Sound pairs to practise · v and w

Classes 2–6 · Read each pair aloud slowly, then quickly. Ask a partner to point to the word they hear you say.

Name: _____ Date: _____

> Many languages, including Hindi, use one sound where English uses two. Both ways are right in their own language; in English these pairs change the meaning of a word, so a little practice helps every listener understand you.

How to make /v/	How to make /w/
v: rest your top teeth lightly on your bottom lip and buzz.	**w**: round your lips like ‘oo’, no teeth on the lip, then open.

Read the pairs aloud

/v/	/w/	My partner heard ✓
vest	west	
vine	wine	
vet	wet	
vent	went	
vow	wow	
verse	worse	

Say these three times

Vicky’s van went west.

We wave at the vegetable seller.

The vet was very wet.

Write one pair and a sentence of your own

Sound pairs to practise · s and sh

Classes 2–6 · Read each pair aloud slowly, then quickly. Ask a partner to point to the word they hear you say.

Name: _____ Date: _____

How to make /s/	How to make /sh/
s: smile a little, teeth close, and let the air hiss like a snake.	**sh**: push your lips forward, as if saying ‘quiet please’.

Read the pairs aloud

/s/	/sh/	My partner heard ✓
sip	ship	
see	she	
sell	shell	
save	shave	
sort	short	
mass	mash	

Say these three times

She sells shells by the sea.

Sam saw a ship sail past.

Sort the short socks first.

Write one pair and a sentence of your own

Sound pairs to practise · z and j

Classes 2–6 · Read each pair aloud slowly, then quickly. Ask a partner to point to the word they hear you say.

Name: _____ Date: _____

How to make /z/	How to make /j/
z: the s shape with your voice on, like a buzzing bee: zzz.	**j**: lift your tongue to touch the top of your mouth, then let go: j, j, jump.

Read the pairs aloud

/z/	/j/	My partner heard ✓
zest	jest	
raise	rage	
pays	page	
buzz	budge	
ways	wage	

Say these three times

The zebra at the zoo is lazy.

Jay jumps over the jar of jam.

Zoya won a prize in June.

Write one pair and a sentence of your own