

# ARTS AND COMMERCE COLLEGE, ASHTA

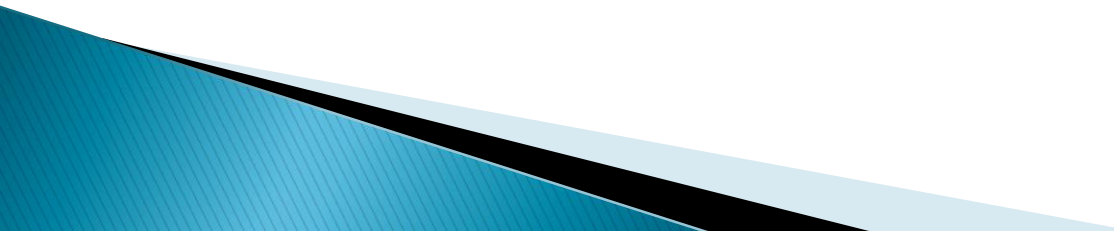
**Class: B.A.III**

**Subject**

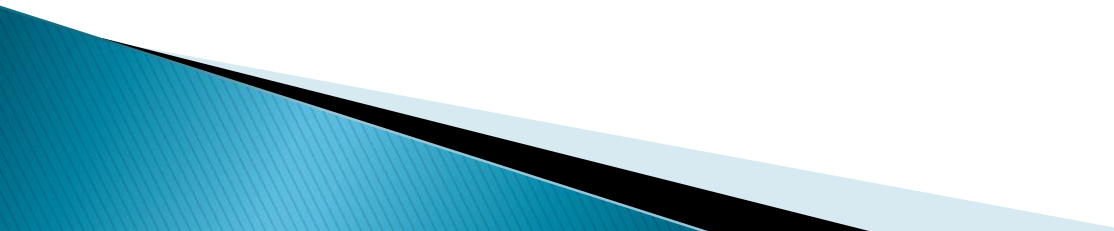
**The Structure and Function of Modern English**

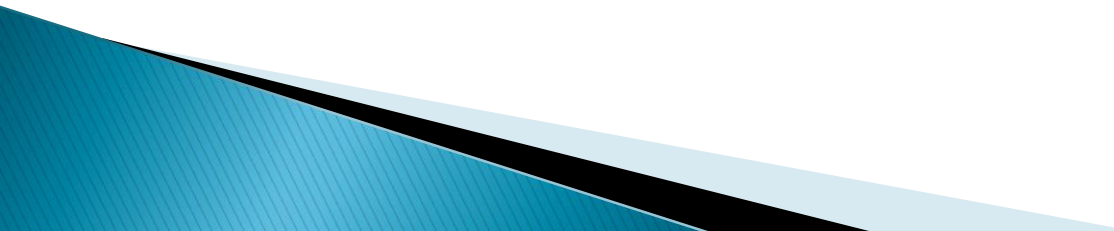
**A Presentation by  
Prof. Rajendra Ashok Pradhan**

# English Phonology

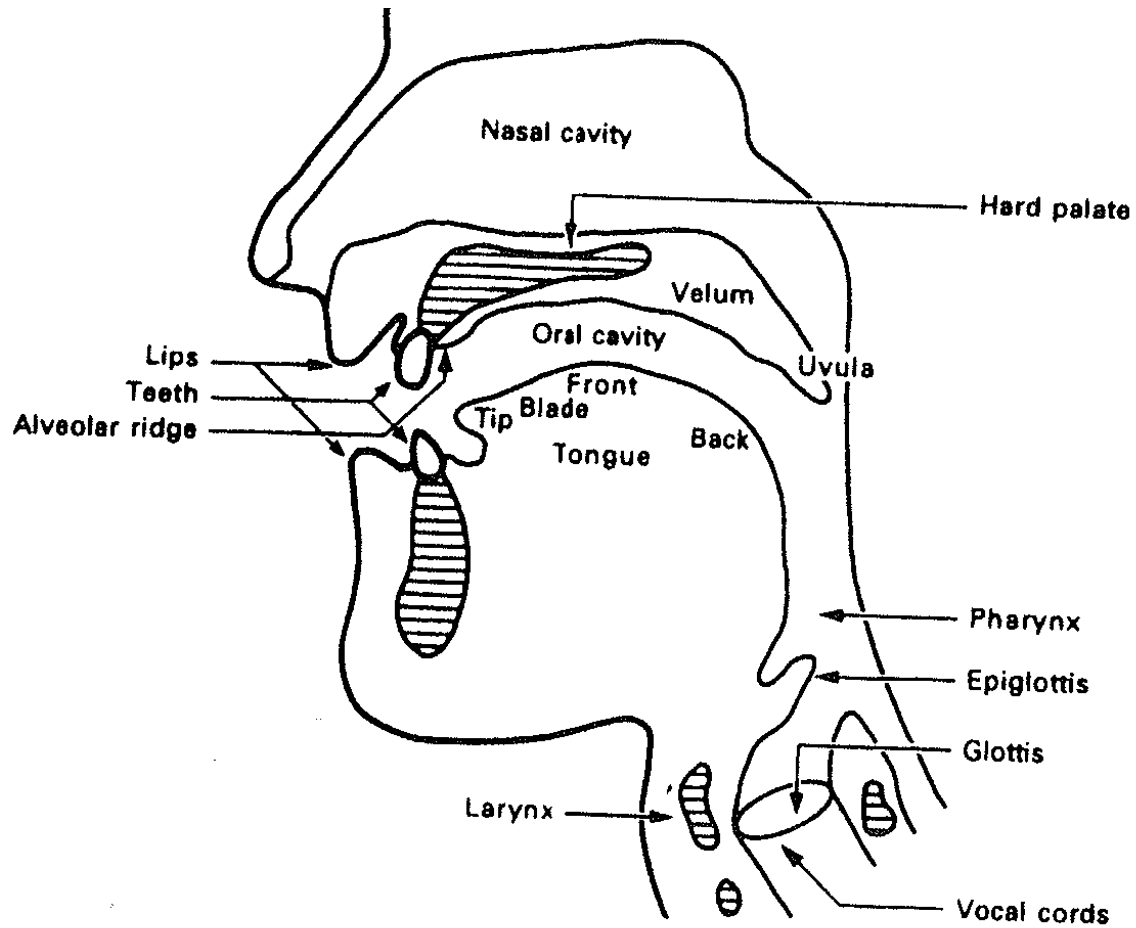
- ▶ **Phonetics** – a theory about speech sounds, describing the sounds that we use in speaking
  - ▶ **Phonology** – explains how **phonemes** function in language, the relationships among different phonemes
- 

# The course will focus on

- ▶ English sounds
  - ▶ Intonation and rhythm
  - ▶ Transcription
- 

- ▶ **Phoneme** – a unit within a set of units as the basis of our speech. If we put one of these units in the place of one of the others, we can change the meaning of the word
  - ▶ **Allophone** – different realisations of one and the same unit
- 

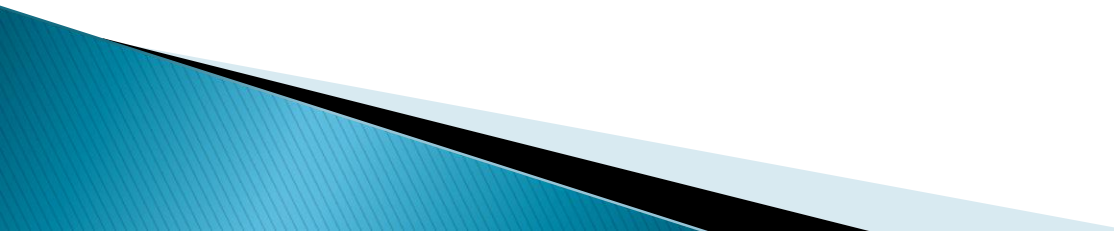
# Organs of speech



# Classification of Speech Sounds

- ▶ Vowels
- ▶ Consonants

# General Articulatory Characters

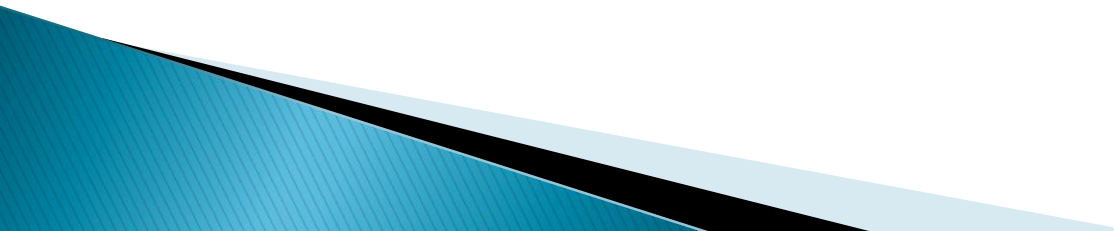
- ▶ Relatively low position of the tongue
  - ▶ More retracted articulation
  - ▶ Relative absence of lip-rounding and protrusion
  - ▶ Laxness
- 



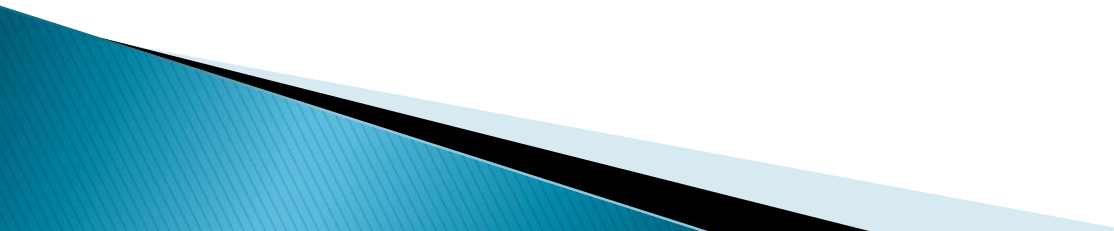
# Vowels

- ▶ Monophthongs
- ▶ Diphthongs
- ▶ 12 monophthongs: 7 short: ɪ, e, æ, ʌ, ɒ, ʊ, ə  
and 5 long: i:, a:, ɔ:, ɜ:, u:
- ▶ 7 diphthongs: 5 closing: eɪ, aɪ, ɔɪ, aʊ, əʊ
- ▶ and 2 (3) centring: eə, ɪə, (ʊə)

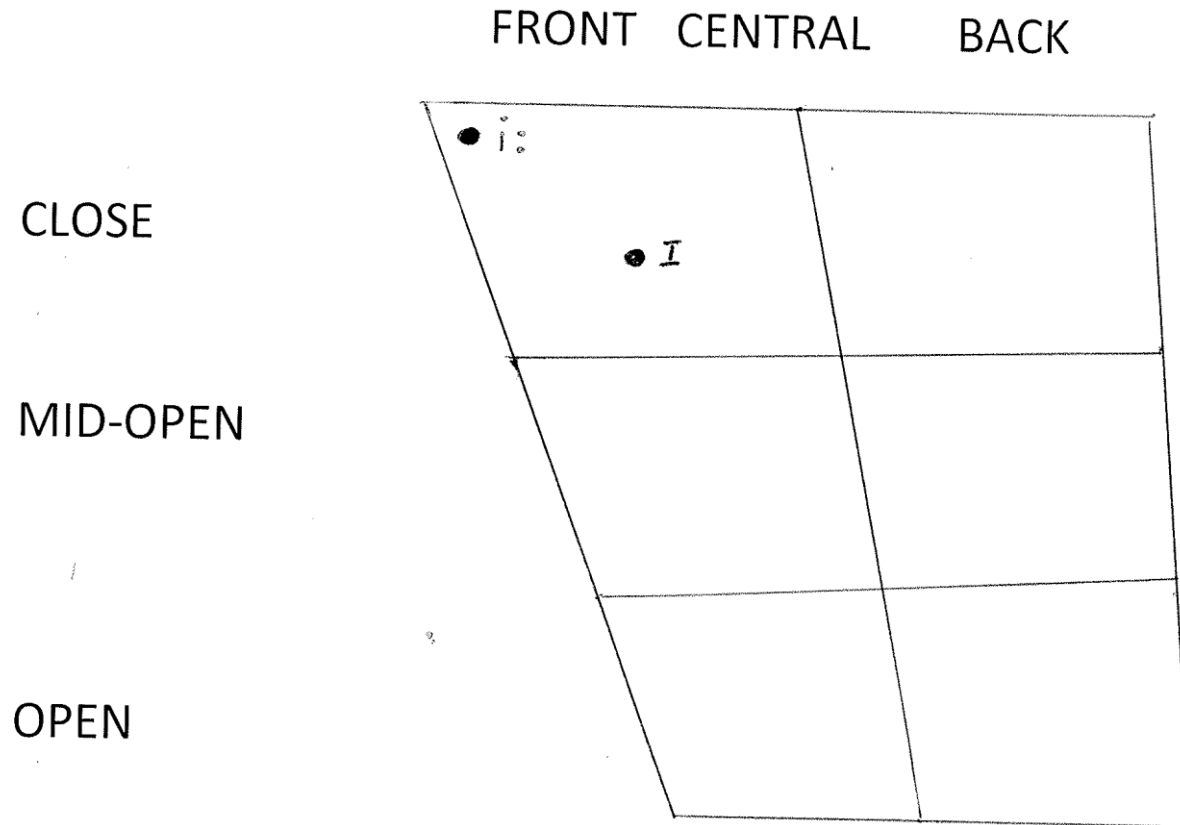
# Intonation

- ▶ Stress
  - ▶ Rise
  - ▶ Fall
  - ▶ Rise–fall
  - ▶ Fall–rise
- 

# Rhythm

- ▶ Tone unit
  - ▶ Prominent syllable
  - ▶ Tonic syllable
  - ▶ Tone unit border mark //
- 
- ▶ I hurried across and turned around the corner and started to walk
  - ▶ I hurrried across// and turned around the corner// and started to walk
- 

# Diagram of Cardinal Vowels



# Spelling

**i:**

All –ee: heel, sleep, keen

Most –ea: steal, meat, read

-e: be, me

Less common: -i : machine, police

-ie : field, piece

-ei : receive

-ey : key

# Spelling

## I

Common: -i : if, film, his

-e : verb endings and plurals: started, dances

Exceptions:

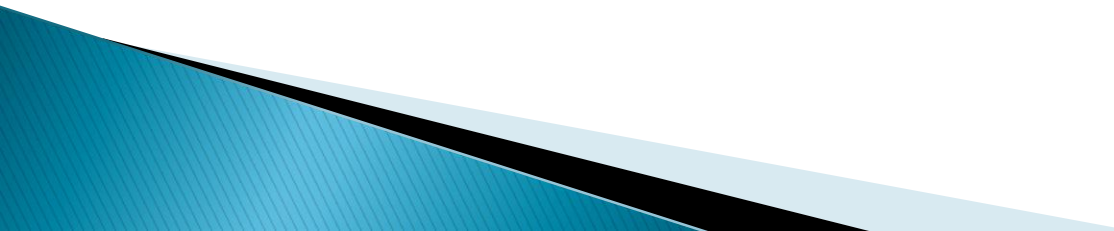
-o : women

-u : busy

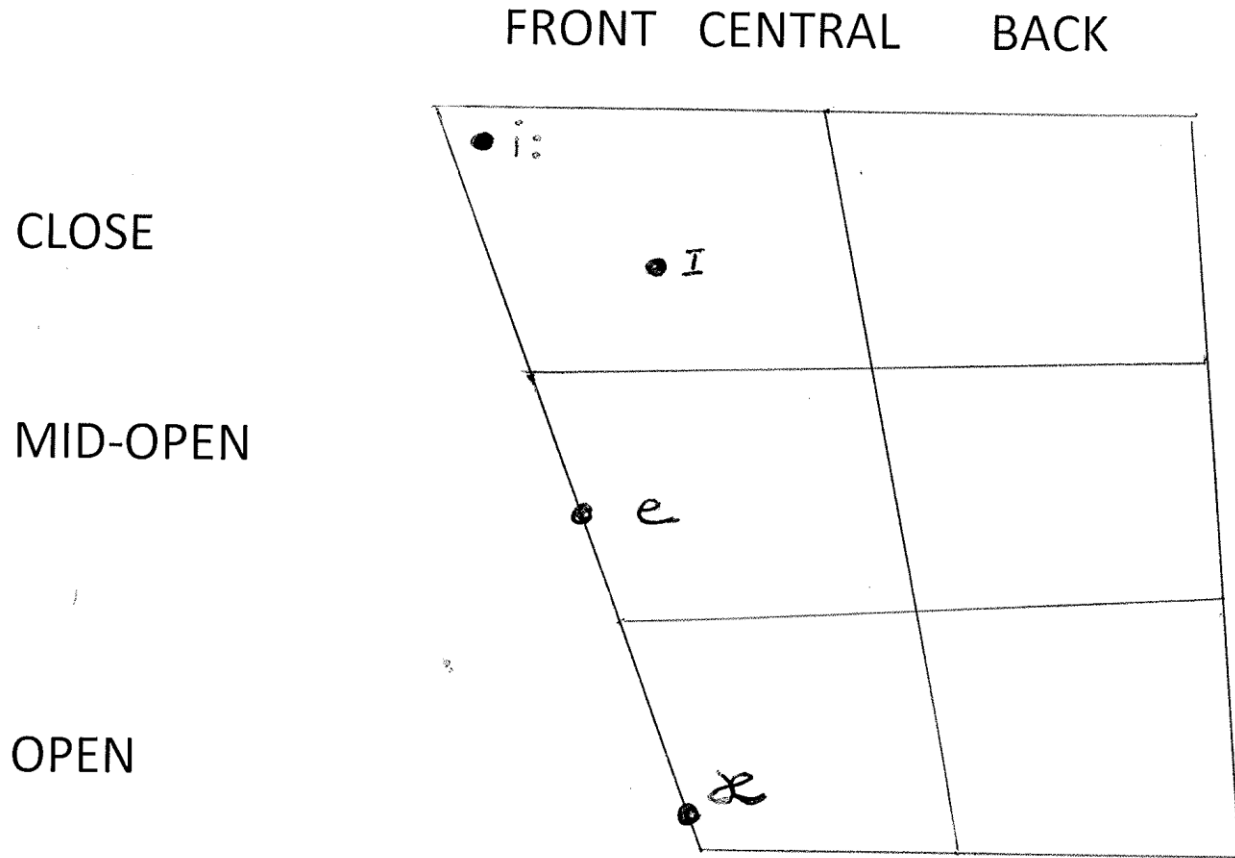
-a : village

# Limerick

**There was an Old Man of the East,  
Who gave all his children a feast;  
But they all ate so much,  
And their conduct was such,  
That it killed that Old Man of the East.**



# /e/ and /æ/

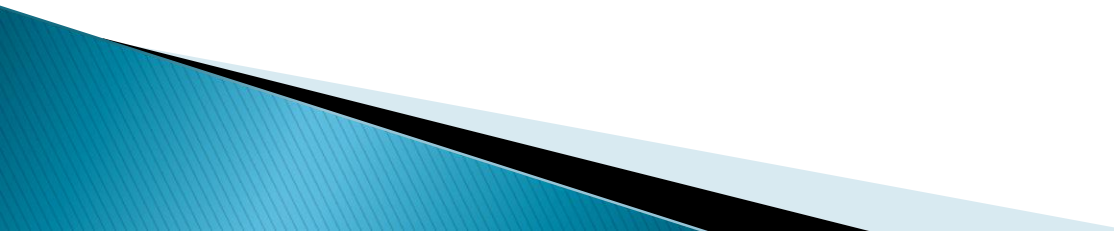




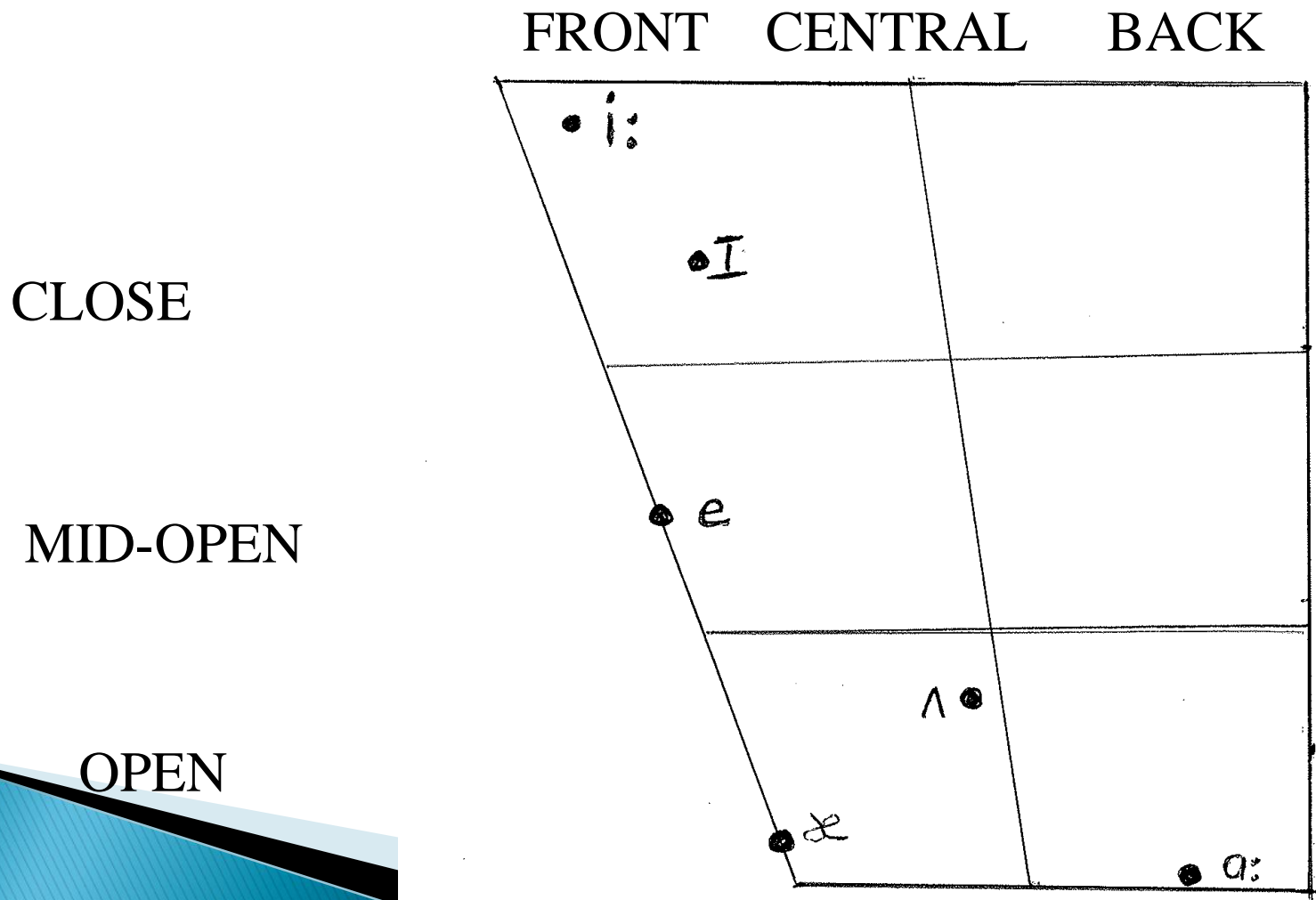
# Spelling /e/

- ▶ Common:
  - ▶ -e end, bed, letter
  - ▶ -ea dead, health, deaf, jealous
- ▶ Less common:
  - ▶ -a any, ate, Thames, Pall Mall
  - ▶ -ai said, against
  - ▶ -ay says
  - ▶ -ei leisure, heifer, Leicester
  - ▶ -eo leopard, jeopardy
  - ▶ -u bury

# Spelling /æ/

- ▶ Common
  - ▶ -a add, apple, rat,
  - ▶ Less common:
  - ▶ -ai plaid, plait
  - ▶ -al salmon
- 

/ʌ / and /ɑ: /



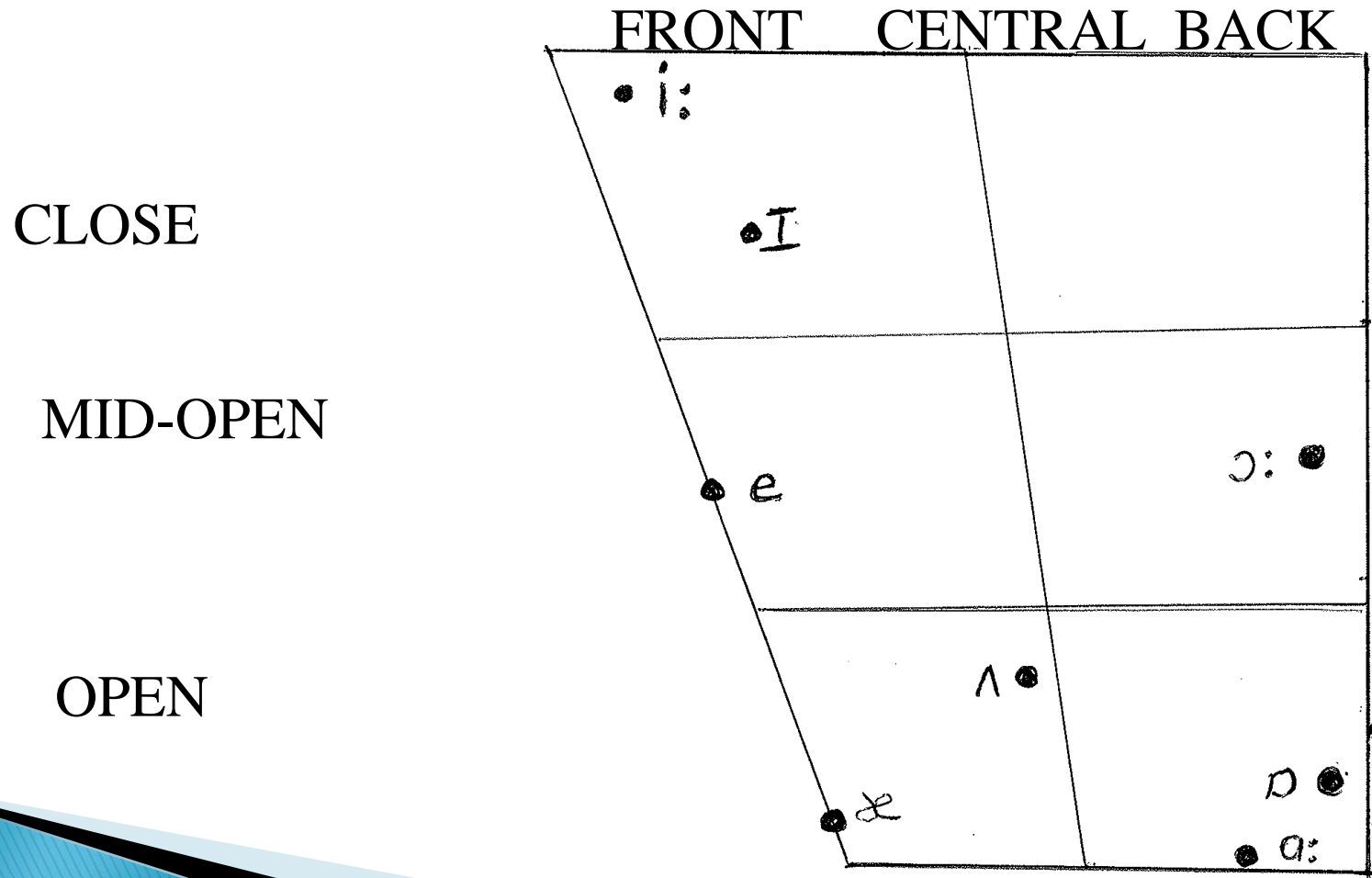
# Spelling /ʌ/

- ▶ Common:
  - ▶ -u up, begun, luck, republic, frustrate,
- ▶ Less common:
  - ▶ -o onion, come, among, ton, won
  - ▶ -ou enough, double, touch, southern
  - ▶ -ee threepence
  - ▶ -oe does
  - ▶ -oo blood, flood
  - ▶ -wo twopence

# Spelling /ɑ:/

- ▶ Common:
  - ▶ -ar art, park, star, argue, departure
  - ▶ -a after, staff, father, class, gasp, answer
- ▶ Less common:
  - ▶ -al calf, half, calve, halve, salve, calm, palm
  - ▶ -ah Brahmin
  - ▶ are are
  - ▶ -au aunt, laugh, draught
  - ▶ -ear heart, hearth
  - ▶ -er clerk, sergeant, Derby, Berkeley

# /ɒ/ and /ɔ:/



# Spelling /ɒ/

- ▶ Common:
  - ▶ -o ox, not, doll, shone, gone BUT: front, tongue, sponge etc.
- ▶ Less common:
  - ▶ -a wash, swan, quarrel BUT: wax, swam
  - ▶ -au sausage, cauliflower, Austria, Laurence
  - ▶ -eau bureaucracy
  - ▶ -ou cough, Gloucester, trough
  - ▶ -ow knowledge
  - ▶ -ach yacht

# Spelling /ɔ:/

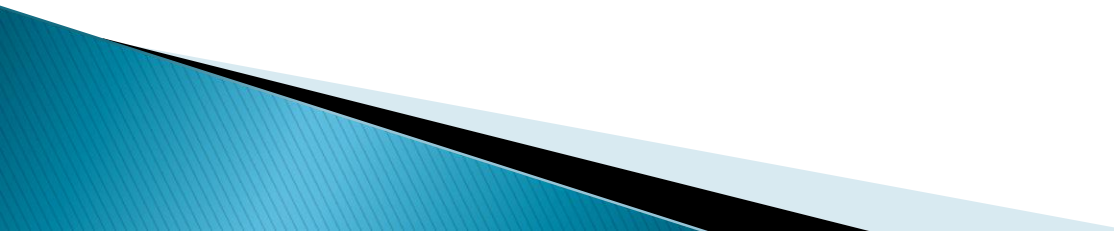
## ▶ Common:

- ▶ -or or, form, cord, sort
- ▶ -al chalk, talk, Baltic, Malta BUT album, Albert, palm, calm
- ▶ -ar war, reward, quarter BUT: card, larder
- ▶ -au autumn, pause, launch
- ▶ -aw awful, lawn, jaw

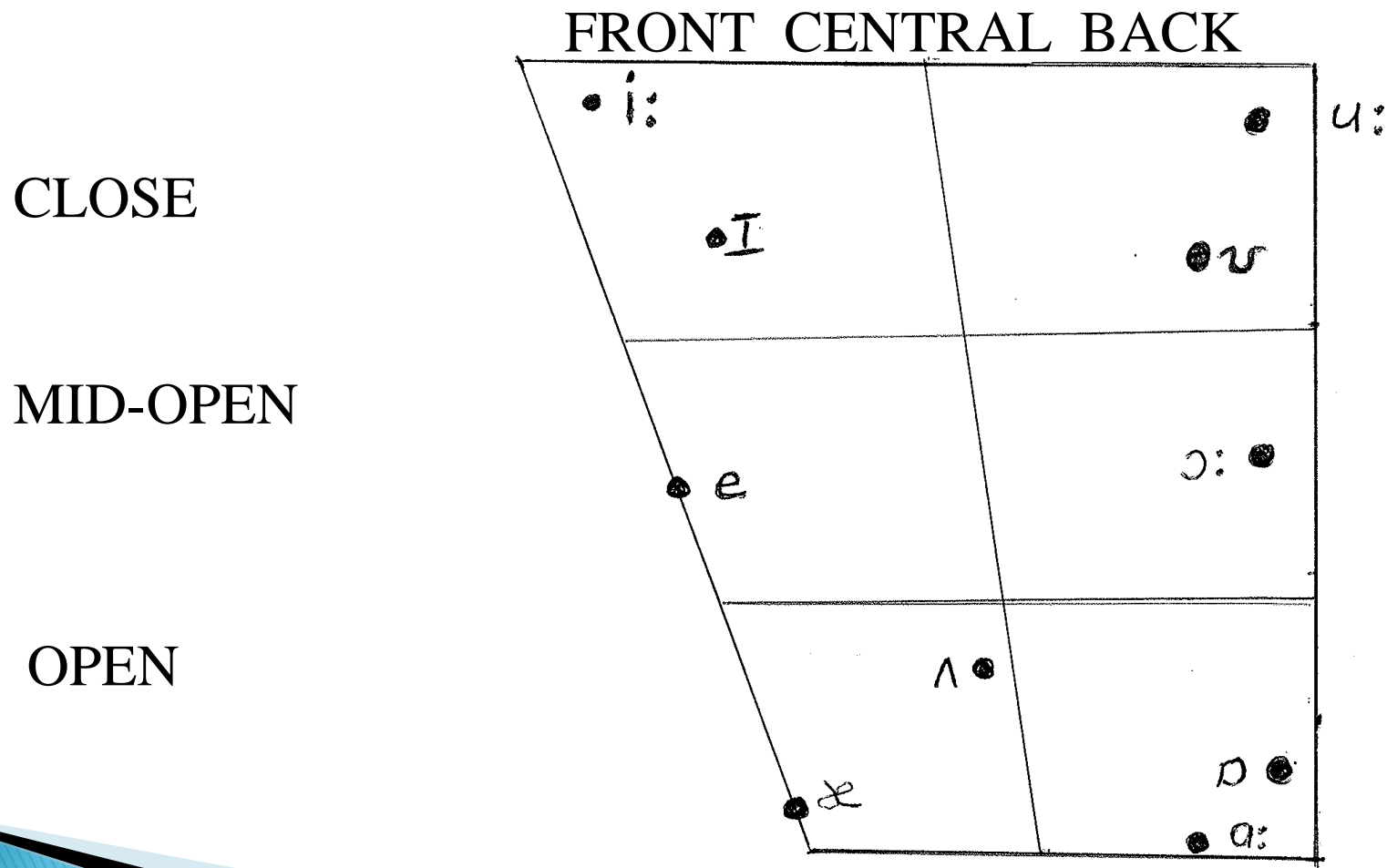
## Less common:

- ▶ -augh daughter, taught
- ▶ -augh- Maugham
- ▶ -as Arkansas



- ▶ -awe      awe
  - ▶ -oa      oar, broad
  - ▶ -ough    ought, fought, brought
  - ▶ -ou      pour, court, source, four
  - ▶ -wor     sword
- 

/ʊ/ and /u:/



# Spelling /ʊ/

- ▶ Common:
  - ▶ -oo      good, book, took, foot, stood, wool
  - ▶ -u      put, full, pull,
- ▶ Less common:
  - ▶ -ou      could, should, would
  - ▶ -o      woman, wolf, Worcester

# Spelling /u:/

## ▶ Common:

- ▶ -oo tool, roof, zoo, food, boot
- ▶ -u plume, rule, June, rude
- ▶ -ew flew, chew, Jew, grew
- ▶ -o do, move, Domesday, tomb, womb
- ▶ -ou group, rouble, sou
- ▶ -ue blue, true, sue
- ▶ -ui suit, bruise, juice, cruise, recruit
- ▶ -eu sleuth, rheumatism
- ▶ -oe shoe, canoe

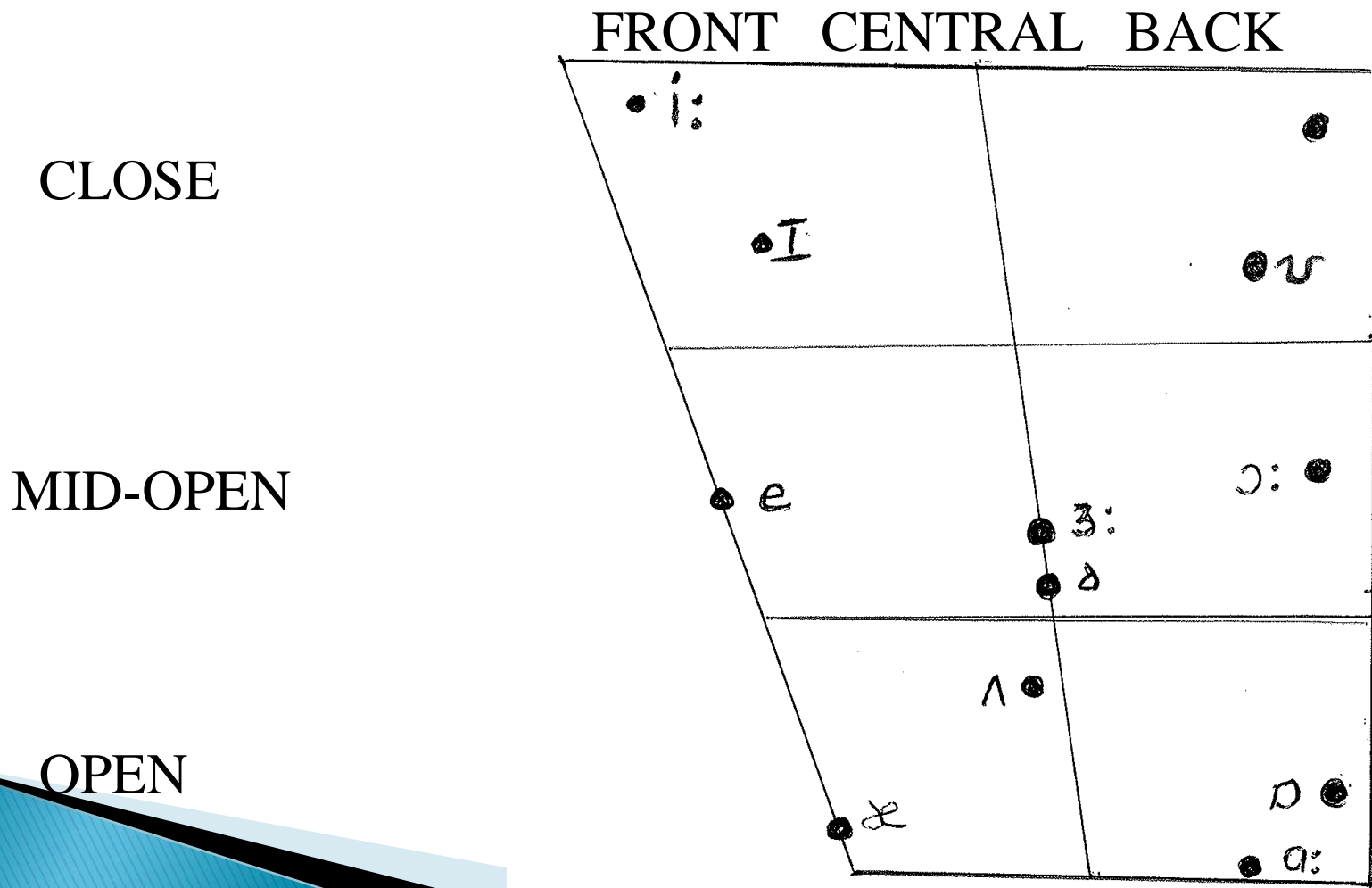
# Spelling /ju: /

- ▶ -u           unit, humour, perfume
- ▶ -ue           cue, due, residue
- ▶ eu            eucalyptus
- ▶ -ew           few, curfew
- ▶ -eau          beauty
- ▶ ewe          ewe
- ▶ -ieu          adieu
- ▶ -iew          view
- ▶ yew          yew

# Comparison

- ▶ Estonian      tuul      tuum
- ▶ English      tool      tomb

# /ɜ:/ and /ə/



# Spelling /ɜ:/

- ▶ Common:
- ▶ -ur curly, fur, occur, urn
- ▶ -urr purr, occurred BUT: occurrence
- ▶ -er permit, person, refer, Ernest
- ▶ -err err, referred
- ▶ -ir dirty, firm, sir, Irving
- ▶ -irr stirred, whirr
- ▶ -ear search, earth, rehearse, earn
- ▶ -eur amateur, Fleur
- ▶ -or word, work, worse, attorney