

Pronunciation

Minimal Pairs /æ/ /ɑ:/ words like CAT and CART

Activity 1

Listen to your teacher saying the words in Column 1 and Column 2 below.

Column 1

cat
ham
ants
back
shack
hat
had
am

Column 2

cart
harm
aunts
bark
shark
heart
hard
arm

Activity 2

Listen to your teacher saying one of the words from Activity 1. Say if you think the word is in Column 1 or Column 2.

Activity 3

Listen to your teacher saying two words from Activity 1. If the words are the same, circle S below. If you think the words are different, circle D below.

1. S D 2. S D 3. S D 4. S D 5. S D
6. S D 7. S D 8. S D 9. S D 10. S D

Activity 4

Listen to your teacher reading the sentences below. Circle the word you hear.

1. There's a cat/cart in the road.
2. There's no ham/harm in it.
3. The little boy loves his ants/aunts.
4. The back/bark was brown.
5. He avoided the shack/shark.
6. She looks after her hat/heart very well.

Activity 5

Imagine you are the teacher now! Work with a partner and repeat the activities above. Then swap roles.