

## Appendix 3

### **STANDARD LEXICAL SETS**

(J.C. Wells, *Accents of English Vol. I*, pp 127-168)

- 1) **KIT** ship, bit, sick, stitch, stiff, pith, this, wish,  
rib, kid, dig, bridge, give, his,  
dim, skin, sing, fill,  
milk, limp, hint, drink, lift, list, plinth, mix,  
slither, vision, spirit, dinner, silly, winter, sister, ....;  
myth, symbol, rhythm, Syria, ....;  
pretty, England, English,  
build, guilt,  
women, sieve,  
busy, business
- 2) **DRESS** step, bet, neck, fetch, Jeff, mess, mesh,  
ebb, bed, egg, edge, rev, fez  
hem, pen, bell,  
shelf, hemp, tent, theft, best, sex, next,  
effort, method, terror, tenor, jelly, centre/center, pester, ....;  
threat, sweat, deaf, death,  
bread, dead, head, health, realm, meant, breast,  
ready, jealous, pleasant, weather, treacherous, ....;  
any, many, Thames,  
friend, says, said, Leicester, bury.
- 3) **TRAP** tap, cat, back, batch, gaff, math(s), mass, dash,  
cab, mad, rag, badge, have, jazz,  
ham, man, hang, shall,  
scalp, lamp, ant, hand, thank, lapse, tax,  
arrow, carriage, banner, abbey, tassel, cancel, panda, ....;  
plaid.
- 4) **LOT** stop, pot, sock, notch, Goth,  
rob, odd, cog, dodge,  
Tom, con, doll,  
solve, romp, font, copse, box,  
profit, possible, proverb, bother, rosin,  
honest, ponder, ....;  
swan, quality, yacht, wasp, watch, squabble,  
waffle, ....;  
knowledge, acknowledge.
- 5) **STRUT** cup, cut, suck, much, snuff, fuss, rush,  
rub, bud, jug, budge, buzz,  
hum, run, lung, dull,  
pulse, bulge, punch, lump, hunt, trunk,  
butter, study, punish, number, mustn't, Guthrie, ....;

done, come, love, mother, stomach,  
*monk, tongue, onion, money, front, ....;*  
*touch, enough, young, double, southern, country, ....;*  
*blood, flood.*

- 6) **FOOT** put, puss, bush,  
 full,  
 cuckoo, butcher, cushion, pudding, bullet, ....;  
 good, stood, wood, cook, look, shook, wool, ....;  
 could, should, would, shouldn't.
- 7) **BATH** (a) staff, giraffe,  
 path, lath,  
 brass, class, glass, grass, pass,  
 raft, craft, graft, daft, shaft, aft, haft, draft,  
 clasp, grasp, rasp, gasp,  
 blast, cast, fast, mast, aghast, last, past, contrast, vast, avast,  
 ask, bask, mask, flask, cask, task,  
 after, rafter, Shaftesbury,  
 master, plaster, disaster, castor, pastor, nasty, disastrous,  
 basket, casket, rascal,  
 fasten, raspberry, ghastly, castle,  
 laugh, laughter, draught;  
 (b) dance, advance, chance, France, lance, glance, enhance,  
 prance, trance, entrance (v),  
 grant, slant, aunt, chant, plant, advantage, vantage,  
 chantry, supplant, enchant,  
 branch, blanch, ranch, stanch, stanchion,  
 demand, command, remand, slander, Chandler,  
 commando, Alexander, Sandra, Flanders,  
 example, sample,  
 (c) calf, half, calve, halve, rather, Slav,  
 shan't, can't  
 Iraq, coral, morale, Iran, Sudan banana.

(appendix:	chaff, graph, alas, hasp, Basque, masque,
fluctuate in	plastic, drastic, elastic, gymnastic, (Cornish) pasty, enthusiastic
RP between	bastard, paschal, pastoral, masculine, masquerade,
/æ/&/ɑ:/)	exasperate, blasphemy, masturbate, Glasgow, lather, stance, askance, circumstantial, intransigent, substantial transit, transport, transfer, transport, transitory, transient, transept, and other words in trans- ; contralto, alto, plaque, Cleopatra.

- 8) **CLOTH** (a) off, cough, trough, broth, froth, cross, across, loss, floss, toss,  
 fosse, doss,  
 soft, croft, lost, oft, cost, frost,  
 often, soften, lofty,  
 Australia, Austria, Austen, Austin,  
 gone;  
 (b) moth, boss, gloss, joss, moss, Ross,

long, strong, wrong, gong, song, thong, tongs, throng,  
accost, coffee, coffer, coffin, offer, office, officer, glossy,  
foster, Boston, Gloucester, sausage;  
wash;  
(c) origin, Oregon, oratory, orator, orange, authority,  
borrow, categorical, correlate, coroner, coral,  
florid, Florida, florist, florin, historic(al),  
horrid, horrible, majority, horrify, horror,  
metaphoric(al), morrow,  
Morris, moral, Norwich, porridge, rhetorical, sorrel,  
moribund, ....;  
sorrow, tomorrow, sorry,  
Laurence/Lawrence, laurel, laureate,  
quarrel, quarry, warrant, warren, warrior, Warwick.

- 9) **NURSE** usurp, hurt, lurk, church, turf, purse,  
curb, curd, urge, curve, furze,  
turn, curl, spur, occurred,  
burnt, burst, murder, further, ....;  
shirt, irk, birch, birth, bird, dirge,  
firm, girl, fir, stirred, first, circus, virtue, ....;  
myrrh, myrtle, Byrne;  
twerp, assert, jerk, perch, serf, berth, terse,  
verb, erg, emerge, nerve,  
term, stern, deter, err, preferred,  
certain, person, immersion, emergency, kernel, ....;  
Earp, earth, dearth, hearse, rehearse, search,  
heard, earn, yearn, earl, pearl,  
rehearsal, early, earnest,  
wort, work, worth, worse, word, worm, whorl,  
worst, Worthing, worthy, whortleberry;  
scourge, adjourn, courteous, journal, journalist, journey;  
attorney, colonel, liqueur\*, masseur\*, connoisseur\*.

\* also sometimes with the vowel of CURE

- 10) **FLEECE** (a) creep, meet, seek, beech, reef, teeth,  
seed, sleeve, seethe, cheese,  
seem, greed, feel,  
see, tree, agree,  
needle, feeder, sweeten, ....;  
grebe, these, Peter, even, ....;  
shriek, brief, piece, believe, field, ....;  
ceiling, Keith, Sheila, ....;  
be, me, ....;  
key, people;  
(b) reap, meat, speak, teach, leaf, beneath, peace, leash,  
bead, league, leave, breathe, please,  
team, mean, deal,  
sea, tea,

feast, reason, weasel, easy, Easter, ....;  
metre, equal, decent, legal, penal,  
complete, scene, ....;  
deceive, receive, seize, ....;  
Caesar, an(a)emic, Aesop, ....;  
Phoenix, subpoena, f(o)etus, ....;  
quay;  
(c) police, unique, machine, prestige, elite,  
mosquito, casino, visa, trio, ski, chic, ....

- 11) **FACE** (a) tape, late, cake, safe, case,  
babe, fade, vague, age, wave, bathe, craze,  
name, mane, vale,  
change, waste, ....;  
taper, bacon, nature, station, lady, raven, invasion, April ....;  
bass (in music), gauge, gaol/jail,  
crepe, fete, bouquet;  
(b) wait, faith, plaice, aitch, raid, nail, main, faint, ....;  
day, play, way, grey/gray, ....;  
rein, veil, beige, feint, ....;  
they, whey, obey, ....;  
weigh, weight, eight, straight, ....;  
reign campaign, deign, ....;  
(c) great, steak, break, yea.

- 12) **PALM** (a) calm, balm, psalm, alms, father,  
bra, ma, pa, mamma, pappa, aha,  
ah, ha(h), blah, hurrah;  
(b) baht, Bach, facade, couvade, roulade, raj, taj,  
salaam, Brahms, Kahn, Afrikaans, kraal, Transvaal, Taj Mahal,  
spa, Shah, Pooh-Bah, Armagh, schwa,  
cantata, inamorato, legato, sonata, staccato, pizzicato,  
Lusaka, Karachi, mafia,  
Dada, bravado, incommunicado, Mahdi, Mikado, lager,  
Zhivago, (Maha)rajah, kava, guava, Java, Swazi,  
Dali, Mali, Guatemala, Somali(a),  
lama, llama, Yokohama, swami, Brahmin, guano, piano (softly),  
marijuana, iguana, Botswana, (maha)rani,  
ha-ha, Malawi, Bahai, Sumatra, candelabra.  
(c) baa, bah,  
Koran, khan, Pakistan, Shan chorale, rationale, locale,  
khaki, pasha, Nazi,  
Colorado, enchilada, Nevada, aubade, lava, palaver, plaza,  
almond, drama, pyjama, panorama,  
Ghana, nirvana, sultana, soprano, pirhana, Bali, finale

- 13) **THOUGHT** (a) taught, caught, Maugham, Vaughan, Waugh,  
naughty, haughty, slaughter, daughter,  
ought, bought, wrought, brought, fought, nought, sought,  
taut, auk, debauch, sauce,

applaud, cause, faun, haul, Paul,  
autumn, author, taunt, laundry, gauntlet,...;  
gawp, hawk, crawl, shawl, awn, yawn,  
jaw, law, saw, draw, awe,...;  
chalk, talk, walk, stalk, caulk,  
all, fall, small, wall, appal, install, Raleigh\*....;  
bald, water, broad,  
(b) halt, salt, malt, false,  
alter, also, alderman, walrus,...;  
fault, vault.

\*also with /æ, ɑ : /

- 14) **GOAT** (a) soap, boat, oak, roach, loaf, oath,  
road, loathe, coal, roam, loan, boast, coax,...;  
note, rope, joke, both, gross,  
robe, code, rogue, grove, clothe, rose,  
hole, home, tone,  
so, no, toe, foe, don't, host,  
noble, ocean, explosion, holy,...;  
brooch, beau, gauche, mauve;  
(b) bowl, own, tow, know, grow, owe, Owen,...;  
soul, poultry, mould/mold, shoulder,...;  
colt, holster, old, bold, soldier,...;  
roll, scroll, control,...;  
sew, dough, though, although.

- 15) **GOOSE** (a) loop, shoot, spook, smooch, proof, tooth, loose, tarboosh,  
boob, mood, Moog, groove, smooth, choose,  
boom, spoon, fool, too,  
boost, schooner, booty,...;  
move, prove, lose, whose,...;  
tomb, do, who, two,...;  
group, youth, ghoul, you, Vancouver, through,  
(b) dupe, mute, duke, truth, obtuse,  
cube, rude, fugue, huge, amuse,  
plume, tune, mule, blue,  
funeral, lucre, prudent,...;  
flu, duty, pupil, mucus, lucid, crucial, confusion,  
ludicrous, music, human, lunatic,...;  
sleuth, deuce, feud, neutral, feudal, eunuch,...;  
newt, lewd, few, knew, pewter, sewage,...;  
fruit, juice, cruise, nuisance,...;  
view, review,  
beauty, beautiful.

- 16) **PRICE** (a) ripe, write, like, knife, ice,  
tribe, side, arrive, writhe, rise,  
time, fine, mile, fire, die, tried,...;  
Friday, tiger, silent, violent, liar, science,

indict, isle, child, pint, find, ninth, Christ,  
viscount, bicycle, island,  
hi-fi, chi,...;  
type, try, Cyprus, hybrid, dye, Glynde,...;  
eider, kaleidoscope, eye, height, aisle, buy, choir  
(b) fight, high, sign,....

- 17) **CHOICE** (a) boy, toy, joy, annoy, oyster...;  
noise, voice, choice, rejoice,  
void, moist...;  
(b) coin, join, oil, boil, soil, toil,  
poison, ointment ...;  
buoy, employ ...;  
(c) groin, hoist, joist.

- 18) **MOUTH** out, pouch, south, house,  
loud, gouge, mouth (v.), rouse,  
noun, foul, thou,  
count, round, pronounce, oust,  
flour, sour, trousers, mountain, council, boundary,...;  
crowd, browse, owl, down, cow, allow,  
dowry, flower, coward, towel, powder,....,  
bough, plough / plow, doughty,...;  
MacLeod.

- 19) **NEAR** (a) beer, deer, career,...;  
here, mere, sincere, interfere,...;  
bier, pier, cashier,....,  
weir;  
fear, ear, appear, yearling,...;  
(b) fierce, pierce;  
weird, Deirdre,  
beard;  
(c) serious, mysterious, period, serum, diphtheria, hero,...;  
eerie, peerage, Madeira, dreary, weary.  
(d)\* idea, Korea, diarrh(o)ea, Galatea,...;  
European, Jacobean, Crimean,...;  
ratafia, Maria, Sophia,...;  
Museum, Colosseum, Te Deum,...;  
real, ideal.

\*several of these words also have RP variants with /i:ə/

- 20) **SQUARE** (a) care, share, bare,...;  
air, fair, pair,...;  
bear, pear, wear, swear,...;  
heir, their, there, where, Ayr, Eyre, prayer, mayor.  
(b) scare;  
(c) vary, canary, Mary, aquarium, various, rarity, area,  
Pharoah,...;  
dairy, prairie, fairy,...;

- 21) **START** ariel, Dun Laoghaire, Eire.  
(a) far, star, bar,...;  
bazaar, Saar;  
(b) sharp, part, bark, arch, scarf, farce, harsh,  
garb, card, large, carve, parse,  
farm, barn, snarl, Charles,  
Party, market, marvelous, ...;  
heart, hearken, hearth;  
sergeant;  
aardvark;  
(c) sari, Bari, safari, cascara, curare, Matahari, aria,  
scenario, Sahara, tiara.
- 22) **NORTH** (a) or, for, nor, Thor;  
war;  
(b) Thorpe, assort, cavort, consort, distort, exhort, resort, retort,  
short, snort, tort, cork, fork, stork, torque, York, scorch, torch,  
morph, gorse, horse, remorse,  
orb, absorb, accord, chord, cord, lord, record (v), George, gorge,  
corn, form, reform, storm, storm, adorn, born, corn, horn, morn,  
porn, scorn, shorn, thorn, corpse,  
porpoise, torpid, torpor, fortify, fortunate, fortune, important,  
importune, mortal, mortar,  
shorten, tortoise, orchestra, orchid, Dorking, torture,  
forfeit, morphine, morphia, orthodox, torso,  
orbit, order, border, ordinary, organ, organism, organize, Morgan,  
dormer, Mormon, normal, ornament, corner, forward, fortress,  
quart, quarter, quartz, sward, swarm, swarthy, warble, ward,  
warden, wardrobe, warlock, warm, warmth, warn, warp,  
Warsaw, wart;  
(c) aura, Aural, Laura, Taurus.
- 23) **FORCE** (a) ore, adore, afore, before, bore, chore, core, deplore, explore, fore,  
galore, gore, ignore, implore, more, ore, restore, score, shore,  
snore, sore, spore, store, tore, whore, wore, yore,  
boar, hoar, oar, roar, soar,;  
floor, door;  
four, pour;  
(bi) deport, export, fort, import, port, report, sport, support,  
pork, porch, forth, divorce,  
afford, ford, horde, sword, forge,  
borne, shorn, sworn, torn, worn,  
portent, porter, portrait, proportion, Borneo;  
(bii) coarse, hoarse, board, hoard, boarder,  
court, fourth, course, resource, source, mourn, courtier,  
mourning;  
(c) oral, adorable, angora, aurora, borax, boron, choral,  
Dora, fedora, flora, floral, glory, gory, moron,  
Nora(h), porous, story, thorax, torus, Tory,  
censorious, euphoria, glorious, Gregorian, historian, laborious,  
memorial, meritorious, moratorium, notorious, pictorial,

pretorian, stentorian, thorium, uxorious, Victoria(n), other words  
in -orial  
hoary, uproarious.

- 24) **CURE** (ai) boor, moor, Moor, poor, spoor,  
amour, dour, tour, your,  
(a ii) abjure, adjure, allure, assure, con'jure, demure, endure, ensure,  
immure, insure, lure, McClure, manure, mature, obscure,  
procure, pure, secure, sure;  
(b) bourse, gourd, Bourbon, bourgeois, gourmand, gourmet,  
tournament, tourney, tourniquet;  
(ci) boorish, houri, tourism, tourist;  
(cii) Ural, angostura, assurance, bravura, bureau, c(a)esura,  
Huron, incurable, insurance, mural, plural, rural, Truro,  
anthurium, centurion, curious, furious, injurious, luxurious,  
Muriel, penurious, spurious, Uriel,  
curate, during, fury, futurity, jury, lurid, maturity, obscurity,  
purify, purity, security, sulfuric/sulphuric, tellurium, thurible;  
Europe, neural, neuron/neurone, pleurisy.
- 25) **happy** (a) copy, city, inky, baby, ready, foggy,  
fluffy, heavy, breathy, fussy, busy, fishy,  
tetchy, edgy, gloomy, penny, sorry, lily,  
canopy, vanity, strategy, economy,...;  
scampi, spaghetti, khaki, corgi, Nazi,  
taxi, hibachi, salami, macaroni, sari, chilli,...;  
sortie, talkie, birdie, boogie, movie,  
lassie, budgie, stymie, prairie, calorie,...;  
(b) committee, coffee;  
hockey, abbey, covey, curtsy, jersey,  
money, comfrey, valley,...;  
Chelsea, Swansea
- 26) **letter** paper, better, whisker, rubber, order, tiger,  
offer, cover, leather, dresser, cruiser,  
usher, teacher, soldier, customer, liner,  
scorer, dealer, tower,...;  
metre, centre/center, acre, fibre/fiber, ogre,...;  
calendar, sugar, polar, liar,...;  
stupor, indicator, anchor, Tudor, camphor, survivor,  
author, professor, razor, major, tremor,  
donor, error, pallor,...;  
succo(u)r, harbo(u)r, odo(u)r, vigo(u)r,...;  
martyr, satyr, zephyr;  
figure, pressure, measure, feature, perjure, tenure,  
failure,....
- 27) **comma** catalpa, quota, vodka, am(o)eba, panda, saga,  
sofa, saliva, Bertha, balsa, visa, acacia,  
dementia, neuralgia, drama, arena, opera,  
Cinderella, phobia,...