

Pronunciation

Minimal Pair

words like **MASH** and **MASS** /ʃ/ /s/

Activity 1

Listen to your teacher saying the words in Column 1 and Column 2 below.

Column 1

mash
shell
shock
she
ash
show
shed
sheet
shame

Column 2

mass
sell
sock
sea/see
ass
so/sew
said
seat
same

Activity 2

Listen to your teacher saying one of the words from Activity 1. Say if you think the word is in Column 1 or Column 2.

Activity 3

Listen to your teacher saying two words from Activity 1. If the words are the same, circle S below. If you think the words are different, circle D below.

1. S D 2. S D 3. S D 4. S D 5. S D
6. S D 7. S D 8. S D 9. S D 10. S D

Activity 4

Listen to your teacher reading the sentences below. Circle the word you hear.

1. The ash/ass was grey.
2. It was a shock/sock.
3. Would you like a sheet/seat?
4. He is shelling/selling peas.
5. It was the shame/same.
6. Will you show/sew it?
7. What does 'shed'/'said' mean?
8. How do you spell 'she'/'sea'?
9. The mash/mass was white.

Activity 5

Imagine you are the teacher now! Work with a partner and repeat the activities above. Then swap roles.

