

Pronunciation

Minimal Pairs /eə/ /ɜ:/ words like HAIR and HER

Activity 1

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

Column 1

hair
wear
fairy
staring
bared
pears

Column 2

her
were
furry
stirring
bird
purrs

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. They don't need hair/her.
2. They wear/were very expensive clothes.
3. She wore a fairy/furry costume at the carnival.
4. You should stop staring/stirring now.

Activity 5

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