

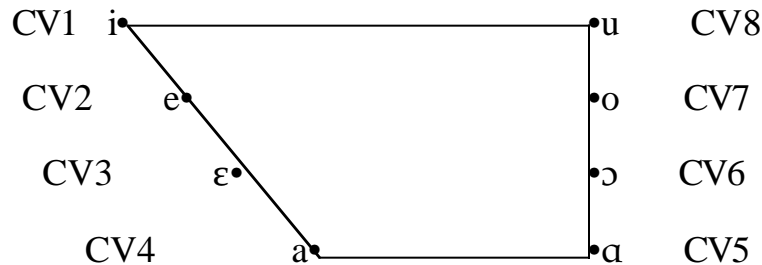
VOWELS AND SEMIVOWELS (or GLIDES)

CARDINAL VOWELS: A set of reference vowels first defined by Daniel Jones (British phonetician).

(Latin *cardo*, *cardinis* ‘a hinge’)

When preparing a vowel chart, the vowels on it must be plotted with reference to certain fixed points.

The space within the vowel chart represents a continuum of possible vowel articulation.

CARDINAL VOWELS:**PRIMARY CARDINAL VOWELS:**

Extreme left corner: The highest and most front vowel. If the tongue would move higher, a palatal fricative would be produced.

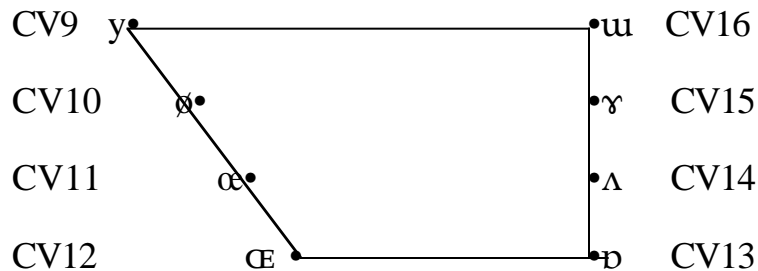
Extreme right corner: The tongue is pulled so far down and back that further movement down and back would produce a pharyngeal fricative.

[a] The jaw is in the lowest position.

[u] The highest, most back vowel.

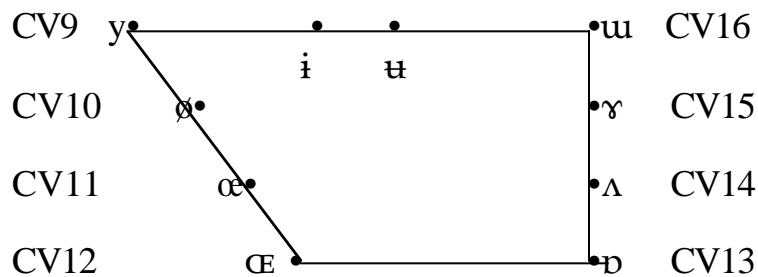
In no case is the quality of a cardinal vowel exactly the same as that of an English vowel.

SECONDARY CARDINAL VOWELS: The secondary cardinal vowels have the *reverse* rounding from the primary cardinal vowels.



Front vowels: rounded

Back vowels: unrounded (except for ʉ)



NOTE: [i] and [ɨ] do not have a fixed number of reference as do cardinal vowels.

Examples:

[y]	French	l <u>u</u> ne	<i>moon</i>
[ø]	French	pe <u>u</u>	<i>a few</i>
[œ]	German	zw <u>ö</u> lf	twelve
[ɐ]	Hungarian	al <u>a</u>	<i>apple</i>
[i]	English	ros <u>e</u> s	[i]
	Compare:	Ros <u>a</u> 's	[ə]
[]	Norwegian	h <u>u</u> s	<i>house</i>

GLIDES (or SEMIVOWELS)

GLIDES: Speech sounds that are produced with an articulation like that of a vowel but move quickly to another articulation

↓
momentary articulation!

The subscript [̥] is used to indicate lack of syllabicity (= glide). Any vowel position can be used for a glide: [e̥]

The four most common glides have their own symbols:

[j] palatal glide

[ɥ] labio-palatal glide: the dorsum of the tongue is raised towards the palate; the lips are rounded. (voiced)

French: lui, puis [ɥ]

[w] voiced labiovelar glide

[ʍ] voiceless labiovelar glide

witch, weather [w]

which, whether [ʍ]

Check your pronunciation! You may articulate these as *voiced* labiovelar glides!