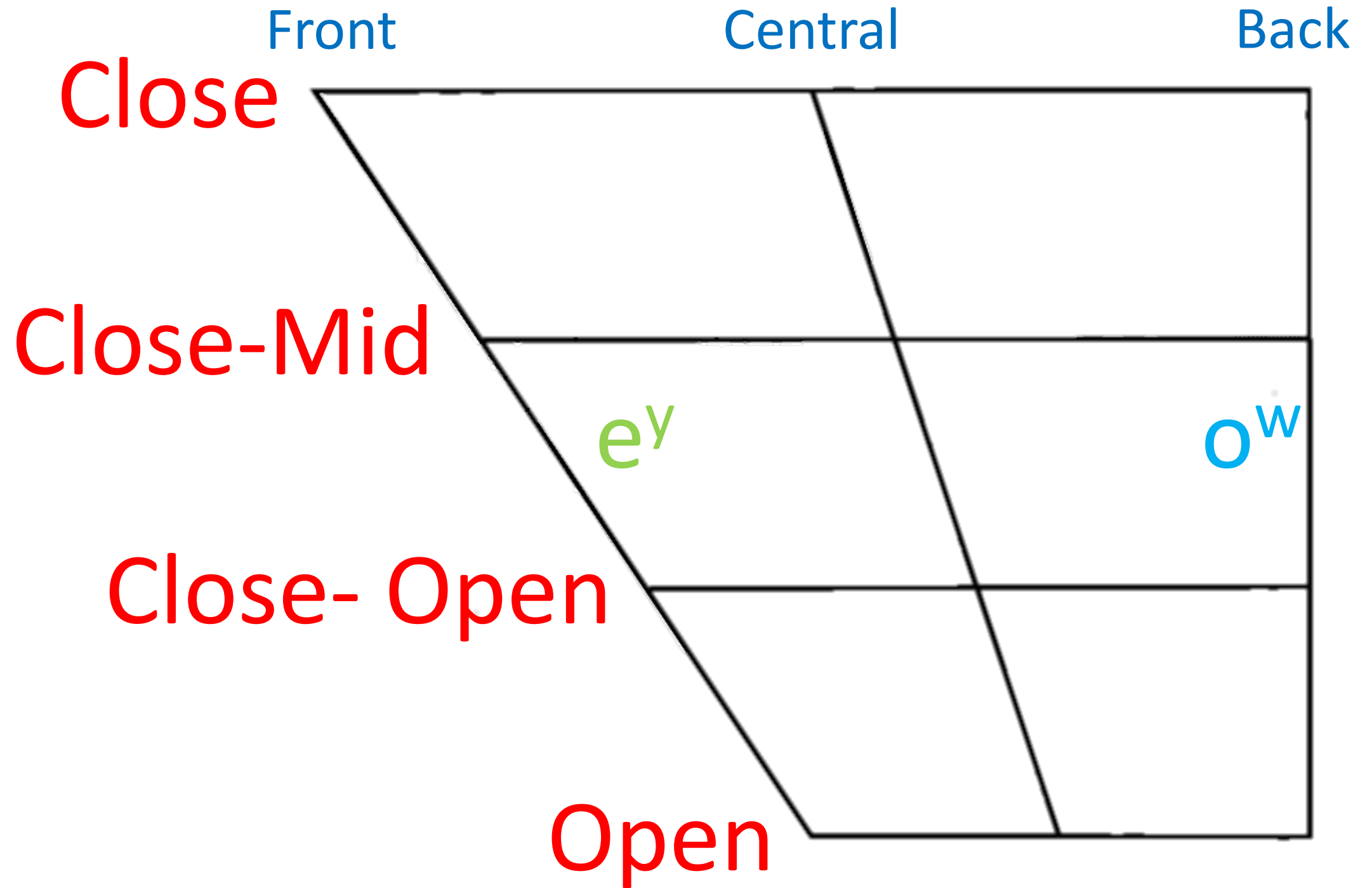
great

clean

swipe

coat

rude



/e^y/

great

/i^y/

clean

/ai^y/

mine

/o^w/

coat

/u^w/

you

make

week

I

woke

you

hate

green

mine

hope

flew

change

sleep

why

go

who

plate

mean

height

grow

shoot

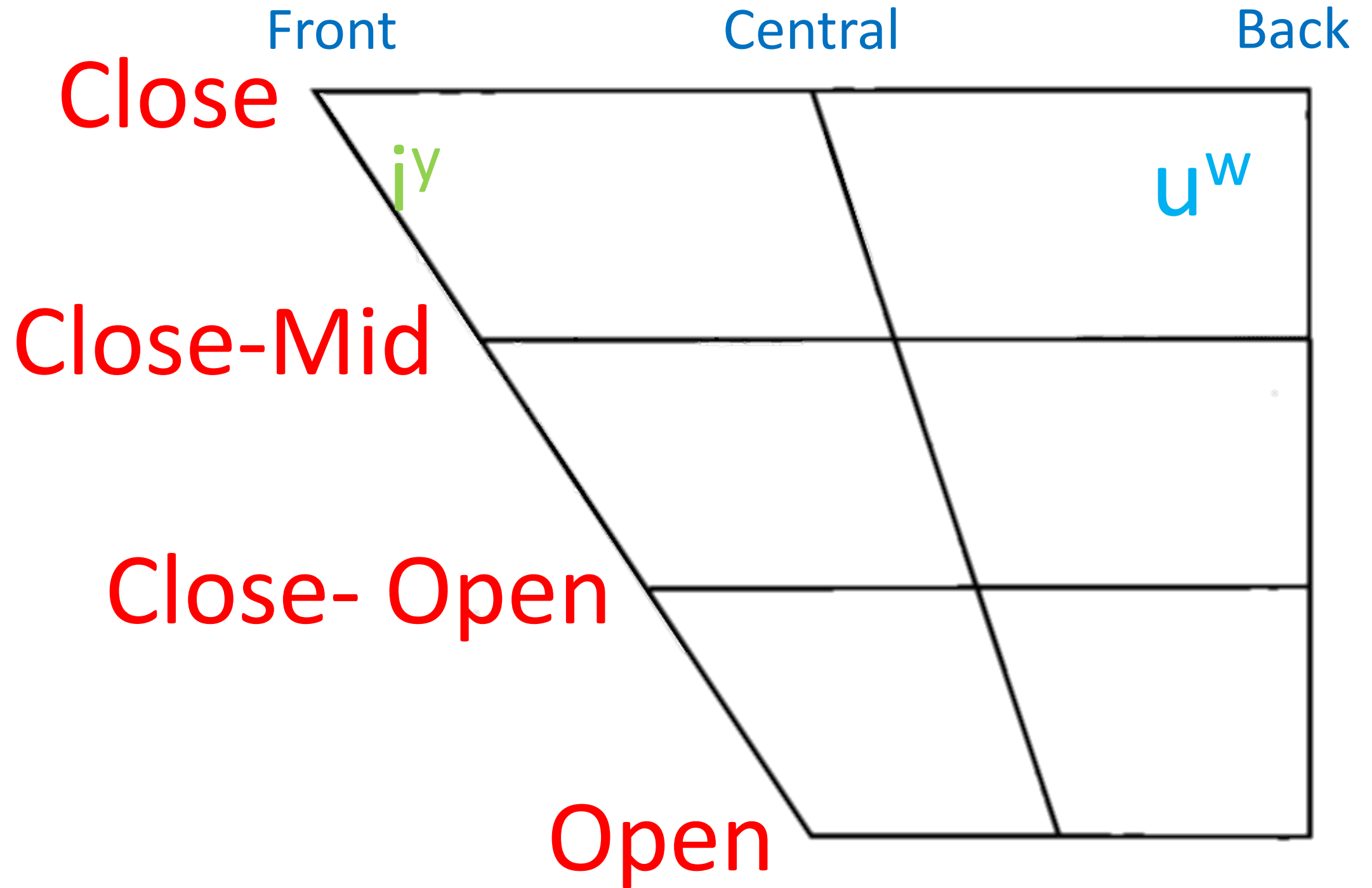
great

clean

swipe

coat

rude



/a/

black

/e/

bed

/i/

thin

/o/

top

/u/

fun

/e^y/

great

/i^y/

clean

/ai^y/

mine

/o^w/

coat

/u^w/

you

Analyse

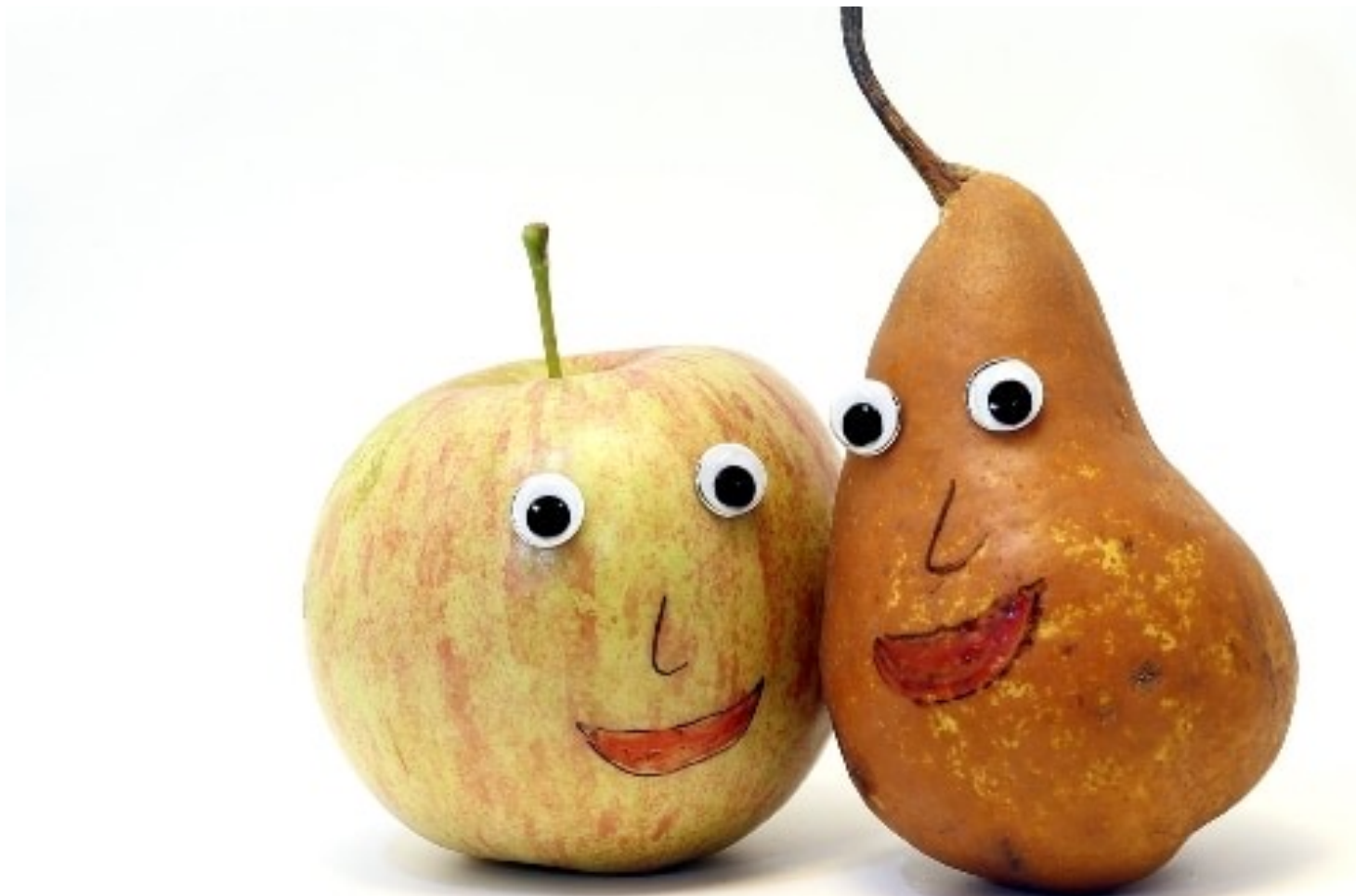
/a/ great	/e/ clean	/i/ mine	/o/ coat	/u/ you
clubs	participate		Outside High Alumni fight	
hometown	Always Favourite Place Same changed		Like countryside	Hometown Go close
person that I respect	Reputation Say Stay Everyday Great Name Famous Creation Gave up Favourite Okay	Believe teased	Admire High Kind Designed Like I see write	Most Homework Production judo Music US
Country I want to go to	Day Great Asia Cape Town Way Famous OK	Be Reason Easily Speak Eat green	Like Why I Site seeing Nice Taiwan time	Go Know Spoken alone US
Favourite possession	Bass Weights Favourite play	Seem Japanese Cheese scenes	High Idol Kind life carbohydrate like I	Don't Know motivation most group
Food	Taste Shake Waste Made Ate Steak Favourite famous	Beef Sweet Seafood tea Japanese cream	Like Requires Size Right Besides Wine rice	Overcome Homemade grow You Future new

Long Vowel examples

/eː/ great	/iː/ clean	/aɪ/ mine	/oʊ/ coat	/uː/ you
---------------	---------------	--------------	--------------	-------------

clubs	participate		Outside High Alumni fight		
hometown	Always Favourite Place Same changed		Like countryside	Hometown Go close	
person that I respect	Reputation Say Stay Everyday Great Name Famous Creation Gave up Favourite Okay	Believe teased	Admire High Kind Designed Like I see write	Most Homework Production judo	Music US
Country I want to go to	Day Great Asia Cape Town Way Famous OK	Be Reason Easily Speak Eat green	Like Why I Site seeing Nice Taiwan time	Go Know Spoken alone	US

Practice



Discover

Have your conversation about your free time and ...
... try to find examples of long vowels in your conversation

Long Vowel examples

/e^y/

great

/i^y/

clean

/ai^y/

mine

/o^w/

coat

/u^w/

you



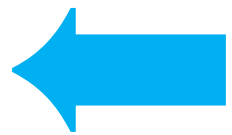
clubs	participate		Outside High Alumni fight		
hometown	Always Favourite Place Same changed		Like countryside	Hometown Go close	
person that I respect	Reputation Say Stay Everyday Great Name Famous Creation	Believe teased	Admire High Kind Designed Like I see write	Most Homework Production judo	Music US

Vowel length depends on...

By the vowel type

Stressed / Unstressed syllable

Vowels sounds are shorter before voiceless sound AND longer after voiced sounds



SHORTER

LONGER



Before voiceless

beat

mate

dick

pick

mop

cop

Before voiced

bead

made

dig

pig

mob

cob

At end of words

bean

main

deer

peer

mole

con

bee

may

Keep
working
at it



Remember to explore and have fun



Getting you
better
understood

<https://iamsoundingenglish.com>

I am **sounding**



ENGLISH

