

1

The Sounds /a/, /e/, /i/, /o/, /u/

The Unit words show ways to spell the short vowel sounds /a/, /e/, /i/, /o/, and /u/. Each short vowel sound is spelled with one letter in most of the words.

- Spell /a/ with **a** as in **snag**.
- Spell /e/ with **e** as in **chest**.
- Spell /i/ with **i** as in **twist**.
- Spell /o/ with **o** as in **solid**.
- Spell /u/ with **u** as in **thunder**.

/a/ spelled **a**

tramp
smash
snag
scrap

/e/ spelled **e**

dwell
extra
chest
swept

In the words **threat** and **deaf**, the vowel sound /e/ is spelled **ea**.

/i/ spelled **i**

twist
shift
timid

/o/ spelled **o**

solid
flock
stock

/u/ spelled **u**

blunder
dusk
thunder

2

The Sounds /ī/ and /ā/

Each Unit word has a long vowel sound—/ī/ or /ā/.

The Unit words show two ways to spell /ī/.

- Spell /ī/ with **i-consonant-e** as in **strike**.
- Spell /ī/ with **y** as in **type**.

/ī/ spelled **i-consonant-e**

strike

entire

twine

desire

arrive

/ī/ spelled **y**

type

reply

hydrogen

deny

style

The Unit words also show two ways to spell /ā/.

- Spell /ā/ with **a-consonant-e** as in **behave**.
- Spell /ā/ with **ai** as in **daily**.

/ā/ spelled **a-consonant-e**

behave
debate
spade
flame
grave

/ā/ spelled **ai**

daily
fail
snail
waist
drain