

1.1

Alphabet tree

Aim

To practice the pronunciation of the letters of the alphabet

Language

Pronunciation

Skills

Speaking

Lesson link

Use after *Everyday objects* SB p10

Materials

One copy of the worksheet per student

Pre-activity (10 minutes)

- Write these words on the board: *May, green, my, no, blue, red, car*. In pairs, students agree the pronunciation of the words.
- Have a class feedback session.
- Now write these vowel sounds under each word: /eɪ/ (*May*), /i:/ (*green*), /aɪ/ (*my*), /əʊ/ (*no*), /u:/ (*blue*), /e/ (*red*), /ɑ:/ (*car*).
- Practise the sounds with the class. Point to and say a sound. Students listen and repeat.
- Say a sound. Students tell you the word. Then say a word. Students say the sound. Don't spend too long on this activity.

Procedure (25 minutes)

- Give each student a copy of the worksheet. Tell them that the alphabet is pronounced in English using one of the seven vowel sounds on the board, e.g. *a* = /eɪ/. Tell your students to write the letter 'a' on the appropriate branch of the tree.
- Say each letter of the alphabet. Students listen and repeat. Give students time to decide which vowel sound is being used, and to write the letter on the tree.
- In pairs, students compare their answers. Check the answers with the class.

Answers

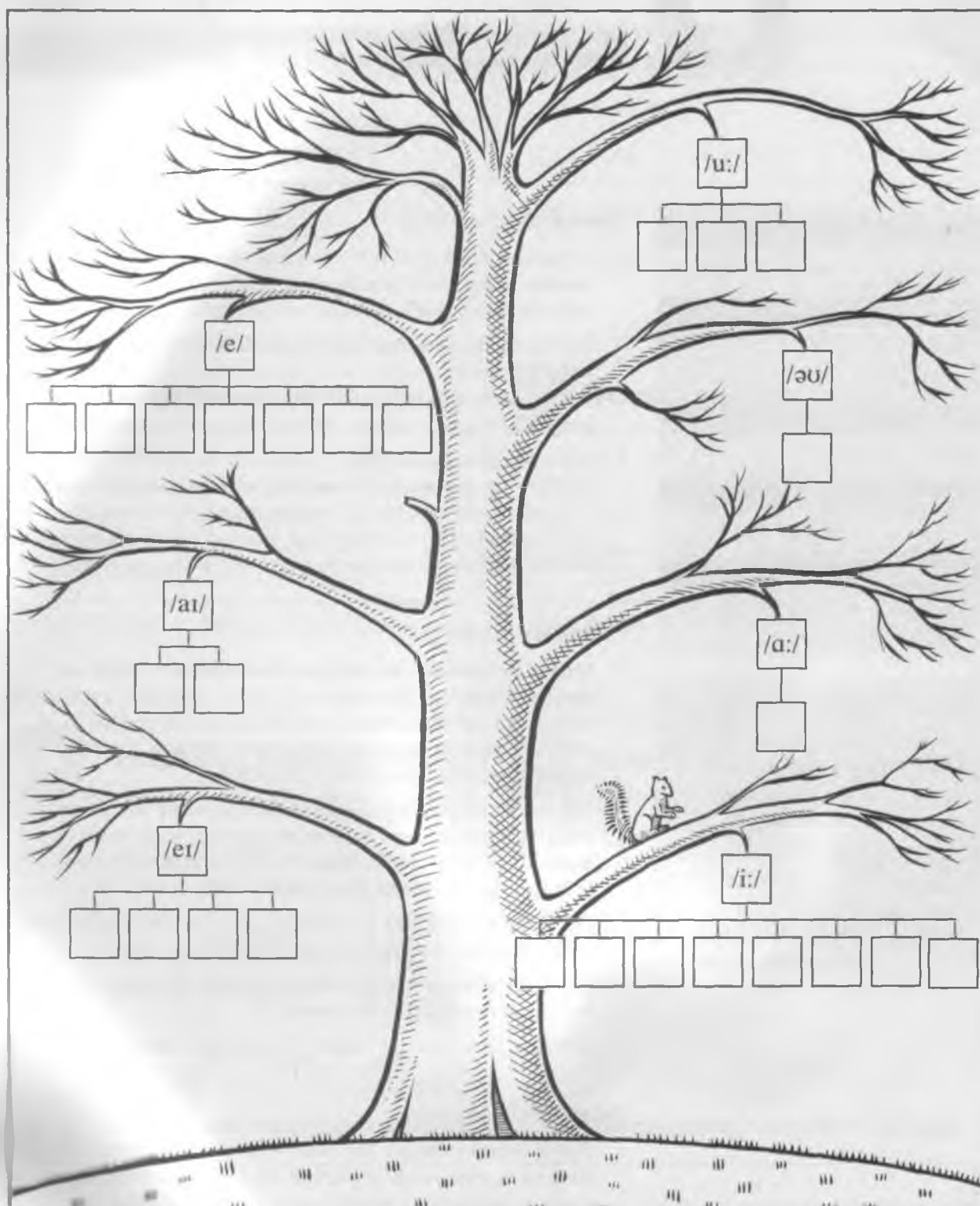
/e/	f l m n s x z	/u:/	q u w	/ɑ:/	r
/aɪ/	i y	/əʊ/	o	/i:/	b c d e g p t v
/eɪ/	a h j k				

Note: The letter 'z' can be pronounced /zed/ in British English, or /zi:/ in American English.

- Now move on to the practice activity where students spell their name, town, mother's name, and favourite colour for their partner to write. Go around listening, making sure students pronounce the letters correctly.

Extension (15 minutes)

- Look back at the seven vowel sounds on the board with the class. Divide students into groups of three to four. In their groups, students write as many words as they can for each vowel sound. Set a time limit of ten minutes.
- Have a class feedback session. The group with the most words wins.



Ask your partner

How do you spell ...?

Your name

The name of the town where you live

Your mother's name

Your favourite colour