

Pronunciation

Minimal Pair

words like **MEN** and **MAN** /e/ /æ/

Activity 1

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

Column 1

men
bed
pen
send
head
said
bends
bet

Column 2

man
bad
pan
sand
had
sad
bands
bat

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. She needs another pen/pan.
2. I have never met the men/man.
3. There are a lot of bends/bands here.
4. They will have to send/sand it soon.
5. It is said/sad that he is very ill.
6. He doesn't want to bet/bat.
7. I head/had a large corporation.
8. The hotel had a lot of bed/bad rooms.

Activity 5

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