

**30 Extra-Credit Points to the first three students in each class who can correctly recite this poem. Minus 10 points for getting it wrong.**

**Study English Pronunciation.**

I will teach you in my verse  
Sounds like corpse, corps, horse,  
and worse.

I will keep you, Suzy, busy,  
Make your head with heat grow  
dizzy.

Tear in eye, your dress will tear.  
So shall I! Oh hear my prayer.  
Just compare heart, beard, and  
heard,

Dies and diet, lord and word,  
Sword and sward, retain and  
Britain.

(Mind the latter, how it's written.)

Now I surely will not plague you  
With such words as plaque and  
ague.

But be careful how you speak:  
Say break and steak, but bleak and  
streak;

Cloven, oven, how and low,  
Script, receipt, show, poem, and  
toe.

Hear me say, devoid of trickery,  
Daughter, laughter, and  
Terpsichore,  
Typhoid, measles, topsails, aisles,  
Exiles, similes, and reviles;  
Scholar, vicar, and cigar,  
Solar, mica, war and far;  
One, anemone, Balmoral,  
Kitchen, lichen, laundry, laurel;  
Gertrude, German, wind and mind,  
Scene, Melpomene, mankind.

Billet does not rhyme with ballet,  
Bouquet, wallet, mallet, chalet.  
Blood and flood are not like food,  
Nor is mould like should and  
would.

Viscous, viscount, load and broad,  
Toward, to forward, to reward.  
And your pronunciation's OK  
When you correctly say croquet,  
Rounded, wounded, grieve and  
sieve,  
Friend and fiend, alive and live.

Ivy, privy, famous; clamour  
And enamour rhyme with hammer.

River, rival, tomb, bomb, comb,  
Doll and roll and some and home.  
Stranger does not rhyme with  
anger,

Neither does devour with  
clangour.

Souls but foul, haunt but aunt,  
Font, front, wont, want, grand, and  
grant,

Shoes, goes, does. Now first say  
finger,

And then singer, ginger, linger,  
Real, zeal, mauve, gauze, gouge  
and gauge,

Marriage, foliage, mirage, and  
age.

Query does not rhyme with very,  
Nor does fury sound like bury.  
Dost, lost, post and doth, cloth,  
loth.

Job, nob, bosom, transom, oath.  
Though the differences seem little,  
We say actual but victual.

Refer does not rhyme with deafer.  
Foeffer does, and zephyr, heifer.

Mint, pint, senate and sedate;  
Dull, bull, and George ate late.

Scenic, Arabic, Pacific,  
Science, conscience, scientific.

Liberty, library, heave and heaven,  
Rachel, ache, moustache, eleven.

We say hallowed, but allowed,  
People, leopard, towed, but  
vowed.

Mark the differences, moreover,  
Between mover, cover, clover;  
Leeches, breeches, wise, precise,  
Chalice, but police and lice;  
Camel, constable, unstable,  
Principle, disciple, label.

Petal, panel, and canal,  
Wait, surprise, plait, promise, pal.  
Worm and storm, chaise, chaos,  
chair,

Senator, spectator, mayor.  
Tour, but our and succour, four.

Gas, alas, and Arkansas.  
Sea, idea, Korea, area,  
Psalm, Maria, but malaria.  
Youth, south, southern, cleanse  
and clean.

Doctrine, turpentine, marine.

Compare alien with Italian,  
Dandelion and battalion.

Sally with ally, yea, ye,  
Eye, I, ay, aye, whey, and key.  
Say aver, but ever, fever,  
Neither, leisure, skein, deceiver.  
Heron, granary, canary.  
Crevice and device and aerie.

Face, but preface, not efface.  
Phlegm, phlegmatic, ass, glass,  
bass.

Large, but target, gin, give,  
verging,

Ought, out, joust and scour,  
scourging.

Ear, but earn and wear and tear  
Do not rhyme with here but ere.

Seven is right, but so is even,  
Hyphen, roughen, nephew  
Stephen,  
Monkey, donkey, Turk and jerk,  
Ask, grasp, wasp, and cork and  
work.

Pronunciation -- think of Psyche!  
Is a paling stout and spikey?

Won't it make you lose your wits,  
Writing groats and saying grits?

It's a dark abyss or tunnel:  
Strewn with stones, stowed,

solace, gunwale,  
Islington and Isle of Wight,  
Housewife, verdict and indict.

Finally, which rhymes with  
enough --

Though, through, plough, or  
dough, or cough?

Hiccough has the sound of cup.  
My advice is to give up!!!