

For 8 - 11 Year Olds

Language Skills Series

Book One
**Simple Vowel
Sounds**

*Activities for language
learning.*

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Introduction

The Language Skills Series was written to help students learn and consolidate on their understanding of basic English skills. Research has shown that many students lack the skills needed to unlock the written word. The ability to unlock words gives the student a tool to facilitate the learning of the English language.

This set of books has been tested extensively and the books have proven to be effective with all age groups, from younger students through to adults. Staff involved with ESL students have also found them useful.

The worksheets can be:

- used in a one-to-one situation;
- used with the whole class;
- used with small groups of students;
- sent home to reinforce a skill already learned.

Benefits of the worksheets include:

- they can be chosen to meet individual needs;
- they allow students to work at their own pace;
- they reinforce a known skill;
- the worksheets can be repeated if necessary;
- they provide a written record of student knowledge;
- they provide practice at answering open-ended questions.
- they are easy to use;
- they can be used to introduce a new concept;
- they are easy to mark;

Note: Answers, where appropriate, have been provided.

This series endeavours to assist students of all ages and ethnic backgrounds to gain mastery of the English language.

I hope you enjoy using the books.

Frances Croft

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Worksheet 1

The short 'a' sound

This is the short 'a' sound as in cat.

In the English language the alphabet has twenty-six letters. There are five vowels and twenty-one consonants.

The vowels are: 'a, e, i, o and u'.

The consonants are: b c d f g h j k l m n p q r s t u w x y z

The letter 'y' can be used as a consonant and a vowel.

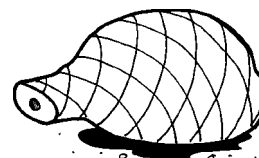
1. Write the words that have a short 'a' sound on the lines.

man top pan rat cot rot bat
lip gas hat pig lap ham win

Blank lines for writing words.

2. Use the following words in complete sentences. Underline any words that have a short 'a' sound.

bat gas ham



Sentence: _____

Sentence: _____

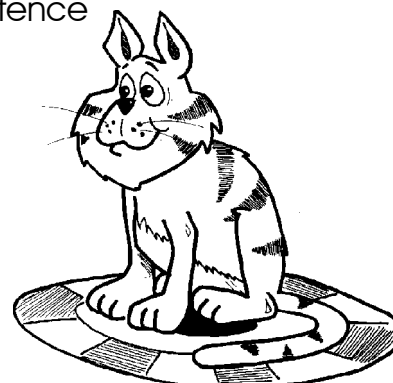
Sentence: _____

3. Circle the words with a short 'a' sound.

mad lap mat let cab by tap man
sat lot pan nag bat name gag bet

Write one of the circled words in the space so that the sentence makes sense.

- The _____ dog ran into the forest.
The water in the _____ was very hot.
John's _____ was broken.
My cat _____ on the old mat.
The _____ walked down the hill.



Worksheet 2

The short 'a' sound

This is the short 'a' sound as in cat.

- 1. Complete the following sentences. Use one of the words listed below. Underline any words that have a short 'a' sound in them.

jam man van hat map cap

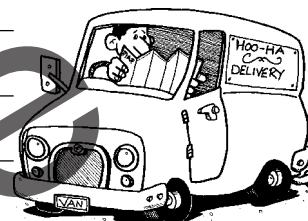
When I was going to school _____

The old _____

Mary used the _____

My _____

Yesterday _____



- 2. These words all have a short 'a' sound. Write two words with the same ending. Use one word in a sentence.

Example: tap map lap

cat _____ pan _____

dad _____ tan _____

ham _____ sag _____

Sentence: _____

- 3. Circle the following words that have a short 'a' sound. Write the circled words in alphabetical order.

sat kit came map ant like car
land work team hop make late ham

Alphabetical order: _____

Worksheet 3

The short 'a' sound

This is the short 'a' sound as in cat.

1. Circle the words in this list that have a short 'a' sound.

- pat cat hot flat mat hat
the chat hit pan sat yarn

2. Write one of the circled words in the correct sentence.

The brown, fluffy _____ sat outside in the sun.
The man's _____ was too large for him.
Our black and white dog sat on the _____.
After school we stayed in the classroom so that we could _____ with our friends.
Our ball was _____ and we couldn't play our game.
"Did you _____ the horse?" Mum asked.



3. Write nine words that have a short 'a' sound and start with the following letters. Write three words in sentences.

Example: b bat The new bat was left on the mat.

- c _____ b _____ d _____
h _____ m _____ t _____
v _____ r _____ s _____

Sentence: _____

Sentence: _____

Sentence: _____

4. Write the list of words in Question 3 in alphabetical order.

Alphabetical order: _____