

diphthongs eɪ ɔɪ aɪ (bay boy buy) pronunciation

Southern British English (RP)

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i:	ɪ	ʊ	u:	ɪə	eɪ		
e	ə	ɜ:	ɔ:	ʊə	ɔɪ	əʊ	
æ	ʌ	a:	ɒ	eə	aɪ	aʊ	
p	b	t	d	tʃ	dʒ	k	g
f	v	θ	ð	s	z	ʃ	ʒ
m	n	ŋ	h	l	r	w	j



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/eɪ/ words

A, hey! play, say, day
same, game main, plane, brain
date, great, late wait, weight
eight, straight make, break
cake, fake Wales, whales
alien, training, mistaken, complaining

/ɔɪ/ words

oil!, boy, joy oil, boil, foil
join, coin voice, choice
noise, toys avoid, Freud
enjoy, Croydon, appoint, android
joint, poison, toilet, royal, voyage
destroy, employment, exploitation

Now try these sentences:

/eɪ/

She baked a cake.
A great day for sailing.
Jane hates waiting for late trains.

/ɔɪ/

His voice annoys me, let's avoid him.
The boys made a lot of noise.

/aɪ/

The bright light.
I might buy an ice-cream.
Last night I was frightened.

/eɪ/ /ɔɪ/ /aɪ/ mixed sentences

I can only stay till eight.
I'm really enjoying my birthday today.
I moisturise my face every night and day.
The height of the royal table is eighty-eight centimetres.
A noise late at night.
On Friday the boys visited Grimes Graves.
Boiled or baked potatoes and apricot flavoured ice-cream.

/aɪ/ words

I, eye
by, bye, buy hi, high
my, sky, fly, shy
tie, Thai time, I'm
rice, mice, price
bite, might, fight, light, height, night
delighted, frightened, Christ, diamond

Sound pairs

eɪ	ɔɪ	aɪ
A	oi!	I/eye
play	ploy	ply
bay	boy	bye/buy/by
dale	Doyle	dial
ale	oil	isle/aisle
bale	boil	bile
paint	point	pint
caned	coined	kind

Check where the sounds are:

aɪ can only **steɪ** till **eɪt**.

aɪ'm really enj**ɔɪ**ing my birth**deɪ** today.

aɪ m**ɔɪ**stur**aɪ**se my **feɪ**ce every **naɪ**t and **deɪ**y .

The **haɪ**t of the **rɔɪ**al **teɪ**ble is **eɪ**ty **eɪ**t centimetres.

A **nɔɪ**se **leɪ**te at **naɪ**t.

On **fraɪ**de**ɪ** the **bɔɪ**s visited **graɪ**mes **greɪ**ves.

bɔɪled or **beɪ**ked pot**eɪ**toes and **eɪ**pricot **flaɪ**oured **aɪ**ce-cream.