

SORT 19 SHORT -A AND LONG -A (CVCe, CVVC-AI, AND OPEN SYLLABLE AY)

This sort contains 23 words and four headers. Begin as usual by reading and discussing the meaning of the words. Then, ask students what they notice about the spelling of the words. Next, display the short *-a* and long *-a* symbols with the pattern labels to head

each of the four columns. Tell your students that they will learn a new pattern for the long *-a* sound in this sort: the *ay* pattern.

Demonstrate

Demonstrate the sort as in previous sorts. The word *raise* merits some discussion because it has the CVVC pattern *ai* in addition to an *e* at the end. Explain that the *e* at the end of *raise* is not the same kind of silent *-e* that makes the medial vowel "say its name" as in the CVCe pattern they have previously sorted. The *e* at the end of *raise* tells us that the final *s* is pronounced like a /z/ instead of an /s/. The word *raise* may or may not be considered an oddball. (Sort 40 explores *ce*, *ve*, and *se* endings.)

CVC	CVCe	CVVC-ai	CVV-ay
glass	trade	Spain	lay
stand	brave	grain	stay
past	slave	aid	play
	shape	nail	clay
	taste	gain	tray
		raise*	stray
			gray
			pray
			hay

*discuss final *e*

Help your students reflect on this sort. See if they notice that all of the *ay* words end in a long-vowel sound. Tell your students that a syllable or a one-syllable word that ends in a long-vowel sound is called an open syllable. One way of labeling an open-syllable pattern is to label it a CV or CVV pattern, since the *y* acts as a vowel in these long *-a* words.

Have your students **sort**, **check**, **reflect**, and **extend** this sort by completing the recommended standard weekly routines for sorts 19–24: Repeated Word Sorts, Writing Sorts, Speed Sorts, Word Hunts, Dictated Sentences, and Blind or No-Peeking Sorts.

More Difficult Words: (18) *grand, brass, task, tramp, grave, graze, lame, rate, slate, stale, faith, stain, fail, praise, jay, sway, ray, slay.*

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ă CVC	ā CVCe	āi CVVC
āy CVV	lay	trade
Spain	glass	stay
raise	grain	brave
play	clay	stand
slave	nail	tray
stray	gray	gain
taste	aid	hay
shape	past	pray

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