

## Section One: ā sounds

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as in day, Abe, state, breakthrough or potatoes

ā	ānj
āb	ānjd
ā-bē	ān-jul
ā-bul	ān-julz
ā-bulz	ān-jûr
ā-bûr	ān-juz
ā-bûrd	ānt
ā-chûr	ān-tud
ād	ānt-u-nuns
ā-dē	ānz
ā-dul	āp
ādz	āps
āf	ā-pûrz
āg	āp-vîn
ā-gu	ās
ā-ing	ā-shun
āj	ā-shun-ship
āj d	ā-shunz
āj-uz	ā-sīd
āk	ā-sis
āks	ās-iz
ākt	āst
āk-thrōo	ā-sûr
ā-kun	āt
ā-kûrz	ā-tē
āl	āth
āld	āt-lē
ā-lē	ā-tō
ā-ling	ā-tōz
āl-rōd	āts
ā-lûr	ā-tûr
ālz	ā-ûr
ām	āv
ā-mus	ā-vul
āmz	ā-vûr
ān	āvz
ān-bō	ā-wī-ûr
ānd	āz
ā-ning	ā-zē

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Bring someone to bay  
Keep the jackals at bay  
A busman's holiday  
A red-letter day  
As different as night and day  
As plain as day  
Call it a day  
Carry the day  
D-Day  
Day-to-day  
Every dog has its day  
For a year/forever and a day  
Girl/man Friday  
Go ahead, make my day  
Have a field day  
I wasn't born yesterday  
I wouldn't give you the time of day  
In the cold light of day  
It is late in the day  
Judgment day  
Make one's day  
Rome wasn't built in a day  
Save it for a rainy day  
Save the day  
See the light of day  
Stormy Monday  
Thank God it's Friday  
The break of day  
The order of the day  
Enter the fray  
In the dark, all cats are gray  
The blue and the gray  
Hit the hay  
Make hay...

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A-okay  
Have feet of clay  
Let it lay  
Be that as it may  
Come what may  
Let the cards/chips fall where they may  
Much to one's dismay  
Crime doesn't pay  
Devil/hell to pay  
A grandstand play  
A power play  
All work and no play  
Child's play  
Fair play  
Pay to play  
Turnabout is fair play  
When the cat's away, the mice will play  
A bird of prey  
Go so far as to say  
Needless to say  
That is to say  
You don't say?  
You know what they say  
Gone astray  
A dead giveaway  
A hop, skip and a jump away  
An apple a day keeps the doctor away  
Bombs away  
Break away  
By the way  
Don't close the barn door after the horse runs away  
Every inch of the way  
Far and away  
Fire away

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Get carried away  
In a family way  
In harm's way  
Lead the way  
Make way  
Meet (someone) halfway  
Out-of-the-way  
Pass away  
Pave the way  
Rub someone the wrong way  
Salt/sock (it) away  
Spirit away  
Squirrel away  
Steal one's heart away  
Take one's breath away  
Take something the wrong way  
The key to the highway  
Wishing/dreaming one's life away  
No way, José

**āb**

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Abe's caba

**ā-bē**

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As helpless as a baby  
Like taking candy from a baby  
A definite maybe  
And I don't mean maybe

**ā-bul**

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Ready, willing and able  
Since Cain slew Abel  
Designer label

**Section One: ā sounds**

**ā-bul**

Look for the union label  
Live in a horse's stable  
Lay one's cards on the table  
Roll right off the edge of the table  
Under-the-table

**ā-bulz**

Turn the tables

**ā-b r**

Enjoy the fruits of one's labor  
Hard labor  
Slave labor  
A next-door neighbor

**ā-b rd**

As naked as a jaybird

**ā-ch r**

Mother Nature  
Second nature

**ād**

Foreign aid  
Visual aid  
Make the grade  
A star-studded cavalcade  
Custom-made  
Have it made  
Self-made  
A hand grenade  
When left with lemons, make lemonade

**Section One: ā sounds**

**ād**

A ticker-tape parade  
I love a parade  
On the hit parade  
Rain on someone's parade  
Have it made in the shade  
Call a spade a spade  
A fair trade  
Foreign trade  
One's stock-in-trade  
Restraint of trade  
Tricks of the trade

**ā-dē**

A leading lady

**ā-dul**

Rob/rock the cradle

**ādz**

As black as the ace of spades  
A Jack-of-all-trades

**āf**

Play it safe

**āg**

Avoid someone or something like the plague

**ā-gu**

From alpha to omega

**Section One: ā sounds**

**ā-ing**

As I was saying  
That goes without saying

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**āj**

A golden age  
Act your age!  
Be at a tender age  
Be at an awkward age  
Be underage  
Come of age  
In this day and age  
Legal age  
Live to a ripe old age  
The ice/stone age  
On a rampage  
All the rage  
To be center stage  
Minimum wage

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**ājđ**

Middle-aged

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**āj-uz**

The yellow pages

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**āk**

Shake and bake  
A fast break  
A tax break  
A tough break  
Give me a break  
It's make or break

## **Section One: ā sounds**

**āk**

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Never give a sucker an even break  
On a lunch break  
Take a break  
Take a coffee break  
Take a station break  
A piece of cake  
As flat as a pancake  
Nuttier than a fruitcake  
Take the cake  
The icing on the cake  
Go jump in the lake  
On the make  
For goodness sake  
For heaven's sake  
For Pete's sake  
Give someone a fair shake  
A Baltimore steak  
Do a double take  
Give and take  
On the take  
Slow on the uptake  
Leave someone in one's wake  
Wide awake

**āks**

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Apply the brakes  
Sell like hotcakes  
Have the shakes  
In two shakes...  
No great shakes  
Pull up stakes  
Have what it takes

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**ākt**

Half-baked

**āk-thrōō**

A major breakthrough

**ā-kun**

Bring home the bacon

Save one's bacon

**ā-k rz**

Movers and shakers

**āl**

Jump bail

Out on bail

Never fail

Without fail

A dying quail

The check is in the mail

A coffin nail

As dead as a doornail

Fight tooth and nail

A bill of sale

A fire sale

A garage sale

A rummage sale

A year-end sale

The wind in one's sail

A fairy tale

A fish tale

A Molotov cocktail

An old wives' tale

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**āl**

Get off one's tail  
Have a tiger by the tail  
In two shakes of a duck's/lamb's tail  
Ragtag and bobtail  
Thereby hangs a tale  
Turn tail  
Blaze a trail  
Hot on the trail  
To no avail

**āld**

Bright-eyed and bushy-tailed

**ā-lē**

Do a good turn daily

**ā-ling**

Smooth sailing

**āl-rōd**

The Underground Railroad

**ā-l r**

As drunk as a sailor  
Spend money like a drunken sailor

**ālz**

As hard as nails  
Take the wind out of someone's sails  
Trim one's sails  
Tip the scales  
Heads or tails

## Section One: ā sounds

## ām

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Deadly aim  
A claim to fame  
Fortune and fame  
Add fuel to the flame  
An old flame  
Keeper of the flame  
A time frame  
A confidence game  
A floating crap game  
A guessing game  
A waiting game  
A whole/brand new ball game  
Ahead of the game  
At this stage of the game  
Beat someone at his or her own game  
Fair game  
That's the name of the game  
Two can play at that game  
Stake a claim  
A brand name  
A household name  
Give a dog a bad name  
All/just the same  
Ain't that a shame  
For shame  
It's a low-down, dirty-rotten shame  
Put someone to shame

## ā-mus

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Become world-famous

## āmz

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Fan the flames  
Up in flames  
Fun and games

## Section One: ā sounds

āmz

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Play games

War games

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Be a birdbrain

Pick someone's brain

A fast-food chain

Ball and chain

Drag the chain

Pull one's chain

The weakest link in the chain

Yank one's chain

Go down the drain

Money down the drain

No pain, no gain

Nothing to lose and everything to gain

Go against the grain

A plain-Jane

Raise Cain

Down memory lane

Life in the fast lane

Lovers' lane

Eminent domain

In the public domain

Remember the Maine

A smear campaign

Feel no pain

Acid rain

As right as rain

Give someone free rein

Legally insane

Andromeda strain

Ride the gravy train

Take God's or someone's name in vain

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**ān-bō**

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At the end of the rainbow

**ānd**

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The quality of mercy is not strained  
Toilet trained

**ā-ning**

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On-the-job training  
Spring training

**ānj**

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Have a sex change  
Have exact change  
Loose change  
Small change  
Spare change  
The cold winds of change  
At close range  
In range  
Out of range

**ānjd**

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Get shortchanged

**ān-jul**

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A fallen angel

**ān-julz**

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On the side of the angels

**Section One: ā sounds**

**ān-j r**

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An element of danger  
A dog in the manger

**ān-juz**

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Go through changes

**ānt**

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Hit 'em where they ain't  
A patron saint

**ān-tud**

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Get acquainted

**ānt-u-nuns**

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High-maintenance

**ānz**

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Rack one's brains  
Aches and pains  
Growing pains  
Take pains

**āp**

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Go ape  
Get bent out of shape  
Lick someone or something into shape  
A blot on the landscape  
Bow and scrape  
Red tape

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**āps**

Sour grapes

**ā-p rz**

Give someone his or her walking papers

**āp-vīn**

Hear something through the grapevine

**ās**

Cut the ace

The case ace

Get to first base

Off base

Touch base

A paper chase

Cut to the chase

Get caught up in the chase

Give chase

Lead someone on a wild goose chase

A poker face

A slap in the face

Blow up in one's face

Cut off one's nose to spite one's face

Do an about-face

Face-to-face

Fall flat on one's face

Have egg on one's face

It's as plain as the nose on one's face

Keep a straight face

Lose face

Put on a happy/good face

Save face

Throw something in someone's face

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Until one is blue in the face  
Wear a long face  
Wipe that smile off of your face!  
Fall from grace  
A basket case  
An open and shut case  
In any case  
At a breakneck pace  
At a snail's pace  
Set the pace  
Between a rock and a hard place  
Everything in its place  
Have one's heart in the right place  
Put someone in his or her place  
Take someone's place  
A drag race  
The rat race  
Send someone into outer space  
Vanish without a trace

ā-shun

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A no-win situation  
Be on probation  
A working vacation  
A moving violation  
Sheer speculation  
For your information  
A figment of one's imagination  
Self-determination  
For promotional consideration  
As busy as Grand Central Station  
A standing invitation  
Binding arbitration  
A standing ovation

**Section One: ā sounds**                      **ā-shun-ship**

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A platonic relationship

**ā-shunz**

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Trials and tribulations

**ā-sīd**

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Fall by the wayside

**ā-sis**

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On a day-to-day basis

On a month-to-month basis

**ās-iz**

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Hold all the aces

Touch all the bases

Smiling faces

In one's good graces

Put on airs and graces

Put someone/something through his/her/its paces

Have friends in high places

Off to the races

**āst**

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Long faced

Post haste

There's no accounting for taste

Haste makes waste

Lay to waste

**ā-s r**

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An ambulance chaser

Pieces of eight  
Swallow the bait  
A blind date  
Out-of-date  
Up-to-date  
A twist of fate  
It must be fate  
Seal one's fate  
The fickle finger of fate  
The hand of fate  
Give someone/get the gate  
Too little, too late  
Have enough on one's plate  
Step up to the plate  
At a cut rate  
At any rate  
Second rate  
Be a cheapskate  
Start with a clean slate  
Affairs of state  
In an altered state  
The fourth estate  
Get straight  
Give it to me straight  
Go straight  
Have one's head screwed on straight  
Set someone straight  
Shoot straight  
Carry the weight  
Dead weight  
Pull one's weight

Do a one-eighty

**Section One: ā sounds**

**āth**

An article of faith  
Defender of the faith

**āt-lē**

Johnny-come-lately

**ā-tō**

A couch potato  
A hot potato  
Drop someone like a hot potato

**ā-tōz**

Small potatoes

**āts**

In dire straits  
Heaven awaits

**ā-t r**

A leading economic indicator  
Buy now, pay later  
Sooner or later  
A smooth operator

**ā- r**

A team player

**āv**

Dig one's own grave  
From the cradle to the grave  
Have one foot in the grave  
Someone is spinning/turning over in his or her grave  
A close shave  
Catch a wave

**Section One: ā sounds**

**ā-vul**

Contemplate one's navel

**ā-v r**

Gain favor

The deck is stacked in one's favor

Be a lifesaver

**āvz**

Make waves

**ā-wī- r**

Go haywire

**āz**

A month of Sundays

Halcyon days

Happy days

See/have seen better days

The good old days

Those were the days

Go through a phase

Coin a phrase

The latest craze

Damn with faint praise

A parting of the ways

Look at someone sideways

Mend one's ways

Set in one's ways

**ā-zē**

As fresh as a daisy

Stir crazy