

## Polysyllabic word endings

There are two options for polysyllabic words (words of three or more syllables) ending in 'ary', 'ory', or 'berry' spellings:

- (a) The short schwa sound with no 'r' coloring /ə/ (uh) is used in the second to the last syllable. The final 'y' takes an /ɪ/ (will) suffix, so the word endings are pronounced: /ə-ɪ/
- (b) The schwa that was in the second to the last syllable is dropped, making the word ending shorter and more clipped. So, 'purgatory' could be spoken: /'pɜ:gətə-ɪ/ or /'pɜ:gətɪ/

Polysyllabic words ending in 'ony' are pronounced /ə-ɪ/.

### AUDIO 85 ► polysyllabic word endings

(drop the schwa altogether, or speak: ə-ɪ )

Your caution may be **'necessaa-ry**.

(Farquhar: The Beaux Stratagem)

(drop the schwa altogether, or speak: ə-ɪ )

That is satis**'factoo-ry**.

(Wilde: The Importance of Being Earnest)

(drop the schwa altogether, or speak: ə-ɪ )

He promises to be an ex**'traordinaa-ry** person.

(Congreve: The Way of the World)

### WORDS 'ony' endings pronounced /əɪ/

'acrimony	'agrimony	'alimony	'antimony
'ceremony	cere'monious	'matrimony	'patrimony
'parsimony	parsi'monious	'sanctimony	'testimony

*məɪ*

*At what hour would you wish the ceremony performed?*

(Wilde: The Importance of Being Earnest)

**WORDS 'ory' endings**

'minatory	'auditory	'mandatory	'oratory
'predatory	'laudatory	'circulatory	'purgatory
a'ccusatory	o'bligatory	de'rogatory	con'ciliatory
con'tributory	de'pository	'promissory	ex'clamatory
inter'rogatory	pre'paratory	ob'servatory	ma'nipulatory

**WORDS 'ary' endings**

'actuary	'capillary	'ordinary	'arbitrary
fi'duciary	'necessary	'legendary	'February
'customary	'dictionary	a'pothecary	'mercenary
bene'ficiary	'adversary	'commentary	re'actionary
'momentary	he'reditary	evo'lutionary	con'fectionary

**WORDS 'berry' endings:**

'barberry	'bayberry	'dogberry	'chinaberry
'cranberry	'dewberry	'snowberry	'gooseberry
'hackberry	'mulberry	'blackberry	'winterberry

**PHRASES polysyllabic word endings**

- |                                  |                                     |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. no alim <u>ony</u>            | 6. great lib <u>rary</u>            |
| 2. difficult rep <u>ertory</u>   | 7. necess <u>ary</u> not <u>ary</u> |
| 3. conserv <u>atory</u> class    | 8. huckle <u>berry</u> bush         |
| 4. derog <u>atory</u> message    | 9. temp <u>orary</u> position       |
| 5. unsan <u>itary</u> conditions | 10. elocut <u>ionary</u> expert     |

**SENTENCES polysyllabic word endings**

- I enjoyed the ceremony.
- It's just a temporary setback.
- Recertification is mandatory.
- Who is your literary manager?
- The jury reviewed his testimony.
- Your performance was extraordinary.

7. He has tremendous elocutionary skills.
8. Where did you go to secondary school?
9. I understand he has monetary problems.
10. Have you written the valedictory speech?
11. She had coronary and auditory weakness.
12. The bakery requires special confectionaries.
13. When do you start your conservatory training?
14. The patient complains of hallucinatory dreams.
15. The religious ceremony is being held in the sanctuary.

**STANDARD BRITISH TEXT polysyllabic word endings.** *Mark following and speak out loud.*

                  ə-nɪ  
O matrimony!  
(Farquhar: The Beaux Stratagem)

Isn't Mr. Worthing in his library?  
(Wilde: The Importance of Being Earnest)

Health is the primary duty of life.  
(Wilde: The Importance of Being Earnest)

We used to rail at matrimony together.  
(Sheridan: The School for Scandal)

Business must be preferred always before love and ceremony with  
the wise, Mr. Horner.  
(Wycherley: The Country Wife)

Let us not be accessory to your putting the ladies out of countenance.  
(Congreve: The Way of the World)

Miss Tattle, who was by, affirmed that Lord Buffalo had discovered  
his lady at a house of no extraordinary fame.  
(Sheridan: The School for Scandal)

Matrimony has made you eloquent in love.  
(Congreve: The Way of the World)

Always saying no when you meant yes!— simple purgatory for shy and sincere souls!

(Shaw: Mrs. Warren's Profession)

Most men are the contraries to that they would seem.

(Wycherley: The Country Wife)

Sir, I have endeavored not to wrong your well-known generosity by an ill-timed parsimony.

(Lillo: The London Merchant)

She would needs have it that no man ever does any extraordinary kindness or service for a woman but for his own sake.

(Steele: The Conscious Lovers)

These are the genuine signs of true receptance, the only preparatory, the certain way to everlasting peace.

(Lillo: The London Merchant)

I believe it is customary in good society to take some slight refreshment at five o'clock.

(Wilde: The Importance of Being Earnest)

If your physick be wholesome, it matters not who is your apothecary.

(Congreve: The Way of the World)

If it wasn't for Bunbury's extraordinary bad health, for instance, I wouldn't be able to dine with you at Willis's tonight.

(Wilde: The Importance of Being Earnest)

Why, madam, a greater expense than all this men lay out upon an unnecessary stable of horses.

(Steele: The Conscious Lovers)

I shall be in the conservatory, under the second palm tree on the left.

(Wilde: An Ideal Husband)

I always did what it was customary for a gentleman to do.

(Shaw: Man and Superman)