

Pronunciation Practice: Short U and Long U

cut - cute	cub - cube	tub - tube	hug - huge	mutt - mute	dud - dude
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In each phrase, tell whether the U is short or long.
















a cute pup	a huge cup	Luke's bad luck	Jud and Judy cut the bun.	Nuke the truck.
a fun tune	Don't fuss about the fuse.	Measure the rug with a ruler.	Ride the unicycle upstairs.	Stupid duck.

Circle the words in each row that have the same U sound.

refuse	amuse	accuse	confuse	fuss
volume	perfume	ugly	umpire	bugle
united	umbrella	uniform	use	upper
underwear	utensils	useful	urgent	cupid
music	mug	mule	must	rescue

MOVEMENT VERBS

Study the movement verbs in this chart. Practice pronouncing them. Stand up and practice doing them. One student should say a verb out loud. Everyone else must do the action.

wiggle 	stretch 	bend 	twist 	collapse 
shake 	sway 	rock 	bounce 	spin 
curl 	rise 	sink 	lunge 	lean 

Below are some verbs of movement. Note the three forms of these verbs (present, past, past participle). Some of these verbs can have several meanings. For example: You can rock a baby to sleep.

A boat rocks gently while tied to a pier. News of war rocks the nation. Read the paragraphs below and answer the questions.

SINK-SANK-SUNK

My father was in the Navy during the war. His ship **sank**. He floated on a raft for days. When he was rescued, he was so weak, he **sank** into the bed. Some of the men were injured and unable to work. Their families **sank** into poverty. My heart **sank** when I thought of the men who didn't survive. When my dad returned home, the dog didn't remember him and **sank** his teeth into his leg. It just didn't **sink in** to the dog's brain that this was his long lost owner.

1. What did the father do during the war?
2. What happened to his ship?
3. Why did the families of the men sink into poverty?
4. How did he/she feel about the men who didn't survive?
5. What did the dog do when he saw the father?
6. When something "sinks in", it means you learn and understand it. Does it take a long time for English lessons to sink in, or do you understand them quickly?

SHAKE-SHOOK-SHAKEN

The building **shook** with the explosion. Sara **shook** with fear, hoping the building wouldn't collapse. When the policeman arrived, Sara **shook** his hand. She asked the policeman if he knew what happened. The policeman **shook** his head, "no". Then Sara learned a man had set a bomb off. The man ran away, but he couldn't **shake** the police. They captured him and arrested him. That explosion really **shook Sara up**. It took her a long time to **shake it off**.

1. What happened to the building?
2. Was Sara scared?
3. Did the policeman know what happened?
4. Did the man who exploded the bomb get away?
5. Did Sara get over the shock of the explosion quickly?
6. When something bad happens, do you shake it off quickly or worry about it for weeks?

SPIN-SPUN-SPUN

My home was very peaceful. My son was **spinning** his top. My wife was **spinning** cotton into cloth. A spider was **spinning** its web in the corner. The fan was **spinning** slowly overhead. Then I heard a car **spin out** in my driveway. I **spun around** in fear. Who would be in my driveway at this time of night?

1. What were the wife and son doing?
2. What was the spider doing?
3. What was spinning overhead?
4. What did he do when he heard the car spin out?
5. Talk about a time when you were home and something happened that scared you.

LEAP-LEAPED-LEAPED

I saw a movie star coming down the street. I **leaped** up on a bench so I could see her better. When she stopped to look in my direction, I waved. She walked toward me. I **leaped** at the chance to introduce myself. But she walked right past me and embraced the woman standing behind me. Turns out I had **leaped** to conclusions. She wasn't interested in me at all.

1. What happened in this paragraph?
2. Talk about a time you leaped to a conclusion that proved wrong.