

English Long Vowels

- English long vowels
- Diphthongs
- Triphthongs

Long Vowels

- Long vowels are vowel sounds that are longer than normal, or short, vowels. In RP English the long vowel sounds are those in 'seat', 'suit', 'sort', 'shirt' and 'start'. Phonemic symbols for long vowel sounds have a /:/ to indicate length.
- we hold long vowels slightly longer than the short sounds. The word 'kiss' has a short /i/ sound, while the word 'keys' has a long /i:/ sound .

long vowels

/i:/	• peace
/ɜ:/	• bird
/a:/	• card
ɔ:	• board
/u:/	• food

long vowels

/i:/

- ⑩ it is closer and front. The lips are slightly spread,
- ⑩ beat, mean, peace, he, she, we, sheep, jeep, cheap
- ⑩ We liked the cheap jeep

/ɜ:/

- ⑩ it is mid-central and the lip is neutral.
- ⑩ purse, bird, were, her, third
- ⑩ Where were her things?

/ɑ:/

- ⑩ it is open and back. The lip is neutral.
- ⑩ Car, card, half, Bar
- ⑩ My car was outside the bar and it is very far

long vowels

/ɔ:/

- ⑩ it is mid-open and back. The lips are strongly rounded,
- ⑩ horse, torn, four, walk, door, talk

/u:/

- ⑩ it is back and close, and the lips are rounded.
- ⑩ Soon, loose, mood, rude,
- ⑩ The dude was rude when he was eating food

English long vowels

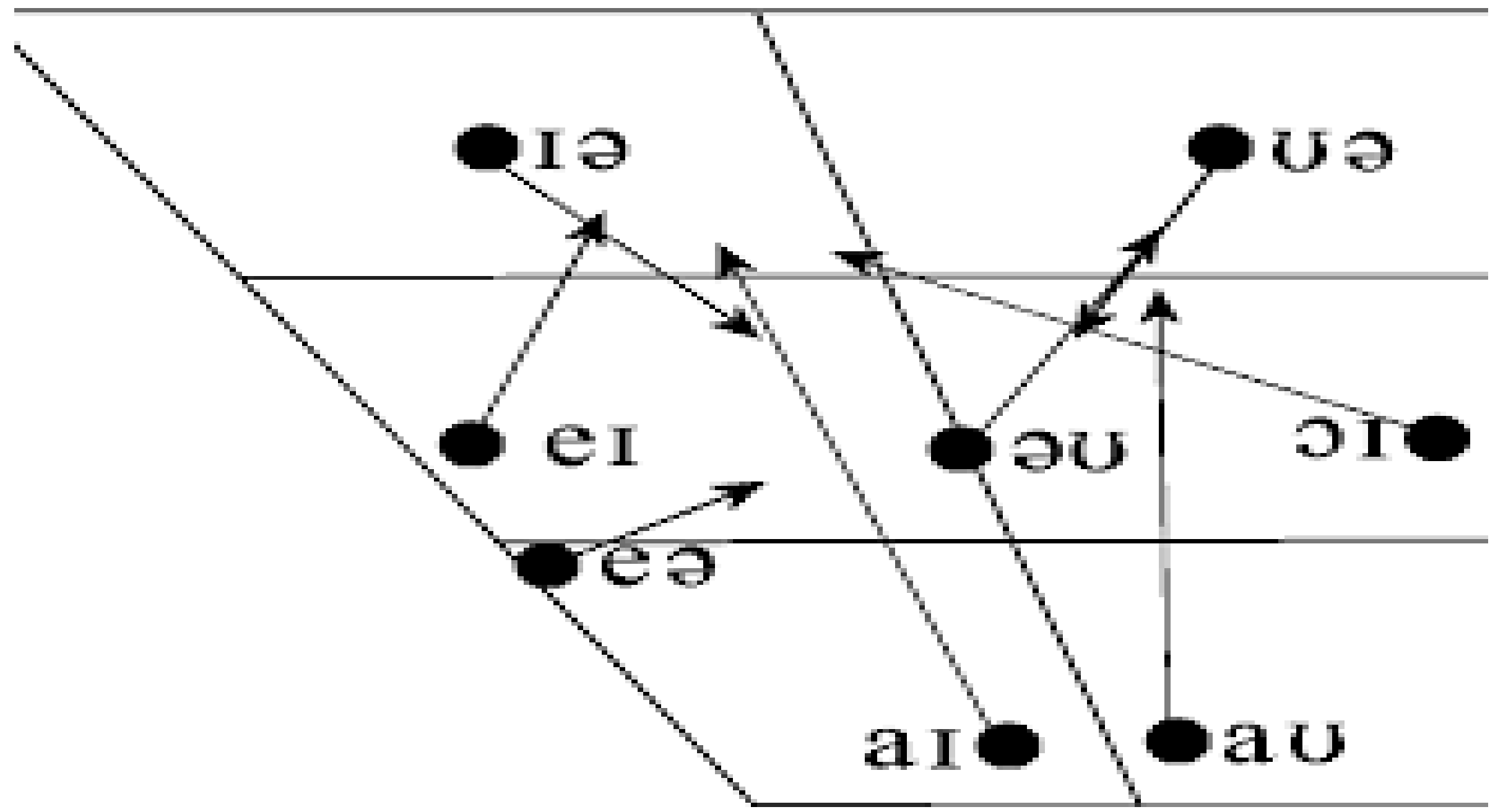
- /i:/ week /wi:k/, feet /fi:t/, media /'mi:.di.jə/
- /ɑ:/ hard /ha:/, park /pa:k/, article /ɑ:.tɪ.kəl/
- /ɔ:/ fork /fɔ:k/, walk /wɔ:k/, August /ɔ: 'gʌst/
- /ɜ:/ heard /hɜ:d/, word /wɜ:d/, surface /'sɜ:.fɪs/
- /u:/ boot /bu:t/, group /gru:p/, beautiful /'bju:.tɪ.fəl/

Diphthongs OR Double Vowels

- A **diphthong** is a vowel that contains two different vowel sounds in one syllable. Diphthongs are contrasted with monophthongs, which are singular pure vowel sounds.
- **Diphthongs** are gliding vowels as one vowel sound glides into the next. The first vowel is usually longer and stronger than the second one in the English language.

Diphthongs **OR** Double Vowels

- **Diphthong** vowels are two short vowels joined together, they are also called double vowels.
- Many **non-native** speakers make some English diphthong vowels as single vowels



/ɔɪ/

boy /bɔɪ/

join /dʒɔɪn/

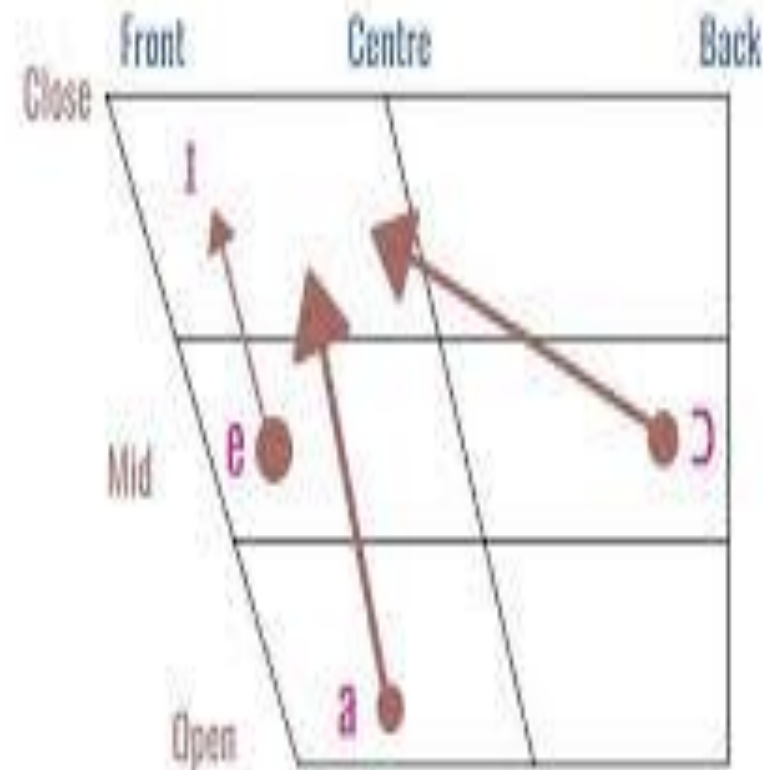
choice /tʃɔɪs/

noise /nɔɪs/

**Oi boy, pass me the toy, don't
be so coy.**

Closing Diphthongs in /ɪ/

/eɪ/ /ɔɪ/ /aɪ/



/aɪ/

- **Sky, why, my, high, buy, die**
- **light /laɪt/ like /laɪk/**
- **rice /raɪs/ ripe /raɪp/**

/eɪ/

- **late /leɪt/ lake /leɪk/**
- **race /reɪs/ train /treɪn/**
- **Stay, lay, day, pay, hey.**
- **That day, I didn't pay to stay in the bay.**

- /aʊ/

about /ə'baʊt/ **found** /faʊnd/ **house** /haʊs/ **down** /daʊn/

- **Mouth, now, how**

- /əʊ/

oh no! , **snow, boat, coat, I go,**

- **The boat was a no show, so we couldn't go unless we had to row.**

• /ɪə/

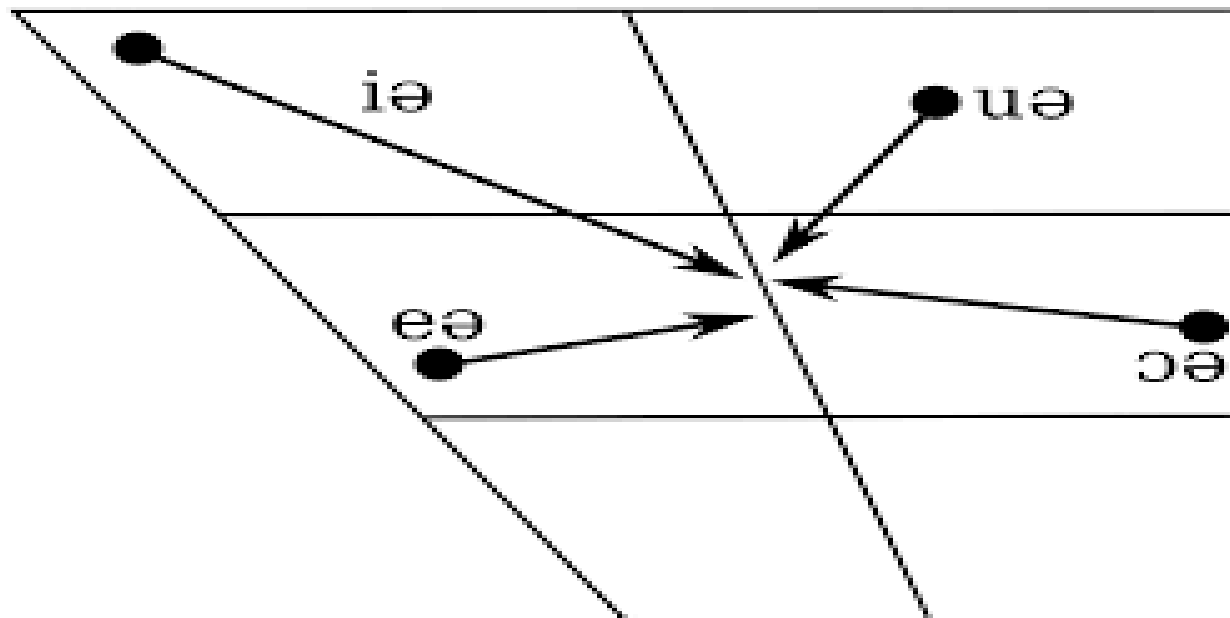
hear /hɪə/ near /nɪə/ fear /fɪə/ beer /bɪə/

• /eə/

hair /heə/ share /ʃeə/ pear /peə/ chair /tʃeə/

/ʊə/

tour /tʊə/ lure /lʊə/ cure /kʊə/ pure /pʊə/



/eɪ/ place /pleɪs/, late /leɪt/, dangerous /'deɪn.dʒə.rəs/

/oʊ/ home /hoʊm/, phone /foʊn/, global /'glɒb.əl/

/aʊ/ mouse /maʊs/, brown /braʊn/, accountant /ə'kaʊn.tənt/

/ɪə/ clear /klɪə/, fear /fɪə/, career /kə'riə/

/eə/ wear /weə/, declare /dɪ'kleə/

/ɔɪ/ boy /bɔɪ/, toy /tɔɪ/, enjoyable /ɪn'dʒɔɪ.jə.bəl/

/aɪ/ find /faɪnd/, bite /baɪt/, tiger /'taɪ.gə/

/ʊə/ tour /tʊə/, pure /pʊə/, mature /mə'tʃʊə/

Triphthongs

- 3 vowel sounds glide together to produce a new sound.
- A combination of a diphthongs + the schwa sound /ə/. Ex: hour / aʊə/ aʊ + ə
- It is difficult to pronounce and recognizes the triphthongs.
- Triphthongs are produced rapidly and without interruptions.

Trippthongs

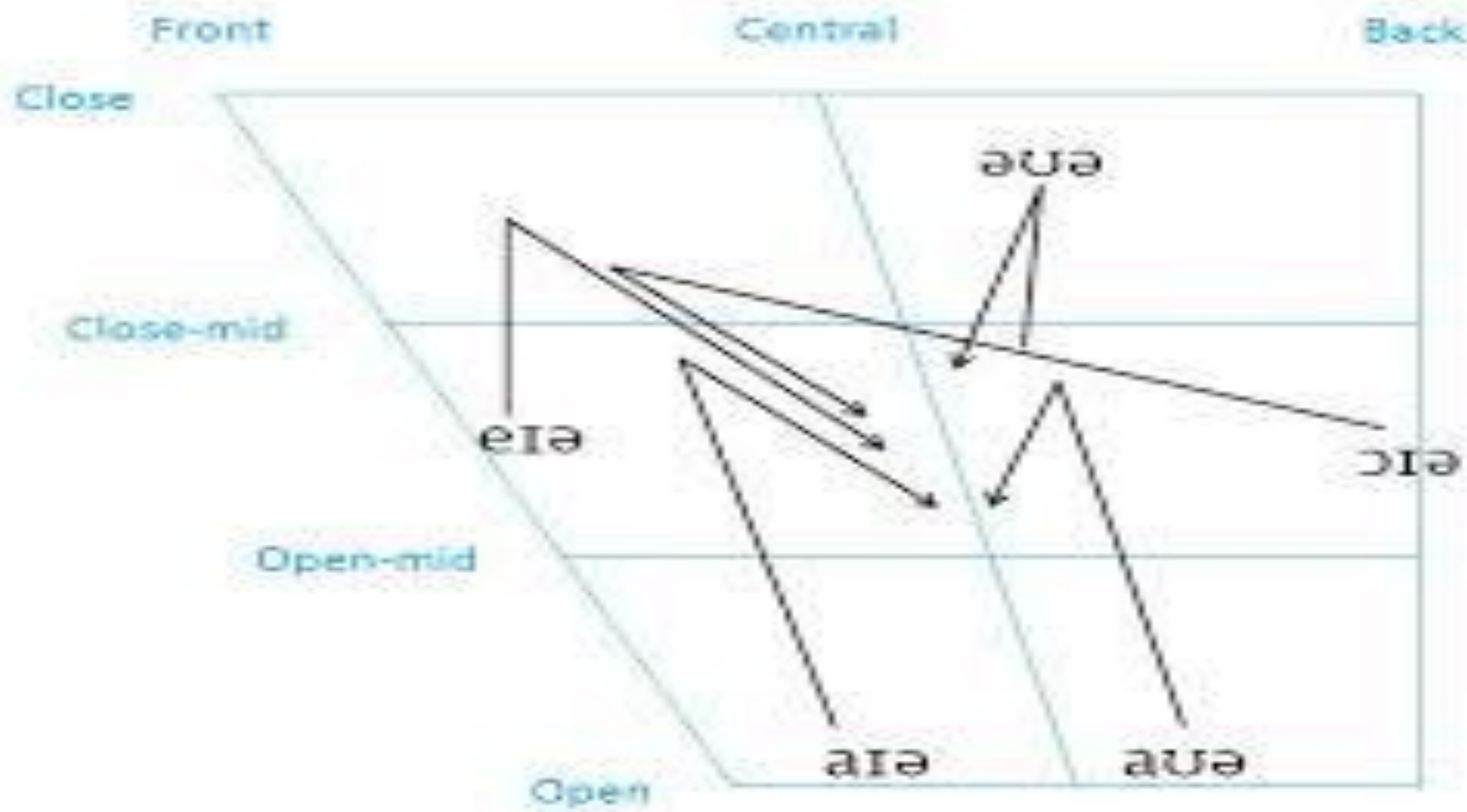
eɪə

aɪə

ɔɪə

əʊə

aʊə



aʊə

- Our /aʊə/
- Hour /aʊə/
- Sour /saʊə/
- Power /paʊə/
- Flour /flaʊə/
- Shower

aɪə

- Fire /faɪə/
- Dire /daɪə/
- Inspire /ɪnspɑɪə/
- Ireland /aɪələnd/

ɔɪə

- Soya /sɔɪə /
- Lawyer /lɔɪə /
- Loyal /lɔɪəl/

eɪə

- Player /pleɪə/
- Layer /leɪə/

əʊə

- Slower / sləʊə /
- Mower /məʊə /