



R/L Initial Position Minimal Pairs

EXERCISE 7: Look at the words below. They are missing the first letter. Listen to your teacher say the words, and watch how their mouth moves. Write whether each word starts with an 'R' or an 'L'. One word will be different from the rest.

The first one has been done for you.

**L words start with the mouth in an open position. The tip of the tongue touches the roof of the mouth, and then laps down to the floor of the mouth behind the teeth.*

'R' words start with the lips puckered. The whole tongue moves up and backward, but stays in a flat position.

1) r ight r ight l ight r ight r ight

2) __ight __ight __ight __ight __ight

3) __aw __aw __aw __aw __aw

4) __ent __ent __ent __ent __ent

5) __ack __ack __ack __ack __ack

6) __ong __ong __ong __ong __ong

EXERCISE 8: Now partner up with another student, and try it again!

1) __ight __ight __ight __ight __ight

2) __aw __aw __aw __aw __aw

3) __ent __ent __ent __ent __ent

4) __ack __ack __ack __ack __ack

5) __ong __ong __ong __ong __ong

*wr / l