

Unit 4: /i/ /ɪ/

seen sin /sin/ /sɪn/

How to make the sounds

To make the /i/ sound, raise the middle of your tongue high in your mouth and tense your muscles into a smile. Make a voiced sound. For /ɪ/, relax your muscles but keep your tongue in the same position.

Exercise One: Word Repetition

Listen to the following words from the tape and repeat.

Pete	heat	lip	kipper
leak	cheap	miss	gin
scene	ether	chip	grin
believe	seen	live	pill
leave	breathe	bin	quiz

Exercise Two: Minimal Pairs

Listen to the following word pairs from your tape. Repeat them, being careful to make the distinction between the two sounds.

pit	Pete	bitch	beach
living	leaving	gin	Jean
bid	bead	pick	peak
mid	mead	lick	leak
live	leave	grin	green

Exercise Three: Phrases with /i/ /ɪ/

Listen to your tape. You will hear phrases of words that either contain the sound /i/ or /ɪ/. As you listen to each phrase, write i on the line if you hear /i/, or I on the line if you hear /ɪ/.

- | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ | 9. _____ |

Exercise Four: Minimal Pair Distinction

Part One: Listen to your tape. You will hear the sentences below, but only one of the *italicized* words will be spoken. Circle the word which you hear.

1. John and Sarah were *living/leaving* happily.
2. Sally took the *bins/beans* to the warehouse.
3. The orchard workers *picked/peeked* most of the day.
4. The team needed *Jean/gin* to win the game.

Part Two

Listen for the missing words and write them in the spaces provided.

5. The farmer had only one _____.
6. He had to _____ the chickens.
7. The baseball player _____ the ball before the game.
8. Tim had to have a _____ when he saw the ice cream.

Exercise Five: Dictation

Listen to the sentences and write them on the lines below.

1. _____ Slim's _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____ gin. _____

Exercise Six: Questions for Answers Given

In this section, you will hear 5 answers. You will not hear the questions. Listen carefully to the answer, and then record the question in the space provided on your tape by using your drill/record button.

Example: _____? I'm fine, thanks.
(you record "How are you?" onto your tape BEFORE the answer.)

1. Does...
2. Will Bill's...
3. Did...
4. Were you...
5. Has...

Unit Four Tongue Twisters

Say the following sentences aloud, concentrating on making the distinction between the two sounds.

1. Tim's team was licked by the leaking roof.

/tɪmz tiym wʌz lɪkt bay ðə liykɪŋ ruːf/

2. Pip and Pete shipped the sheep ships cheaply.

/pɪp ænd piyt ʃɪpt ðə ʃiyp ʃɪps tʃiypɪli/

3. Those bins are for Bill Beal's beans.

/ðoʊz bɪnz ɑr fɔr bɪl biylz biynz/

4. Does Jim still steal Jill's jeans?

/dʌz dʒɪm stɪl stiyl dʒɪlz dʒiynz/

5. Will Wheeler's team get many hits in this heat?

/wɪl wiylərz tiym ɡet mæniy hɪts ɪn ðɪs hiyt/

6. The girls snickered at Jill and Jean's sneakers.

/ðə ɡɜrlz snɪkəd æt dʒɪl ən dʒi:nz sni:kərz/

7. Leaving the living sinners at the scene, Will Wheeler grieved.

/liviŋ ðə livɪŋ sɪnərz æt ðə siyn, wɪl wiylər gri:vɪd/

8. Pick cherries at their peak or Pete will see the pits.

/pɪk tʃɛrɪz æt ðɛr piyk ɔr pi:t wɪl siy ðə pɪts/

9. Beach bins are filled with field filler.

/bi:tʃ bɪnz ɑr fɪld wɪθ fiylɪd fɪlər/

10. He's giving his healing pills to all the sinners on the scene.

/hiyz ɡɪviŋ hɪz hiylɪŋ pi:lz tu ɔl ðə sɪnərz ɔn ðə siyn/

Unit Four /i/ & /I/

Minimal Pair Exercises for Student Pairs

A

You and your partner have different sheets, either A or B.

Read your words from the list below to your partner, and he or she will mark down which word is different, either the first, second, or third. Then, your partner will read, and you will mark down on your worksheet either the first, second, or third, whichever is different.

Example: You hear "sin—scene—sin"; you write 2 in the space provided, as the second (scene) was different from the first and third (sin).

1. pit pet pit _____

2. bead bid bead _____

3. mid mead mead _____

4. green green grin _____

5. bitch beach bitch _____

6. leak lick lick _____

7. peel pill pill _____

8. sin scene sin _____

9. live leave leave _____

10. gin jean gin _____

Unit Four /i/ & /I/

Minimal Pair Exercises for Student Pairs

B

You and your partner have different sheets, either A or B.

Read your words from the list below to your partner, and he or she will mark down which word is different, either the first, second, or third. Then, your partner will read, and you will mark down on your worksheet either the first, second, or third, whichever is different.

Example: You hear "sin—scene—sin"; you write 2 in the space provided, as the second (scene) was different from the first and third (sin).

1. gin gin jean _____

2. bitch beach bitch _____

3. lick lick leak _____

4. leave live live _____

5. peel peel pill _____

6. scene sin seen _____

7. pit pet pit _____

8. bead bid bead _____

9. grin green green _____

10. mead mead mid _____

Unit Four: Information Gap Exercise

A

In this exercise, sit opposite your partner. Your partner will ask you which word goes into the empty boxes. You will pronounce the word in *your* box, and your partner will write down what you said. Then *you* ask your partner to pronounce the words in *your* missing boxes.

Possible questions:

"Can you tell me the word which is in D-2?"

"Could you repeat that, please?"

A1	B1 sneakers	C1	D1
A2 gins	B2 lives	C2	D2 beans
A3	B3 pick	C3	D3 leaking
A4 fills	B4	C4 scenes	D4

Unit Four: Information Gap Exercise

B

In this exercise, sit opposite your partner. Your partner will ask you which word goes into the empty boxes. You will pronounce the word in *your* box, and your partner will write down what you said. Then *you* ask your partner to pronounce the words in *your* missing boxes.

Possible questions:

"Can you tell me the word which is in D-2?"

"Could you repeat that, please?"

A1 snickers	B1	C1 bins	D1 peak
A2	B2	C2 leaves	D2
A3 jeans	B3	C3 licking	D3
A4	B4 feels	C4	D4 sins

Unit Four: DIALOGUE

DIRECTIONS

Work with a partner and practice the following dialogue until you memorize it. When you have memorized it, say it for your instructor.

SITUATION

Two students are going to their friends' for dinner.

Lisle: You're really keen on that reading, Richard. But we have to go!

Richard: Give me a minute, Lisle. I'm almost finished reading!

Lisle: You're not nearly finished. Read when we get back.

Richard: Yeah, you're right. I'll miss dinner, otherwise. What are we having?

Lisle: Some really strange meat. And wheat bread with thin beets.

Richard: I bit into some bad beets last week. My teeth ached for a week.

Lisle: Yes, I'm sure bad beets bitten are really a rip-off. But Tina is cooking, so it won't be so bad.

Richard: Good. I've seen Tina cook some sinfully good dinners.

Lisle: Yeah, we'll see if it is sinful if we get going!

Unit 4 Answer Key

Exercise Three: Phrases

1. Thrift is good. I
2. Gin makes him grin. I
3. John was green after he saw Jean. i
4. Rocco's teeth were lethal weapons. i
5. Sam and Sarah grin a lot. I
6. Steve and Pete are happy boys. i
7. The little girl had a big kipper. I
8. Distant thunder is interesting. I
9. The scene last week was good. i

Exercise Four: Minimal Pair Distinction

1. John and Sarah were *leaving* happily.
2. Sally took the *bins* to the warehouse.
3. The orchard workers *peeked* most of the day.
4. The team needed *Jean* to win the game.
5. The farmer had only one *ship*.
6. He had to *still* the chickens.
7. The baseball player *heats* the ball before the game.
8. Tim had to have a *lick* when he saw the ice cream.

Exercise Five: Dictation

1. Jim still steals Slim's jeans.
2. The heat wave hit the city.
3. I have seen many sinners.
4. Pete shipped the chips.
5. Jean loves to drink gin.

Exercise Six: Questions for Answers Given

1. Does Jim still steal Jill's jeans?
Yes, Jim still steals Jill's jeans.
2. Will Bill's team beat Tim's team?
No, I think Bill's team will not beat Tim's team.
3. Did you leave Vancouver?
Yes, I left Vancouver.
4. Were you living in Vancouver?
No, I wasn't living in Vancouver.
5. Has Jim shipped the bean bins?
Yes, Jim has shipped the bean bins.