

VOWEL SOUND SANDWICHES

400 VSS – Complete List of Minimal Pairs

A minimal pair is two words that have the same sounds, apart from one sound. In vowel sound sandwiches there are three sounds, so we can group minimal pairs by:

- 1st sound different
- 2nd sound different
- 3rd sound different

Here is a complete A-Z list of minimal pairs from the 400 easy VSS. *Note: in most cases, the first two words (and sometimes the first three) are VSS, while the rest are words from the dictionary.*

1st sound different:

beat / sheet / heat
bed / read / said / led
bees / she's / knees
boat / coat / vote
book / look / took
cat / hat / mat / that
coin / join / loin
face / race / base
fan / man / can / van
feel / kneel / real
feet / meet / Pete
fill / hill / will / till
food / rude / sued
fun / run / done
gate / late / mate
good / wood / hood
hard / guard / card
heard / word / third
him / gym / limb
heart / part / chart
knife / wife / life
learn / lawn / lone
made / paid / laid
moon / noon / soon
rose / those / foes

3rd sound different:

cap / cash / can / cat
cheap / cheat / cheek
ham / have / hat
June / juice / jute
knife / nice / night / nine
root / rude / roof
touch / tongue / ton
thing / thick / thin
wrote / rode / rogue

2nd sound different:

can / coin / cone
caught / coat / kite
come / cup / cub
cool / kill / coil / coal
dark / duck / dock
done / den / din
farm / firm / form
fat / fit / fight / fate
foot / put / soot
full / fell / fall / fill
gate / get / got
girl / goal / gale / gill
goes / toes / knows
heat / hit / hot / hat
he'll / hill / heel
lawn / learn / line
leave / live / love
like / lake / look
lock / look / like
meet / mate / might
night / not / knit
neck / knock / Nick
pet / pit / port / part
same / seem / sum
seat / sit / sat / sight
shirt / shout / sheet
sign / soon / sun / sin
song / sung / sang
take / talk / tick / tyke
tall / towel / tail / tile
tan / turn / ten / ton
weight / white / wart
wet / what / white
while / will / wall
win / wine / one
woke / walk / woke