
Focus Letter Pattern: EAR

Lesson Difficulty Level: 3

There are approximately 1000 words in the English language containing the letters EAR.

STEP 1: Using hints, work with your students to generate the following words and fill in the word work matrix. Be sure to define each word and use it in a sentence as you write it in the word-work matrix. Notice that the letters EAR do not follow consistent pronunciation rules.

1. EAR
2. NEAR
3. TEAR
4. BEAR
5. WEAR
6. PEAR
7. APPEAR
8. BEARD
9. EARLY
10. EARTH
11. HEART
12. HEARTH

STEP 2: When the word-work matrix is completed, have the students chant the words aloud 3 or 4 times to build rapid and proper pronunciation. Point out to the students that the pronunciation of EAR is very inconsistent.

STEP 3: Quickly call out words at random, and have the students tell you what cell each word is in. For example, if you say EARTH, the students should tell you it's in box 10. Or if you say PEAR, the students should say it is in box 6.

STEP 4: Read the following sentences aloud and have the students figure out what word belongs in the blank space:

- Go away -- I don't want you _____ me.
The planet we live on is called _____.
When I run really fast, I can feel the beating of my _____.
The area in front of my fireplace is called the _____.
If you tear up my letter, I will cry a bitter _____.

STEP 5: In the spaces below the word-work matrix, have students generate other words that contain the letters EAR. To make it more interesting, tell them you will be very impressed with students who come up with really unusual and sophisticated vocabulary words. See if the students come up with words like EARNEST, or PEARL. If they can't, encourage them to simply modify one of the words you have already discussed with a prefix or a suffix, or think of a compound word that contains one of the words from today's lesson.

STEP 6: Have the students generate an original sentence correctly using at least two of the words from the lesson.



Student Word-Work Worksheet

NAME: _____ FOCUS LETTERS: _____

1.	2.	3.
4.	5.	6.
7.	8.	9.
10.	11.	12.

Write your OWN words that contain the letters _____:

Write a **grammatically correct** sentence using at least TWO of the words from the matrix above.

