

VOWELS

Vowels are the other category of sounds in English. You will add the letters that represent vowel sounds within the 26 letters of the alphabet. The vowel sounds are not slowed down in the mouth or forced through the nose. They are all voiced, and the sounds flow right through the open mouth. We have six letters representing 13 different vowel sounds: a, e, i, y, o, u. Fill in these letters on the chart as you practice saying the sounds with your students. Bracket I and Y to show they can be interchanged and represent the same vowel sounds.

Once again, the vowels will be added to the chart by the teacher in conversation with the class. Point out the nature of the vowel sounds as flowing freely out of the mouth unblocked. Vowels are the sounds you can sing on. Add each letter, say the sounds, and point out how, in contrast to the consonants, ALL the vowels represent more than one sound. That is what makes the vowels trickier: they can represent multiple sounds in a word.