

Uyir Eluthukal — Tamil Vowels (ஊயிர் எழுத்துக்கள்)

The 12 life letters of Tamil — learn their form, name and sound

1  a short a — "apple"	2  aa long aa — "father"	3  i short i — "it"	4  ii long ii — "see"
5  u short u — "put"	6  uu long uu — "moon"	7  e short e — "bed"	8  ee long ee — "say"
9  ai diphthong — "aisle"	10  o short o — "hot"	11  oo long oo — "owe"	12  au diphthong — "ouch"

Practice — Trace these vowels in the boxes below:

 a	 aa	 i	 ii	 u	 uu
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Remember:

Tamil vowels are called Uyir Eluthukal — letters of life. Short vowels (அ, இ, உ) use one beat; long vowels (ஊ, ஐ, ஔ) use two. Master these 12 before moving to consonants.