

/ e / (get)

Form the shape for the third front vowel /e/ (get) by opening the lower jaw slightly more than for the second front vowel /ɪ/, resting the tip of the tongue down behind the lower front teeth, and arching the front of the tongue half-high. The lips and cheeks remain almost neutral as this short, bright sound releases forward through the mouth. Remember: all vowels release through the mouth and are spoken with the soft palate raised in well-pronounced NAS.

AUDIO 12 A ► /e/ (get)

Is there ^eany way to show such ^efriendship?
(Much Ado About Nothing: IV, i, 263)

^eBenefactors? Well; what ^ebenefactors are they?
(Measure for Measure: II, i, 51)

Urge me no more, I shall ^eforget ^emyself;
^eHave mind upon your ^ehealth; ^etempt me no farther.
(Julius Caesar: IV, iii, 35)

WORDS /e/ (get)

Initial	Medial	Final
? ebb	best	*
? edge	guess	*
? ethics	desert	*
? Edgar	feather	*
? efforts	impression	*

Note: The following words are spoken with /e/ (get): any, many, egg, leg, beg, keg, pleasure, measure, length, strength.

RHYTHM TRACK The vowel /e/ (get) is a short, clear, bright sound spoken with the tongue arched forward in the mouth to avoid a dull, lax sound.

PHRASES /e/ (get)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. better <u>l</u> everage | 6. <u>h</u> esitates to step |
| 2. <u>r</u> esting yesterday | 7. <u>e</u> thically correct |
| 3. cost effect <u>e</u> iveness | 8. <u>d</u> eadly schedule |
| 4. <u>i</u> mpressive sk <u>e</u> ch | 9. <u>l</u> ength and <u>s</u> trength |
| 5. <u>p</u> essimistic <u>p</u> res <u>i</u> dent | 10. <u>v</u> egetables on <u>l</u> ettuce |

SENTENCES /e/ (let)

- Are we there yet, Chester?
- Leslie felt she needed to stretch.
- You're correct, I detest that smell.
- This extra soft Kleenex is the best.
- I confess I'd love to play MACBETH.
- I was impressed with everyone's integrity.
- Which pirate is known for his peg leg, Leonard?
- Check with Esther before you order refreshments.
- The effects of red pepper on insects are legendary.
- It was alleged that the detective never studied the evidence.

SOUND CHECK #1: /e/ (get) before 'm' or 'n'. Use neutral /e/ (get) rather than /ɪ/ (wɪll) before 'm' and 'n' in the *stressed* syllable of a word. This is an important sound check for those from parts of the South and Mid-West. Remember: *unstressed* 'en' and 'em' prefixes are spoken with /ɪ/. See page 97.

AUDIO 12 B ► /e/ (get) before 'm' or 'n'

e

I do believe he's trembling.

(Strindberg: Miss Julie)

e e e

Remember who commended thy yellow stockings.

(Twelfth Night: II, v, 153)

e e e

Good gentle youth, tempt not a desperate man.

(Romeo and Juliet: V, iii, 59)

WORDS /e/ (get) before 'm' or 'n'

gems	cents	event	spent
blend	hence	defend	bench
empty	rented	lament	gentle
amend	expend	avenge	empire
quench	attempt	slender	prevent

COMPARE /ɪ/ (will) and /e/ (get) Read across.

/ɪ/ (will)	/e/ (get)	/ɪ/ (will)	/e/ (get)
sin	send	fin	fen
pin	pen	tin	ten
kin	Ken	bin	Ben
Linda	lender	pinnacle	pencil
mimic	member	since	sentence

PHRASES /e/ (get) before 'm' or 'n'

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. def <u>e</u> nsive measures | 6. rem <u>e</u> mbering Ben |
| 2. l <u>e</u> nding them ag <u>a</u> in | 7. <u>e</u> mbassy's rem <u>e</u> dy |
| 3. comm <u>e</u> ndable <u>e</u> nding | 8. <u>s</u> ense of adv <u>e</u> nture |
| 4. sp <u>e</u> nding every p <u>e</u> nny | 9. <u>s</u> end <u>m</u> any <u>m</u> en <u>t</u> hen |
| 5. p <u>e</u> ns for his <u>e</u> minence | 10. <u>v</u> endors <u>r</u> enting <u>t</u> ents |

Rhyming sounds can sometimes be useful when trying to distinguish if one is speaking /e/ before 'm' and 'n', as in the following exercise.

WORDS /e/ (get) sounds in the following should 'rhyme' Read across.

/e/	<u>e</u> ver	/e/	<u>e</u> mpy, <u>e</u> mblem, <u>e</u> mperor, <u>e</u> mpathy
/he/	heck	/he/	hem, hemisphere, h <u>e</u> mp, hemlock
/me/	met	/me/	memo, mem <u>e</u> ber, rem <u>e</u> mber, mem <u>e</u> ry
/te/	test	/te/	tempo, temp <u>e</u> rature, temp <u>e</u> st, temp <u>e</u> rary
/fe/	fetch	/fe/	fen, f <u>e</u> nder, def <u>e</u> nding, def <u>e</u> sive
/se/	set	/se/	send, s <u>e</u> nt, s <u>e</u> nt <u>e</u> nce, s <u>e</u> nator, s <u>e</u> sitive
/pe/	pest	/pe/	pen, p <u>e</u> ncil, p <u>e</u> sive, p <u>e</u> ndant
/we/	west	/we/	wh <u>e</u> n, w <u>e</u> nt, W <u>e</u> ndy, w <u>e</u> nch
/me/	m <u>e</u> ss	/me/	m <u>e</u> n, m <u>e</u> ant, m <u>e</u> nd, m <u>e</u> ntion, m <u>e</u> ntal
/de/	d <u>e</u> sk	/de/	d <u>e</u> n, d <u>e</u> nt, d <u>e</u> nse, D <u>e</u> nny, d <u>e</u> ntal
/be/	b <u>e</u> st	/be/	B <u>e</u> n, b <u>e</u> nch, b <u>e</u> nt, b <u>e</u> nefits, b <u>e</u> neficial
/te/	T <u>e</u> ss	/te/	t <u>e</u> n, t <u>e</u> nse, att <u>e</u> nd, att <u>e</u> n <u>t</u> ion, t <u>e</u> nnis

SENTENCES /e/ (get) before 'm' or 'n'

1. Erin was involved in a fender bender.
2. Cayenne pepper can offend the senses.
3. Have you ever watched *The Avengers*?
4. The letter was marked 'return to sender'.
5. Transcend the need for vengeance, Wendy.
6. My dentist promotes preventative measures.
7. The ill-tempered superintendent is condescending.
8. Benny, we recommend ending your overspending.
9. Penny's performance was mentioned in the review.
10. Intense penguins can stand at attention indefinitely.
11. Ken and I are no longer members of the tennis club.
12. Emmett dislikes defense and prefers playing offense.
13. Friends asked me for a sentence of exactly ten words.
14. Theatre companies generally accept tax-exempt status.
15. The musical tones blended during the lovely crescendo.
16. When apprehended, the criminal pretended to surrender.
17. Jen spoke endlessly of a gentlemanly tenor from Denver.
18. The apprentice should be commended; he's indispensable.
19. *Agamemnon* will not be extended; it will end in November.
20. How many men are invited to the convention in Tennessee?

Len and Ken's Adventure

Len and Ken, both in their late twenties, have been best friends since elementary school. Last December, intent on adopting a pet together, they went to Wendy's Veterinary Medical Center. Emma, an immensely contented French Bulldog, now resides with Len and Ken in their rented penthouse in the east seventies.

SOUND CHECK #2: /e/ before //. Arch the tongue forward in the mouth in order to avoid a dull, lax vowel sound when speaking /e/ combinations.

bell	cell	fell	gel
hell	Nell	tell	yell
smell	shell	expel	quell
propel	Ravel	dwel	retell
compel	dispel	personnel	unwell

PHRASES /e/ before //

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. self-help | 6. a cappella |
| 2. sells jelly | 7. <u>El</u> mer Fudd |
| 3. <u>f</u> elt svelte | 8. <u>H</u> elen's <u>f</u> ella |
| 4. dinner <u>b</u> ell | 9. farew <u>e</u> ll to <u>e</u> lves |
| 5. <u>h</u> ealth and <u>w</u> ealth | 10. blond bombsh <u>e</u> ll |

SENTENCES /e/ before //

- Do tell, Mel, who rang the bell?
- Twelve elk became unwell eating elm trees.
- Anyone remember *The Lawrence Welk Show*?
- Cornell tightened his belt, then felt like belching.
- Ed was compelled to delve into the books on the shelf.
- Well, when overwhelmed with jealousy, elephants yell.
- It's a delicate situation, so Ellen's walking on egg shells.
- Tell Mr. Roosevelt mademoiselle has had a fainting spell.
- In a nutshell, our motel is the worst in the commonwealth.
- Nell's clientele prefer *Velvet* hair gel; it penetrates the cells.

NEUTRAL AMERICAN TEXT /e/ (get). Mark the following and then speak out loud.

/e/ before 'm' or 'n':

e
I will be mild and gentle in my words.

(Richard III: IV, iv, 161)

If we shadows have offended,
Think but this, and all is mended.

(A Midsummer Night's Dream: V, i, 423)

O, it is excellent
To have a giant's strength; but it is tyrannous
To use it like a giant.

(Measure for Measure: II, ii, 107)

L. MACBETH.

Did not you speak?

MACBETH. When?

L. MACBETH. Now.

MACBETH. As I descended?

(Macbeth: II, ii, 16)

QUEEN. Hamlet, thou hast thy father much offended.

HAMLET. Mother, you have my father much offended.

(Hamlet: III, iv, 9)

That ever-living man of memory,
Henry the Fifth.

(1 Henry VI: IV, iii, 51)

Ah, let me live in prison all my days,
And when I give occasion of offense,
Then let me die, for now thou hast no cause.

(3 Henry VI: I, iii, 43)

What, sir, not yet at rest? The King's a-bed.
He hath been in unusual pleasure, and
Sent forth great largess to your offices.

(Macbeth: II, i, 12)

And turning to his men,
Quoth our brave Henry then,
"Though they be one to ten,
Be not amazéd.
Yet have we well begun,
Battles so bravely won
Have ever to the sun
By fame been raiséd.

(Michael Drayton: Ballad of Agincourt)

No longer session hold upon my shame,
 But let my trial be mine own confession.
 Immediate sentence then, and sequent death,
 Is all the grace I beg.

(Measure for Measure: V, i, 371)

/e/ before /l/:

Who lives and dares but say thou didst not well
 When I was got, I'll send his soul to hell.

(King John: I, i, 271)

The bell invites me.
 Hear it not, Duncan, for it is a knell,
 That summons thee to heaven or to hell.

(Macbeth: II, i, 62)

SCROOP. Both young and old rebel,
 And all goes worse than I have power to tell.

K. RICHARD. Too well, too well thou tell'st a tale so ill.

(Richard II: III, ii, 119)

If you did wed my sister for her wealth,
 Then for her wealth's sake use her with more kindness:
 Or if you like elsewhere, do it by stealth.

(The Comedy of Errors: III, ii, 5)

Hear the sledges with the bells –
 Silver bells!
 What a world of merriment their melody foretells!
 How they tinkle, tinkle, tinkle,
 In the icy air of night!
 While the stars that oversprinkle
 All the heavens seem to twinkle
 With a crystalline delight;
 Keeping time, time, time,
 In a sort of Runic rhyme,
 To the tintinnabulation that so musically wells
 From the bells, bells, bells, bells,
 Bells, bells, bells –
 From the jingling and the tinkling of the bells.

(Edgar Allan Poe: The Bells)