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## Pronunciation – Word Groups

### 200 Common Minimal Pairs in English (Gap-Fill)

The term **minimal pair** describes two words that have the same sounds apart from one sound

The different sound can be a **vowel** sound (middle) or a **consonant** sound in the initial (first), middle, or final position:

Different Vowel Sound (Middle)	
bald	<i>bold</i>
ball	
boat	
cane	
cap	
cheers	
crate	
crime	
curse	
dead	
deep	
dig	
fail	
flag	
flight	
gate	
get	
guess	
hat	
heat	
height	
jam	
joke	
lamp	
make	
mat	
mate	
neat	
nice	
nine	
noon	
plain	
pool	
pot	
queen	
rate	
seek	
ship	
smell	
soon	
spin	
start	
take	
through	
tide	
veal	
watt	
whale	
will	
yarn	

Different Initial Consonant Sound:	
baby	
bean	
beat	
bed	
bees	
bell	
bend	
boat	
book	
bull	
cat	
clock	
coin	
couple	
crack	
curls	
daily	
dear	
drone	
face	
fail	
fan	
feel	
feet	
fill	
finger	
food	
fun	
games	
gate	
good	
half	
hard	
heard	
heart	
heat	
him	
king	
knife	
learn	
lose	
lung	
made	
meant	
meek	
moon	
nose	
pillar	
rock	
rose	

Different Middle Consonant Sound:	
Adam	
alive	
baker	
Benny	
bobble	
body	
boogie	
carbon	
colour	
cycle	
darling	
decree	
eaten	
feature	
feeding	
hammer	
heady	
healing	
hobby	
ladder	
leather	
loser	
maiden	
marker	
meadow	
meaning	
measure	
medal	
melon	
miner	
mugger	
mummy	
nature	
omen	
pager	
pedal	
precedent	
rabbit	
rabid	
renew	
Santa	
shadow	
shocking	
silly	
simmer	
simple	
soggy	
swigging	
wader	
wedding	

Different Final Consonant Sound:	
boom	
cap	
card	
cared	
cheap	
close	
drape	
fad	
gate	
guild	
ham	
home	
juice	
knife	
large	
light	
load	
made	
married	
might	
mouse	
nail	
nice	
north	
page	
pain	
peas	
quick	
rain	
ran	
receipt	
refuse	
rice	
roof	
scene	
side	
slim	
some	
tail	
teach	
thick	
touch	
tried	
vague	
verb	
walk	
wash	
weed	
wrote	
yes	