

The sound of long U.

In order to assist Teachers in eradicating from their schools the mispronunciation of long *u*, when preceded by certain consonants, we have prepared the following Memorandum which, it is believed, will prove very helpful to them.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} u, \\ cu, \\ *cw, \\ ieu, \\ ieu, \end{array} \right\} = \text{you or yu}$$

I. The long *U* is commonly pronounced correctly in all words in which it, or its equivalent diphthong, is preceded by *b, c, f, g, h, m, p, v,* or *y*.

EXAMPLES:—Bugle, tribune; Cube, excuse, skew; Fume, few, feud; Gewgaw; Huc, hew; Mute, mew; Pure, pew; View; Yew. Also in words beginning with long *u*.—Use, ewe.

Observe that in these words the long *u*, or its diphthong, is correctly pronounced as *uu*, e. g. bugle = *buu-gle*, not boogle; cube = *cuube*, not coob; mute = *myute*, not moot; huc = *hyue*, not hoo.

II. But long *U* is commonly mispronounced, in many of our schools, in all words in which it, or its equivalent, is preceded by *d, n, s,* or *t*.

EXAMPLES.

1. Long *u* preceded by *d*:—Duke, dupe, duty, dutiful, due, dew, during, durable, duration, endure, adduce, educe, induce, reduce, seduce, adicu, bedew, subduo, e. g.:

	MISPRONOUNCED.	INSERT <i>y</i> BEFORE THE <i>u</i> AND PRONOUNCE THUS:
Duty,	dooty or fjewty.	-yu-ty, dyu-ty, Duty.
Due, }		-yue, dyue, Due.
Dew, }	doo or jew.	-yew, dyew, Dew.
Duke,	dook or jewk.	-yuke, dyuke, Duke.
Endure,	endoor or enjewr	-yure, dyure, Endure.
Adieu,	adoo or ajew.	-yieu, dyieu, Adieu.

2. Long *u* preceded by *n*:—Nude, numeral, numerate, numeration, numerous, innumerable, nuisance, nutrition, avenue, neuter, neutral, neuralgia, new, news, newspaper, renew, newt, e. g.:

	MISPRONOUNCED.	INSERT <i>y</i> BEFORE THE <i>u</i> AND PRONOUNCE THUS:
Nude,	nood,	-yude, nyude, Nude.
Neuter,	nooter,	-yeu-ter, nyeu-ter, Neuter.
New,	noo,	-yew, nyew, New.

3. Long *u* preceded by *s*:—Sue, suet, pursue, pursuit, suit, suitable, suitably, suitor, assume, presume, superfine superficial, superintend, superstition, supervise, e. g.:

	MISPRONOUNCED.	INSERT <i>y</i> BEFORE THE <i>u</i> AND PRONOUNCE THUS:
Sue,	soo or †shu.	-yue, syue, Sue.
Assume,	-soom or -shume.	-yume, -syume, Assume.
Superfine,	sooper or shuper	-yuper- syuper- Superfine.

4. Long *u* preceded by *t*:—Tune, tuneful, attune, tube, tubular, tuberoso, tumult, tumor, tumid, tulip, tunic, tutor, tuition, Tuesday, institute, institution, obtuse, constitution, constitution, constitutional, restitution, costume, stew, steward, Stuart, Stewart, student, studious, stupid, stupor, -tude as in magnitude, multitude, fortitude, solitude, e. g.:

	MISPRONOUNCED.	INSERT <i>y</i> BEFORE THE <i>u</i> AND PRONOUNCE THUS:
Tune,	toon or †chune.	-yune, tyune, Tune.
Tube,	toob or chube.	-yube, tyube, Tube.
Institute,	-toot or -chute.	-yute, -tyute, Insti-tute.
Costume,	-toom or -chume.	-yume, -tyume, Costume.
Stew,	stoo or -stehu.	-yow, -tyow, Stew.
-tude,	-tood or -chude.	-yude, -tyude, -tude.

REMARKS.—The long sound of *u* preceded by *l* is between that of *oo* in *room* and *yu*, approaching the latter more closely than the former; plume, flume, flute, lute, lure, allude, lew, lurid, revolution, conclude, conclusion, allusion, blue, blew, clue, clew.

The long sound of *u* preceded by *r* in the same syllable is that of *oo* in *room*; true, truth, rue, rule, cruel, gruel, imbrue, brew, draw.

* Except in *sew, skew, strew, sciver*, and as under REMARKS.

† In these latter pronunciations the long sound of *u* is correctly given, but the sound of the preceding consonant is improperly changed. *S* has the sound of *sh* before *u* in *sure*, (and in some words ending in *-sure*), and in *sugar, sumach, and sensual*.