

My copy

English is tough stuff

Dearest creature in creation,

Study English pronunciation.

I will teach you in my verse

Sounds like corpse, corps, horse, and
worse.

I will keep you, Suzy, busy,

Make your head with heat grow dizzy.

Tear in eye, your dress will tear.

So shall I! Oh hear my prayer.

Just compare heart, beard, and heard,

Dies and diet, lord and word,

Sword and sward, retain and Britain.

(Mind the latter, how it's written.)

Now I surely will not plague you

With such words as plaque and ague.

But be careful how you speak:

Say break and steak, but bleak and streak;

Cloven, oven, how and low,

Script, receipt, show, poem, and toe.

Hear me say, devoid of trickery,

Daughter, laughter, and Terpsichore,

Typhoid, measles, topsails, aisles,

Exiles, similes, and reviles;

Scholar, vicar, and cigar,

Solar, mica, war and far;

One, anemone, Balmoral,

Kitchen, lichen, laundry, laurel;

Gertrude, German, wind and mind,

Scene, Melpomene, mankind.

Billet does not rhyme with ballet,

Bouquet, wallet, mallet, chalet.

Blood and flood are not like food,

Nor is mould like should and would.

Viscous, viscount, load and broad,

Toward, to forward, to reward.

And your pronunciation's OK

When you correctly say croquet,

Rounded, wounded, grieve and sieve,

Friend and fiend, alive and live.

Ivy, privy, famous; clamour
And enamour rhyme with hammer.

River, rival, tomb, bomb, comb,

Doll and roll and some and home.

Stranger does not rhyme with anger,

Neither does devour with clangour.

Souls but foul, haunt but aunt,

Font, front, wont, want, grand, and grant,

Shoes, goes, does. Now first say finger,

And then singer, ginger, linger,

Real, zeal, mauve, gauze, gouge and

gauge,

Marriage, foliage, mirage, and age.

Query does not rhyme with very,

Nor does fury sound like bury.

Dost, lost, post and doth, cloth, loth.

Job, nob, bosom, transom, oath.

Though the differences seem little,

We say actual but victual.

Refer does not rhyme with deafer.

Foeffer does, and zephyr, heifer.

Mint, pint, senate and sedate;

Dull, bull, and George ate late.

Scenic, Arabic, Pacific,

Science, conscience, scientific.

Liberty, library, heave and heaven,

Rachel, ache, moustache, eleven.

We say hallowed, but allowed,

People, leopard, towed, but vowed.

Mark the differences, moreover,

Between mover, cover, clover;

Leeches, breeches, wise, precise,

Chalice, but police and lice;

Camel, constable, unstable,

Principle, disciple, label.

Petal, panel, and canal,

Wait, surprise, plait, promise, pal.

Worm and storm, chaise, chaos, chair,

Senator, spectator, mayor.

Tour, but our and succour, four.

Gas, alas, and Arkansas.

Sea, ^{iə}idea, [/]Korea, [/]area,

^{SAM}Psalm, [/]Maria, but ^{/æ}mal^ɪria.

Youth, south, southern, ^ecleans^e and ⁱclean.

^əDoctrine, [/]turpentine, ^{eɪ}marine.

Compare alien with Italian,

^{dæ}dænd^əl^əɪ^ən
Dandelion and battal^əion.

Sally with ally, ^{aɪ}y^ea, ^{eɪ}y^e, ^{i:}y^e.

Eye, I, ^{aɪ}ay, ^{aɪ}aye, ^{eɪ}whey, and ^{i:}key.

Say ^əav^ər, but ^{eɪ}ever, ^{i:}fever,

Neither, leisure, skein, ^{eɪ}deceiv^ər.

^{eə}Heron, ^ˌgr^æn^ərⁱ, [/]canary.

[/]əCrevice and ^{iə}device and ^{iə}erie.

Face, but ^{eɪ}preface, not ^{eɪ}efface.

Phlegm, ^gphleg^matic, ass, ^{eɪ}glass, ^ɪbass.

Large, but ^{dʒ}target, gin, give, ^{dʒ}verging,

^əOught, out, ^əjoust and ^əscour, ^{ɜ:}scourging.

Ear, but ^{eə}earn and ^{eə}wear and ^{eə}tear

Do not rhyme with here but ^{eə}ere.

Seven is right, but so is even,

Hyphen, roughen, nephew ⁱStephen,

Monkey, donkey, Turk and jerk,

Ask, grasp, ^{a:}wasp, and ^{ɔ:}cork and ^{ɜ:}work.

Pronunciation -- think of ⁱPsyche!

^{eɪ}Is a ^{av}paling stout and ^{i:}spikey?

Won't it make you lose your wits,

Writing ^{grɪts}groats and saying ^{grɪts}grits?

It's a dark ^əabyss or ^ətunnel:

^{u:}Strewn with ^{ɔv}stones, ^{stəʊd}stowed, ^{sə:}solace,

^{ɡʌn}gunwale,

^{ɪs}Islington and ^ɪIsle of ^ɪWight,

Housewife, verdict and ^{eɪ}indict.

Finally, which rhymes with enough --

^əThough, ^əthrough, ^əplough, or ^ədough, or

^əcough?

^{hɪk}Hiccough has the sound of ^ʌcup.

My advice is to give up!!!

-- Author Unknown

viscous - Zäh- / schmierig
 viscount - Burggraf
 sieve - Sieb / sieben
 privy - eingeweiht
 clamour - Lärm, Tumult
 enamour - fesseln, bezaubern
 clangour - Geklirr (Geklirr?)
 wont - gewohnt
 linger - verweilen
 zeal - Eifer
 gauze - Gaze, Verband
 gouge - ausnehmen / höhlen
 dost - archaic (you) do
 doth - "does"
 loth - Abscheu
 nob - UK: nicht powerful person
 transom - Lünecke
 victual - Vorrat
 Feoffor - Lehen (Land)
 heifer - Färsen (Viehweib)
 hallowed - gesegnet
 vowed - gelobt
 clover - Klee
 breeches - Reithose
 chalice - Messkelch
 lice - sg. louse / laus
 disciple - Anhänger
 plant - Haarflechte
 Dandelion - Löwenzahn
 ally - Verbündete
 yea - Ja
 aye - " " ye = the, Euch
 whey - Molke
 aver - behaupten
 skein - (Schar) Strang
 heroin - Röhren

granary - Kornspeicher
 aerie - Adlernest, Horst
 verging - sich (an) lehnen
 joust - Tjost
 scour - auswaschen, schleuern
 scouring - heimsuchen
 ere - 'before'
 jerk - Ruck
 paling - Pfahl // s. verfärben
 stout - robust / stark BIER
 groats - grütze
 solace - Trost
 gunwale - Dollbord (Schiff)
 indict - anklagen
 plough - Pflug

mica - glimmererde

sward - portion of ground covered w/ grass, grassy surface of land

retain - to keep or continue to have (s.t.)

plaque - flat piece of metal, stone, wood or plastic w/ writing on it which is fixed to a wall, door or other object

ague - a fever marked by paroxysms of chills, fever, and sweating that recurs ~~at~~ @ regular intervals
fit of shivering

leak - cold & not welcoming, or hopeless (of a est.) ^{rauh} ^{duster}

streak - mark, characteristic, short period of good or bad luck
Streifen / Strähne

cleave - past part. of cleave - to (cause s.t. to) separate or divide, often violently
spalten

devoid - mangelnd
trichery - List, Schwindel

Terpsichore - greek muse of dancing & choral song

typhoid - illness, relating to typhus fever

topsail - kind of sail

reviles - to criticize (s.o.) strongly
schmähen

mica - natural glass-like substance that can be easily broken into thin layers & is not damaged by heat.
Used esp. in electr. equipment. Glimmerschiefer

anemone - any of several types of small plant, wild or grown in gardens, with red, blue or white flowers

Balworral - Scottish castle; laced boot or shoe

lichen - grey, green or yellow plantlike organism Flechte that grows esp. on rocks, walls & trees

wallet - big hammer with wood or rubber head
Halzhammer

mould - Stimme