

Elizabeth Hanna, MHS, Reg. CASLPO (3103)
Speech Language Pathologist, ACTRA, OSLA

/a/ and /o/

Dot	Don't	Pop	Pope	Dawdle	Doping
Fought	Float	Ron	Roam	Fog	Phone
Got	Goat	Sob	Soap	Gawking	Groping
Hop	Hope	Taught	Tote	Hawthorn	Hopefully
Jot	Joke	Volume	Vocal	Jostling	Jokester
Lots	Loaf	Water	Woe	Nonsense	Notable
Mop	Mope	Yacht	Yodel	Paucity	Porous
Knob	Nope	Bought	Boat	Possible	Polish ¹

A few more....

Monstrous	Momentary	Tottering	Totaling
Impossible	Imposing	Apothecary	Throat

1. The jocular apothecary ought to have thought of the claustrophobic hostess
2. It was awful that the thoughtful mortuary attendant didn't phone the Polish author about the hawthorn
3. The jokester dropped the photo of the monstrous porcupine into the foggy waters of the grotto
4. "How often does he go off like that?" Ronald asked awkwardly

Deepen your learning:

- Mark above which words are /a/and which /o/
- The letter "o" in English is used to make a great variety of vowel sounds: In the table below each "O" word has a *partner* with the same sound in the next column. Match them up.
- Bonus points for filling in the IPA symbols correctly!

1. Tone	a. Pull	1.
2. Option	b. Boat	2.
3. Other	c. Ground	3.
4. Plow	d. Crude	4.
5. Pool	e. Cough	5.
6. Foot	f. Cut	6.

¹ "Polish" in this instance refers to someone who comes from Poland. "Polish" in the sense of cleaning furniture has the /a/ sound in the first syllable