Hello there!

Hi, I'm Jen Bengel, the creator behind the Out of This World Literacy™ curriculum. I started developing these resources in 2012 while working as a Literacy Collaborative Coordinator, driven by a passion to support teachers with meaningful, research-based materials.

At the time, I was leading a lot of theory-heavy professional development, but the teachers I worked with were craving practical, ready-to-use support. So, I spent that summer—yes, in my pajamas!—writing the very first reading and writing unit. And just like that, Out of This World Literacy™ was born!

I specialize in designing literacy resources for older students who need continued support with foundational reading skills. My materials are thoughtfully created to be age-appropriate, respectful, and engaging—never babyish. My goal is to empower striving readers by helping them build confidence, strengthen their skills, and experience success without shame. I believe every learner deserves the dignity of materials that honor where they are and support where they're going.

My Educational Background Includes:

1. A **Bachelors Degree** in Elementary Education (K-8)
   *** University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh*
2. A **Graduate Degree** in Reading Education (K-12)
   *** University of South Alabama*
3. A **Post-Graduate Degree** as a Literacy Collaborative Coordinator.
   *** I trained with Irene Fountas and her colleagues at Lesley University in Cambridge, MA*

Ever since I began OOTWL, my motto has always been...

Every student who learns from a resource I've created is MY STUDENT too.

I deeply value the responsibility of supporting teachers as they educate students around the world. It's truly an honor to partner with you, and I'm so grateful for the opportunity to help make this your best year yet!

Happy Teaching!

Jen Bengel



Professional Development Inquiries

https://www.youtube.com/@JenBengel

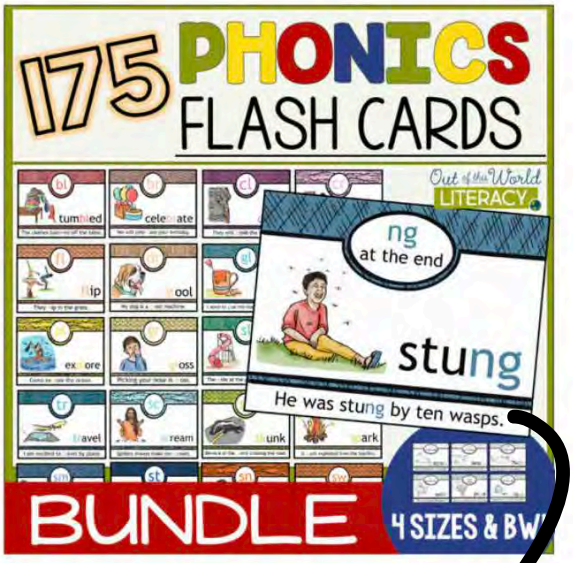
@OutofThisWorldLiteracy

@OutofThisWorldLiteracy

Jenbengel.com

@teachwithjenbengel

Looking for more help?



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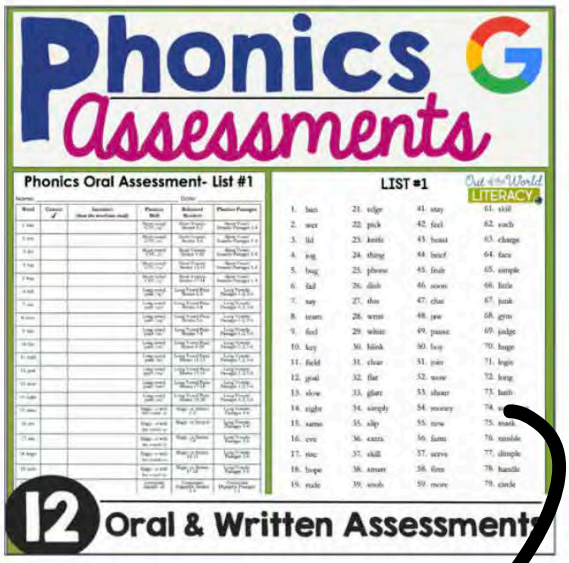

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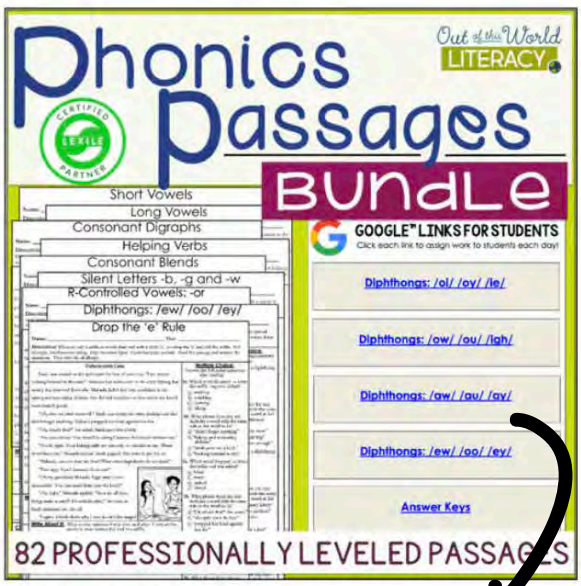
Phonics Support for Older Readers



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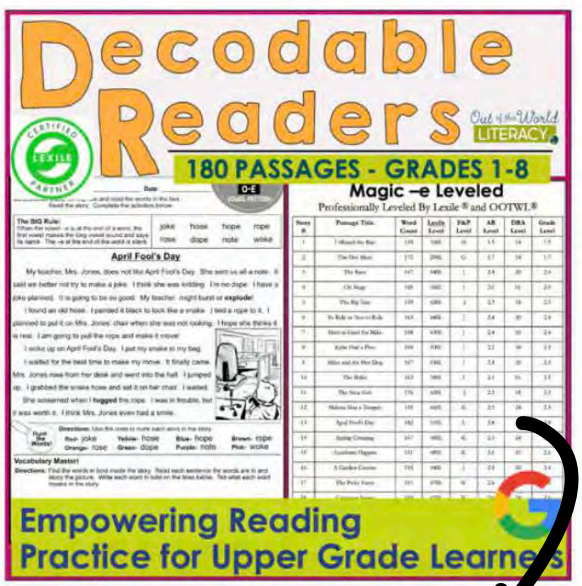

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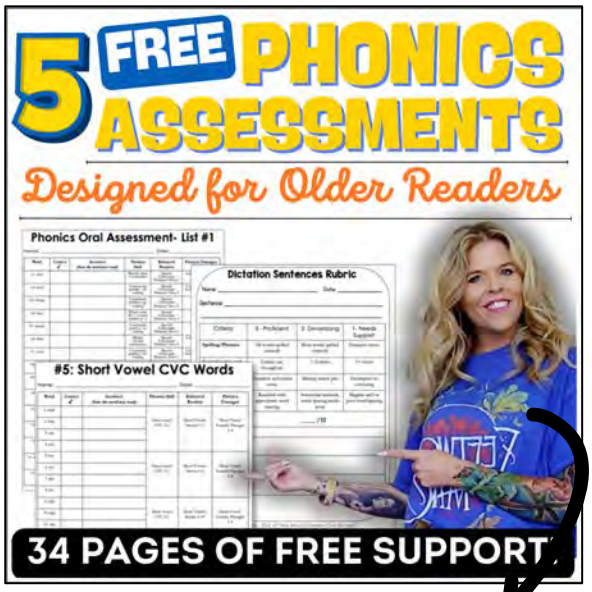
Looking for free support?



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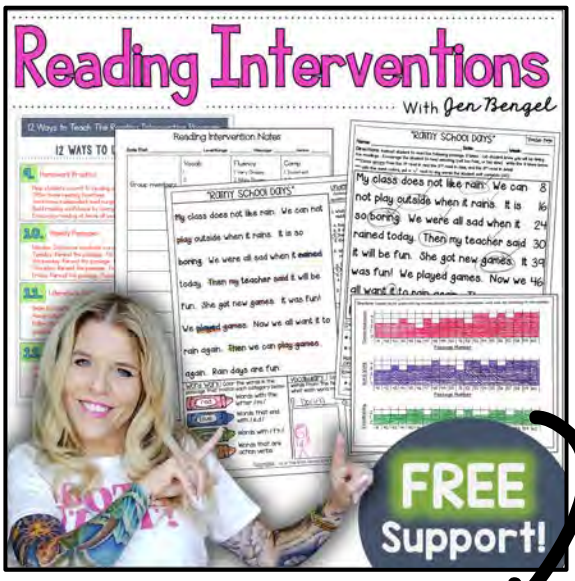

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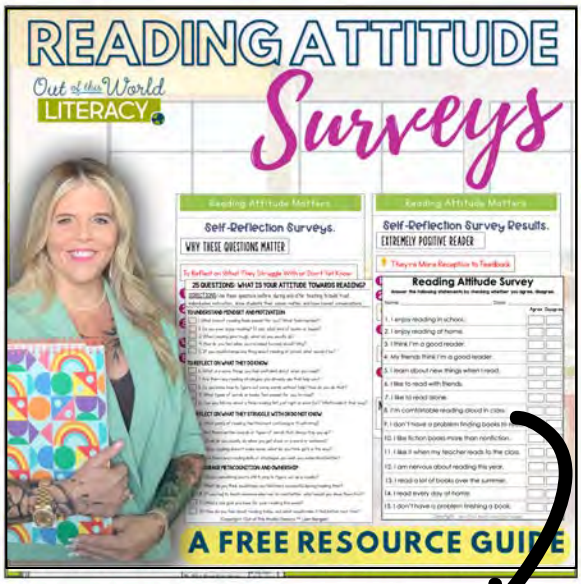
FREE Support to Help Older Readers



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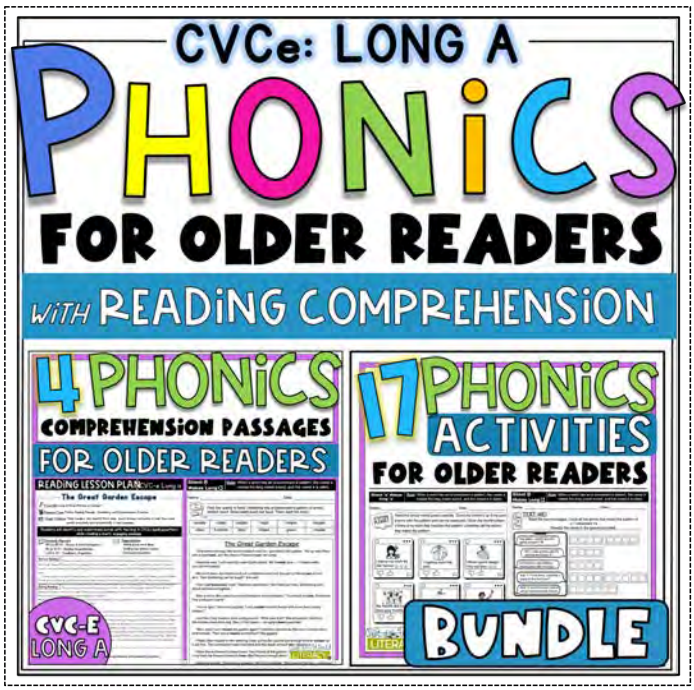
SEE MORE PHONICS ACTIVITIES



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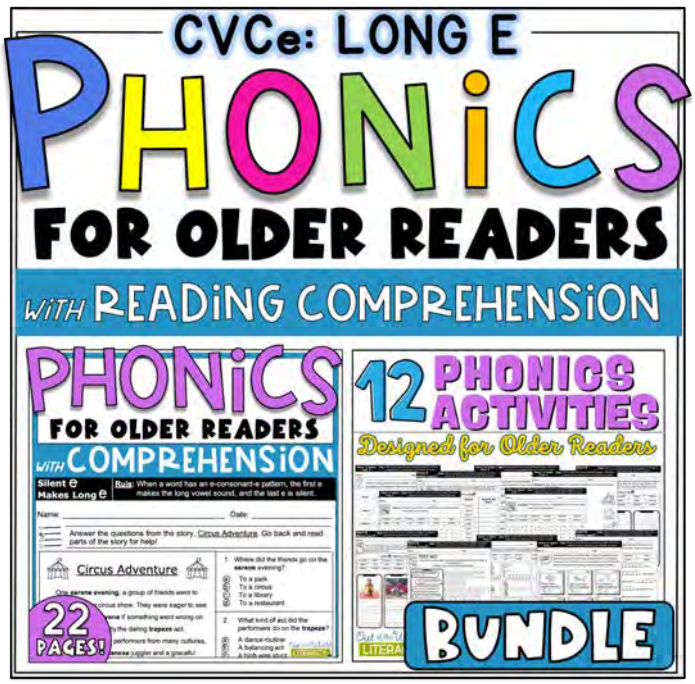

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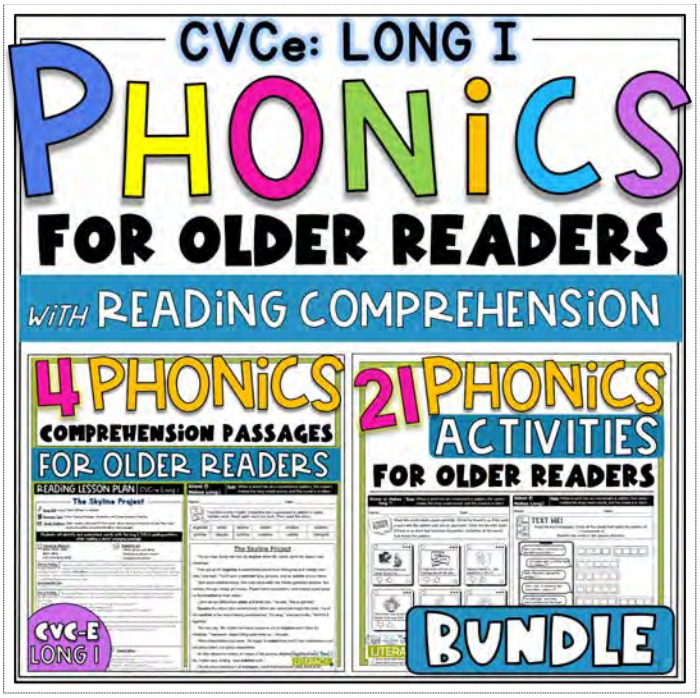

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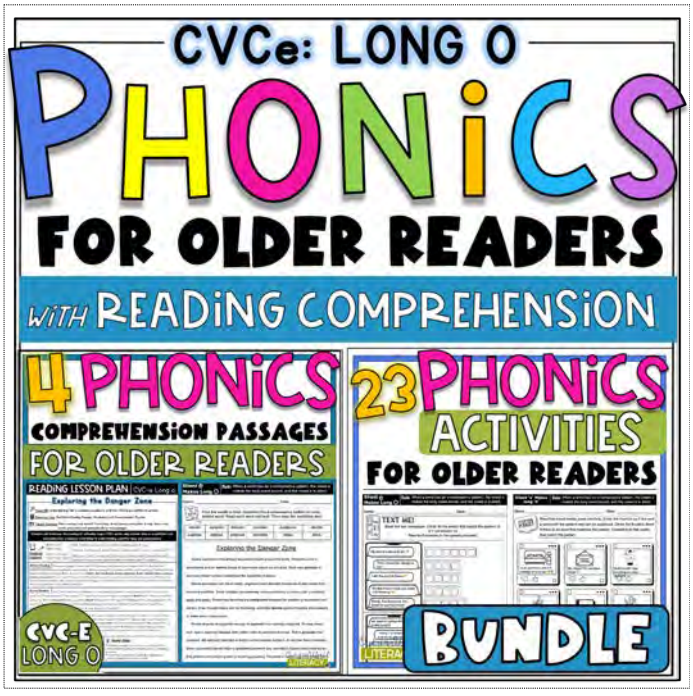

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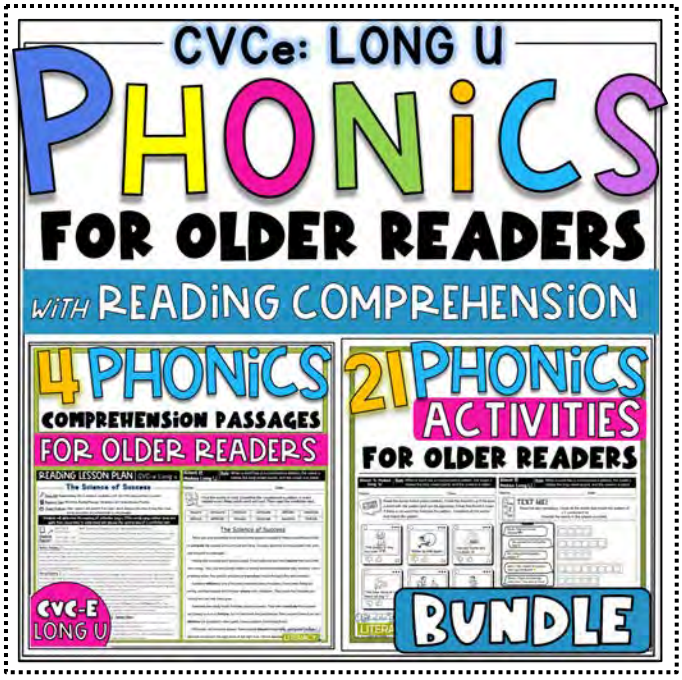

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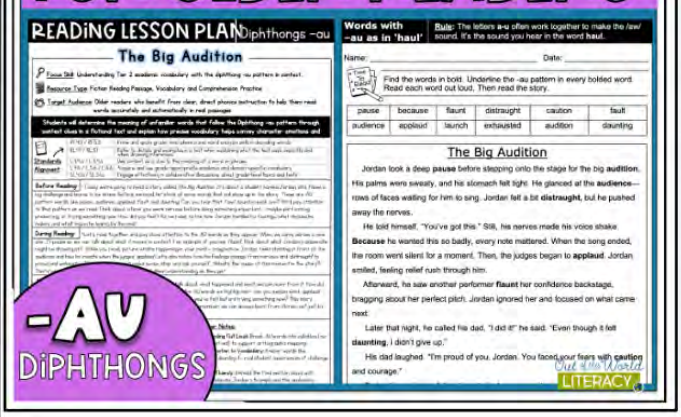
Diphthongs: -AU

PHONICS

FOR OLDER READERS

WITH READING COMPREHENSION

4 PHONICS COMPREHENSION PASSAGES FOR OLDER READERS


READING LESSON PLAN Diphthongs -au

The Big Audition

Words with -au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters a-u often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word haul.

Name: Date:

Find the words in bold. Underline the -au pattern in every bolded word. Read each word out loud. Then read the story.

pause	because	flaunt	distraught	caution	fault
audience	applaud	launch	exhausted	audition	daunting

The Big Audition

Jordan took a deep **pause** before stepping onto the stage for the big **audition**. His palms were sweaty, and his stomach felt tight. He glanced at the **audience**—rows of faces waiting for him to sing. Jordan felt a bit **distraught**, but he pushed away the nerves.

He told himself, "You've got this." Still, his nerves made his voice shake. **Because** he wanted this so badly, every note mattered. When the song ended, the room went silent for a moment. Then, the judges began to **applaud**. Jordan smiled, feeling relief rush through him.

Afterward, he saw another performer **flaunt** her confidence backstage, bragging about her perfect pitch. Jordan ignored her and focused on what came next.

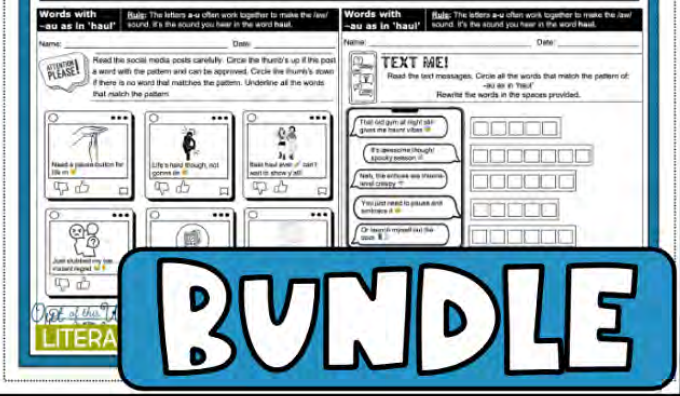
Later that night, he called his dad. "I did it!" he said. "Even though it felt **daunting**, I didn't give up."

His dad laughed. "I'm proud of you, Jordan. You faced your fears with **caution** and courage."

Out of this World LITERACY

-AU DIPHTHONGS

23 PHONICS ACTIVITIES FOR OLDER READERS


Words with -au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters a-u often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word haul.

Name: Date:

ATTENTION PLEASE!

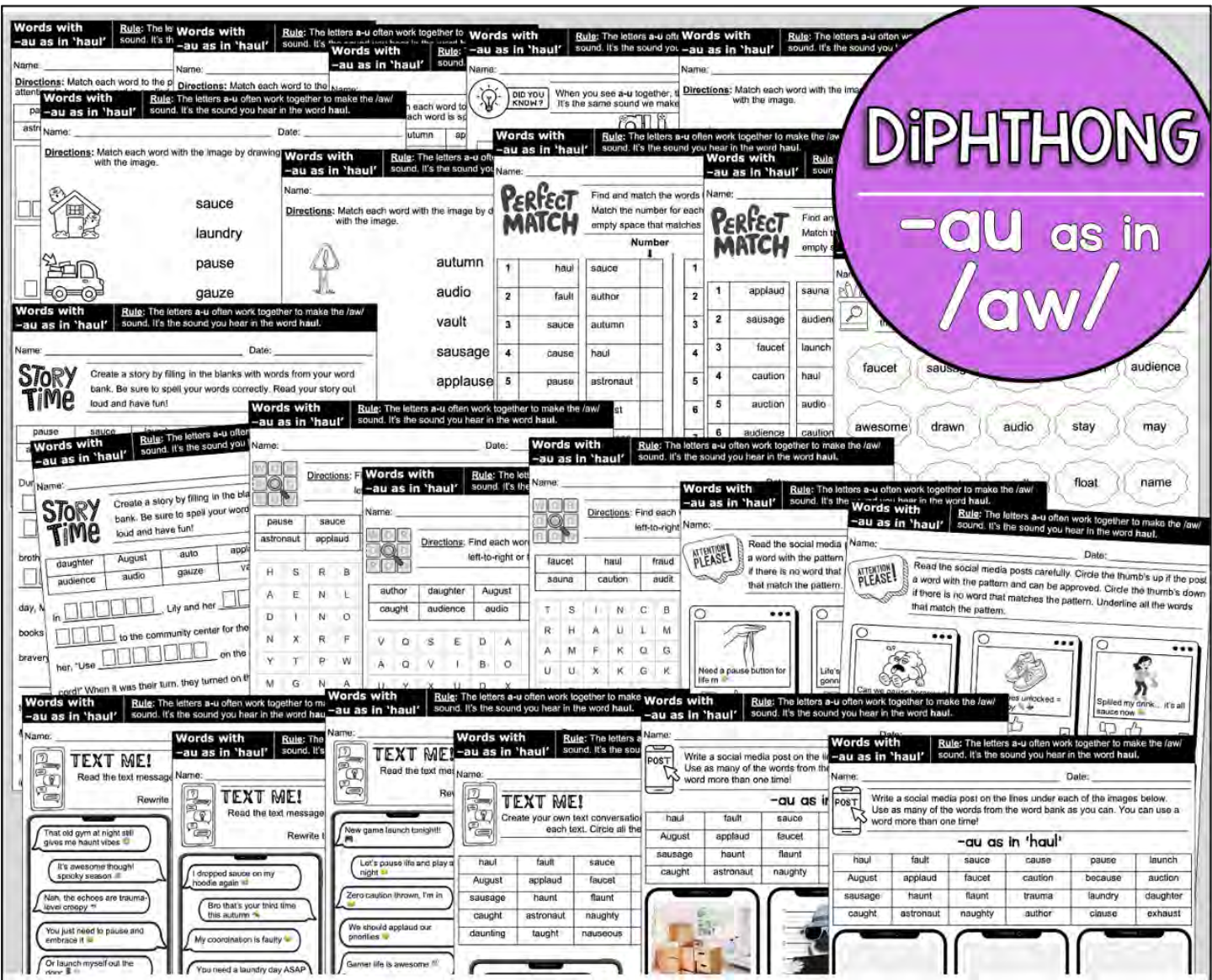
Read the social media posts carefully. Circle the thumb's up if this post a word with the pattern and can be approved. Circle the thumb's down if there is no word that matches the pattern. Underline all the words that match the pattern.

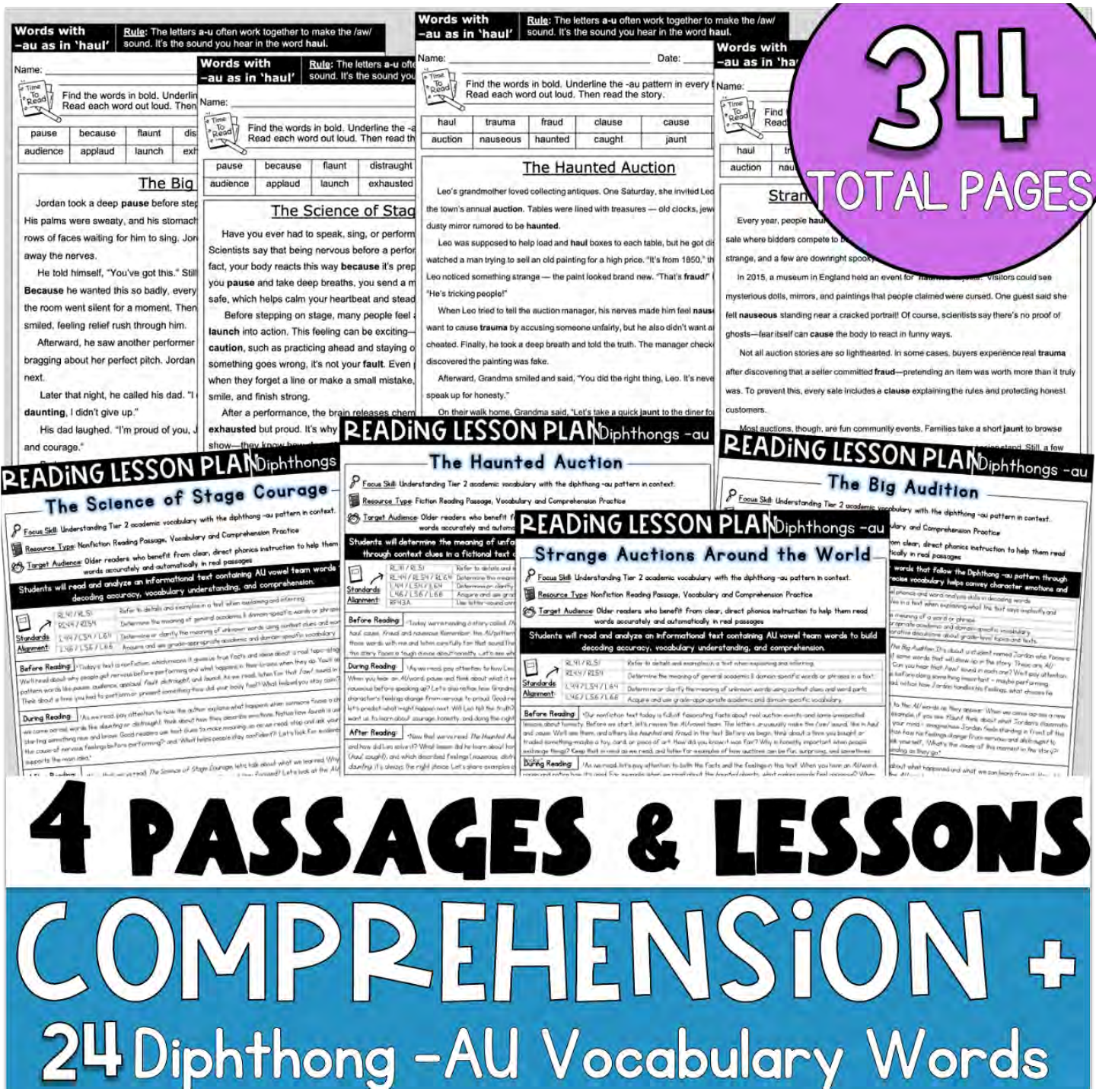
TEXT ME!

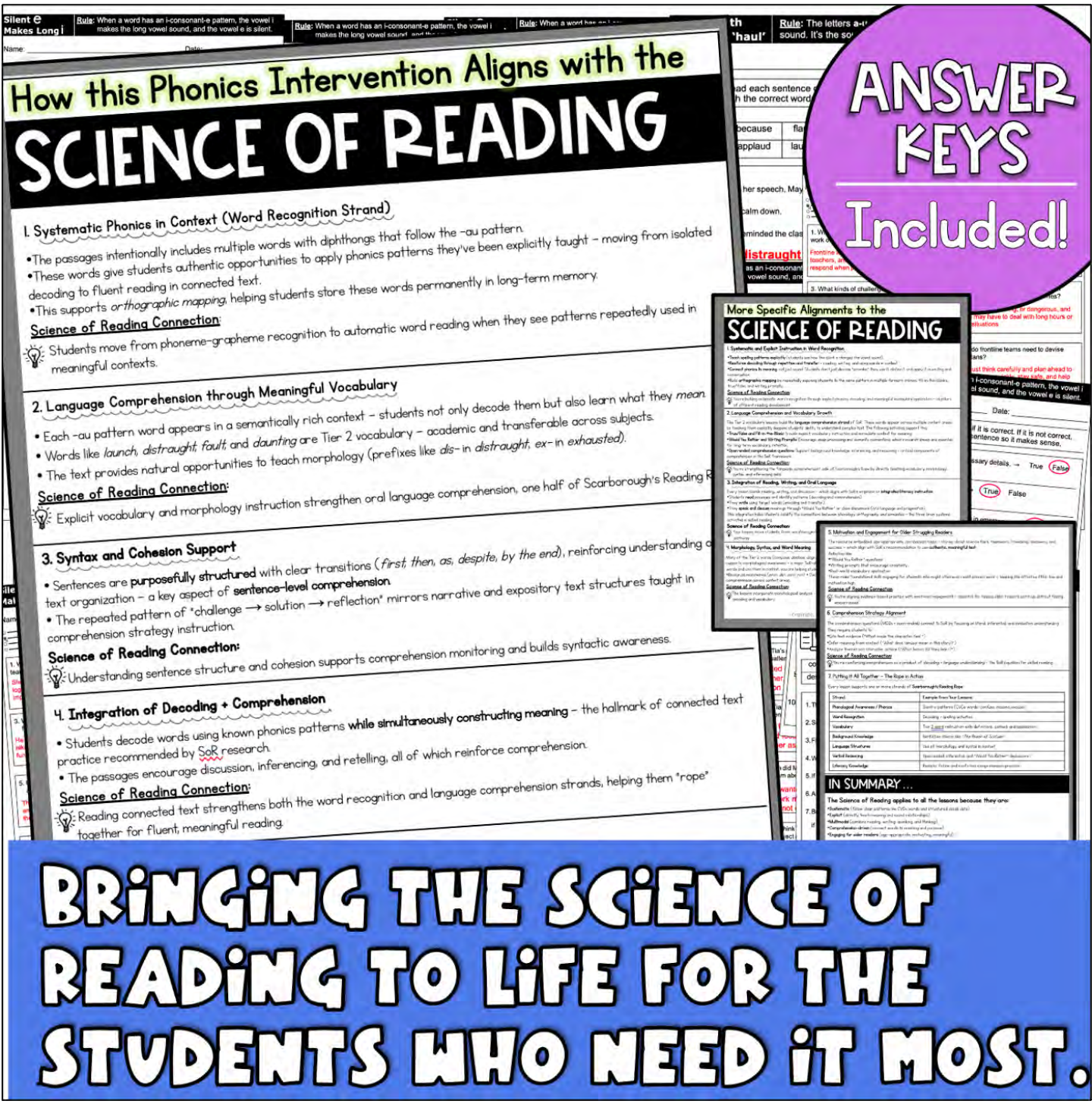
Read the text messages. Circle all the words that match the pattern of: -au as in 'haul'

Rewrite the words in the spaces provided.

BUNDLE


DIPHTHONG
-au as in /aw/
Words with -au as in 'haul'
Rule: The letters a-u often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word haul.
Directions: Match each word with the image by drawing a line with the image.
sauce
laundry
pause
gauze
autumn
audio
vault
sausage
applause
STORY TIME
Create a story by filling in the blanks with words from your word bank. Be sure to spell your words correctly. Read your story out loud and have fun!
PERFECT MATCH
Find and match the words in the word bank. Match the number for each word to the empty space that matches the definition.
Number
1 haul sauce
2 fault author
3 sauce autumn
4 cause haul
5 pause astronaut
DID YOU KNOW?
When you see a-u together, it's the same sound we make
faucet
audience
awesome
drawn
audio
stay
may
float
name
ATTENTION PLEASE!
Read the social media posts carefully. Circle the thumb's up if the post has a word with the pattern and can be approved. Circle the thumb's down if there is no word that matches the pattern. Underline all the words that match the pattern.
TEXT ME!
Read the text message and rewrite it.
That old gym at night still gives me haunt vibes
It's awesome though! spooky season
Nah, the echoes are trauma-level creepy
You just need to pause and embrace it
Or launch myself out the door
I dropped sauce on my hoodie again
Bro that's your third time this autumn
My coordination is faulty
You need a laundry day ASAP
New game launch tonight!!
Let's pause life and play it night
Zero caution thrown, I'm in
We should applaud our priorities
Gamer life is awesome
Create your own text conversation with each text. Circle all the -au words.
POST
Write a social media post on the lines under each of the images below. Use as many of the words from the word bank as you can. You can use a word more than one time!
-au as in 'haul'
haul fault sauce cause pause launch
August applaud faucet caution because auction
sausage haunt flaunt trauma laundry daughter
caught astronaut naughty author clause exhaust
FOR OLDER READERS
NO BABYISH STUFF HERE!


Words with –au as in 'haul'
Rule: The letters a-u often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word haul.
Name:
Date:
Find the words in bold. Underline the -au pattern in every
Read each word out loud. Then read the story.
haul | trauma | fraud | clause | cause
auction | nauseous | haunted | caught | jaunt
The Haunted Auction
Leo's grandmother loved collecting antiques. One Saturday, she invited Leo
the town's annual auction. Tables were lined with treasures — old clocks, jew
dusty mirror rumored to be haunted.
Leo was supposed to help load and haul boxes to each table, but he got di
watched a man trying to sell an old painting for a high price. "It's from 1850," th
Leo noticed something strange — the paint looked brand new. "That's fraud!"
"He's tricking people!"
When Leo tried to tell the auction manager, his nerves made him feel nausc
want to cause trauma by accusing someone unfairly, but he also didn't want a
cheated. Finally, he took a deep breath and told the truth. The manager check
discovered the painting was fake.
Afterward, Grandma smiled and said, "You did the right thing, Leo. It's neve
speak up for honesty."
On their walk home, Grandma said, "Let's take a quick jaunt to the diner fo
34
TOTAL PAGES
READING LESSON PLAN Diphthongs
The Science of Stage Courage
Focus Skill: Understanding Tier 2 academic vocabulary with the diphthong -au pattern in context.
Resource Type: Nonfiction Reading Passage, Vocabulary and Comprehension Practice
Target Audience: Older readers who benefit from clear, direct phonics instruction to help them read words accurately and automatically in real passages
Students will read and analyze an informational text containing AU vowel team words to build decoding accuracy, vocabulary understanding, and comprehension.
Standards Alignment: RL.4.1 / RL.5.1 Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining and inferring.
RL.4.4 / RI.5.4 Determine the meaning of general academic & domain-specific words or phrases in a text.
L.4.4 / L.5.4 / L.6.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown words using context clues and word parts.
L.4.6 / L.5.6 / L.6.6 Acquire and use grade-appropriate academic and domain-specific vocabulary.
Before Reading
During Reading
After Reading
READING LESSON PLAN Diphthongs -au
The Haunted Auction
Focus Skill: Understanding Tier 2 academic vocabulary with the diphthong -au pattern in context.
Resource Type: Fiction Reading Passage, Vocabulary and Comprehension Practice
Target Audience: Older readers who benefit from clear, direct phonics instruction to help them read words accurately and automatically in real passages
Students will determine the meaning of unfa through context clues in a fictional text
Standards Alignment: RL.4.1 / RL.5.1 Refer to details and
RL.4.4 / RL.5.4 / RL.6.4 Determine the meani
L.4.4 / L.5.4 / L.6.4 Determine or clarify
L.4.6 / L.5.6 / L.6.6 Acquire and use gra
RF4.3A Use letter-sound and
Before Reading
During Reading
After Reading
READING LESSON PLAN Diphthongs -au
The Big Audition
Focus Skill: Understanding Tier 2 academic vocabulary with the diphthong -au pattern in context.
Resource Type: Nonfiction Reading Passage, Vocabulary and Comprehension Practice
Target Audience: Older readers who benefit from clear, direct phonics instruction to help them read words accurately and automatically in real passages
Students will read and analyze an informational text containing AU vowel team words that follow the Diphthong -au pattern through decoding accuracy, vocabulary understanding, and comprehension. Precise vocabulary helps convey character emotions and
READING LESSON PLAN Diphthongs -au
Strange Auctions Around the World
Focus Skill: Understanding Tier 2 academic vocabulary with the diphthong -au pattern in context.
Resource Type: Nonfiction Reading Passage, Vocabulary and Comprehension Practice
Target Audience: Older readers who benefit from clear, direct phonics instruction to help them read words accurately and automatically in real passages
Students will read and analyze an informational text containing AU vowel team words to build decoding accuracy, vocabulary understanding, and comprehension.
Standards Alignment: RL.4.1 / RL.5.1 Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining and inferring.
RL.4.4 / RI.5.4 Determine the meaning of general academic & domain-specific words or phrases in a text.
L.4.4 / L.5.4 / L.6.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown words using context clues and word parts.
L.4.6 / L.5.6 / L.6.6 Acquire and use grade-appropriate academic and domain-specific vocabulary.
Before Reading
During Reading
4 PASSAGES & LESSONS
COMPREHENSION +
24 Diphthong –AU Vocabulary Words


How this Phonics Intervention Aligns with the
SCIENCE OF READING
1. Systematic Phonics in Context (Word Recognition Strand)
2. Language Comprehension through Meaningful Vocabulary
3. Syntax and Cohesion Support
4. Integration of Decoding + Comprehension
ANSWER KEYS Included!
More Specific Alignments to the
SCIENCE OF READING
IN SUMMARY ...
BRINGING THE SCIENCE OF READING TO LIFE FOR THE STUDENTS WHO NEED IT MOST.

4 PASSAGES

Out of this World LITERACY

2 Fiction 2 Nonfiction

✓ PHONICS ✓ COMP. ✓ VOCAB.

READING LESSON PLAN | Diphthongs -au

Strange Auctions Around the World

Focus Skill: Understanding Tier 2 academic vocabulary with the diphthong -au pattern in context.

Resource Type: Nonfiction Reading Passage, Vocabulary and Comprehension Practice

Target Audience: Older readers who benefit from clear, direct phonics instruction to help them read words accurately and automatically in real passages

Students will read and analyze an informational text containing AU vowel team words to build decoding accuracy, vocabulary understanding, and comprehension.

Standards Alignment:

RL4 / RL5	Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining and inferring.
RI4 / RI5	Determine the meaning of general academic & domain-specific words or phrases in a text.
L4 / L5 / L6	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown words using context clues and word parts.
L6 / L5 / L6	Acquire and use grade-appropriate academic and domain-specific vocabulary.

Before Reading: "Our nonfiction text today is full of fascinating facts about real auction events—and some unexpected lessons about honesty. Before we start, let's review the *AU* vowel team. The letters *au* usually make the /aw/ sound, like in *haul* and *cause*. We'll see them, and others like *haunted* and *fraud*, in the text. Before we begin, think about a time you bought or traded something—maybe a toy, card, or piece of art. How did you know it was fair? Why is honesty important when people exchange things? Keep that in mind as we read, and listen for examples of how auctions can be fun, surprising, and sometimes tricky."

During Reading: "As we read, let's pay attention to both the facts and the feelings in this text. When you hear an *AU* word, pause and notice how it's used. For example, when we read about the *haunted* objects, what makes people feel *nauseous*? When we get to *fraud* and *clause*, how do those words show that auctions need clear rules? I'll stop after each paragraph to ask a question or clarify a new term. Use clues in the sentences to figure out what each *AU* word means."

After Reading: "Now that we've read the text, let's talk about what we learned. What was the main idea? How did the author use words like *trauma* and *fraud* to remind readers why honesty matters? Let's look again at our *AU* words. Which ones describe actions (*haul, caught*)? Which describe feelings (*nauseous, naughty*)? Which are nouns (*auction, clause, sauce*)? Understanding how words work helps us become better readers and writers. Finally, let's think about the life lesson here—how can honesty and curiosity make everyday experiences, even something like a local auction, more meaningful?"

Extension Ideas:

- **Assign the related student pages for phonics, comprehension and vocabulary practice.**
- **Writing Prompt:** Write a short paragraph about an item you would sell at a fun or unusual auction. Use at least five *AU* words from the passage.
- **Vocabulary Sort:** Sort *AU* words into three groups: Actions, Feelings, and Things/Ideas.
- **Reading Response:** Summarize the article in your own words and explain what lesson about honesty or fairness it teaches.
- **Cross-Curricular Connection:** Research a famous auction (art, cars, sports memorabilia) and share one interesting fact with the class.

Teacher Notes:

- **Phonics Focus:** Write each *AU* word on the board and underline the vowel team. Have students chorally read the list, noticing the /aw/ sound.
- **Context Clues Practice:** Ask students to highlight or circle words around each *AU* word that help reveal its meaning.
- **Anchor Chart:** Create an 'Awesome AU Words' chart with pictures or short definitions students can add to th… the week.
- **Comprehension Check:** After reading, have stude… the text in three sentences: one fact, one feeling, on…
- **SEL Connection:** Discuss honesty, fairness, and ho… actions—like telling the truth—build trust in real life.

Copyright: Out of This World Literacy (Jen Bengel)

Words with -au as in 'haul' | **Rule:** The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Time To Read

Find the words in bold. Underline the -au pattern in every bolded word. Read each word out loud. Then read the nonfiction text.

haul	trauma	fraud	clause	cause	naughty
auction	nauseous	haunted	caught	jaunt	sauce

Strange Auctions Around the World

Every year, people **haul** their old treasures and rare collectibles to an **auction**—a public sale where bidders compete to buy unusual items. Some auctions are exciting, others are strange, and a few are downright spooky.

In 2015, a museum in England held an event for "**haunted** objects." Visitors could see mysterious dolls, mirrors, and paintings that people claimed were cursed. One guest said she felt **nauseous** standing near a cracked portrait! Of course, scientists say there's no proof of ghosts—fear itself can **cause** the body to react in funny ways.

Not all auction stories are so lighthearted. In some cases, buyers experience real **trauma** after discovering that a seller committed **fraud**—pretending an item was worth more than it truly was. To prevent this, every sale includes a **clause** explaining the rules and protecting honest customers.

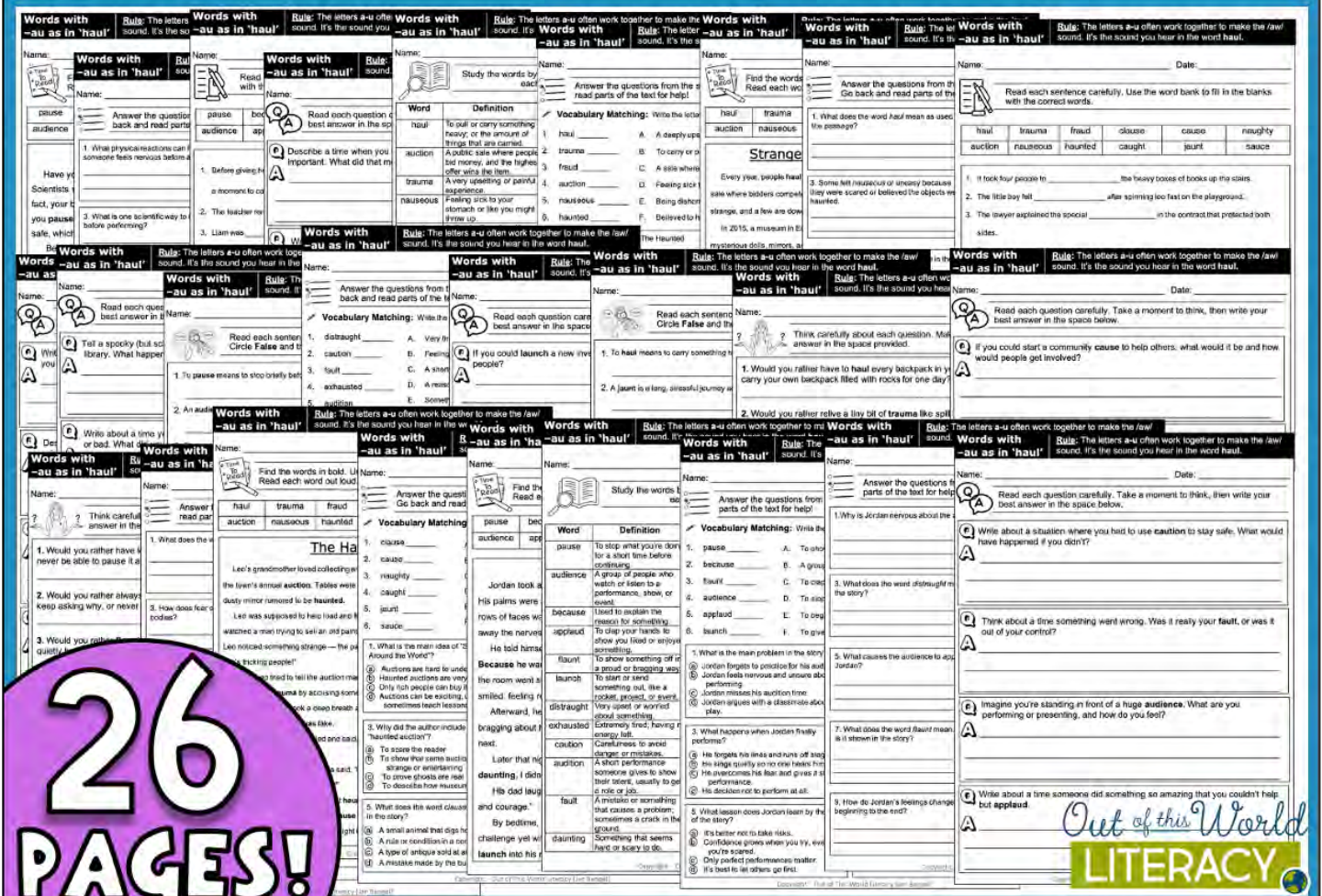
Most auctions, though, are fun community events. Families take a short **jaunt** to browse antiques, enjoy local food, and taste new kinds of **sauce** at the concession stand. Still, a few

WiTH LESSONS!

24 PHONICS/VOCAB. WORDS

I- CONSONANT-E

BUILD VOCABULARY WHILE STUDYING PHONICS



23 PHONICS ACTIVITIES FOR OLDER READERS

Words with –au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

Name: _____ Date: _____

ATTENTION PLEASE!

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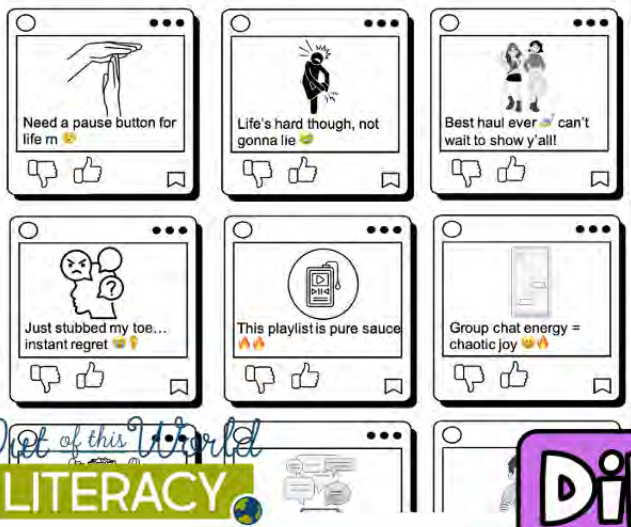


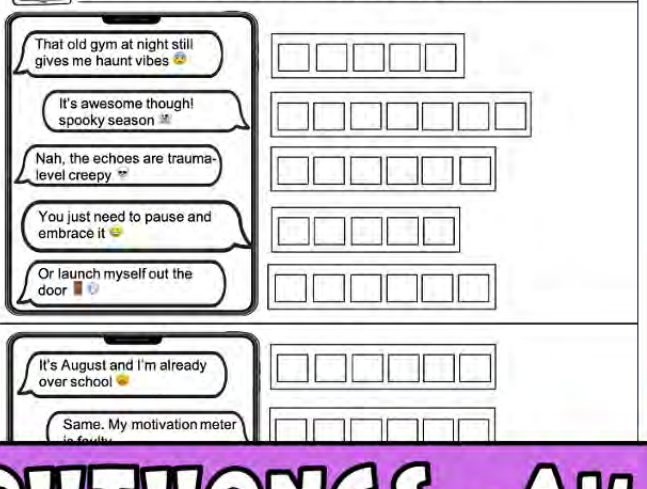
Words with –au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

Name: _____ Date: _____

TEXT ME!

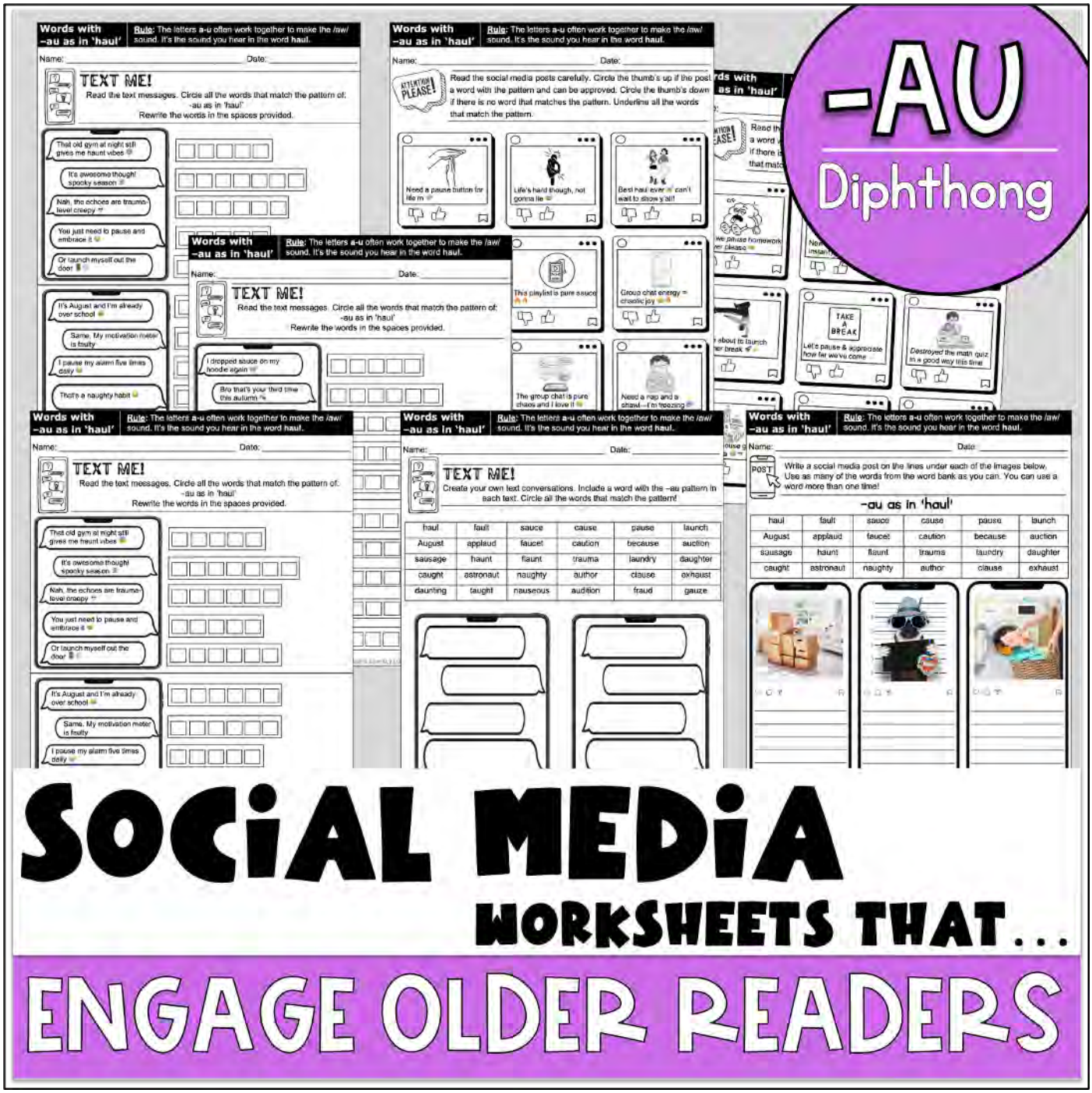
Read the text messages. Circle all the words that match the pattern of: -au as in 'haul'
Rewrite the words in the spaces provided.



Out of this World LITERACY

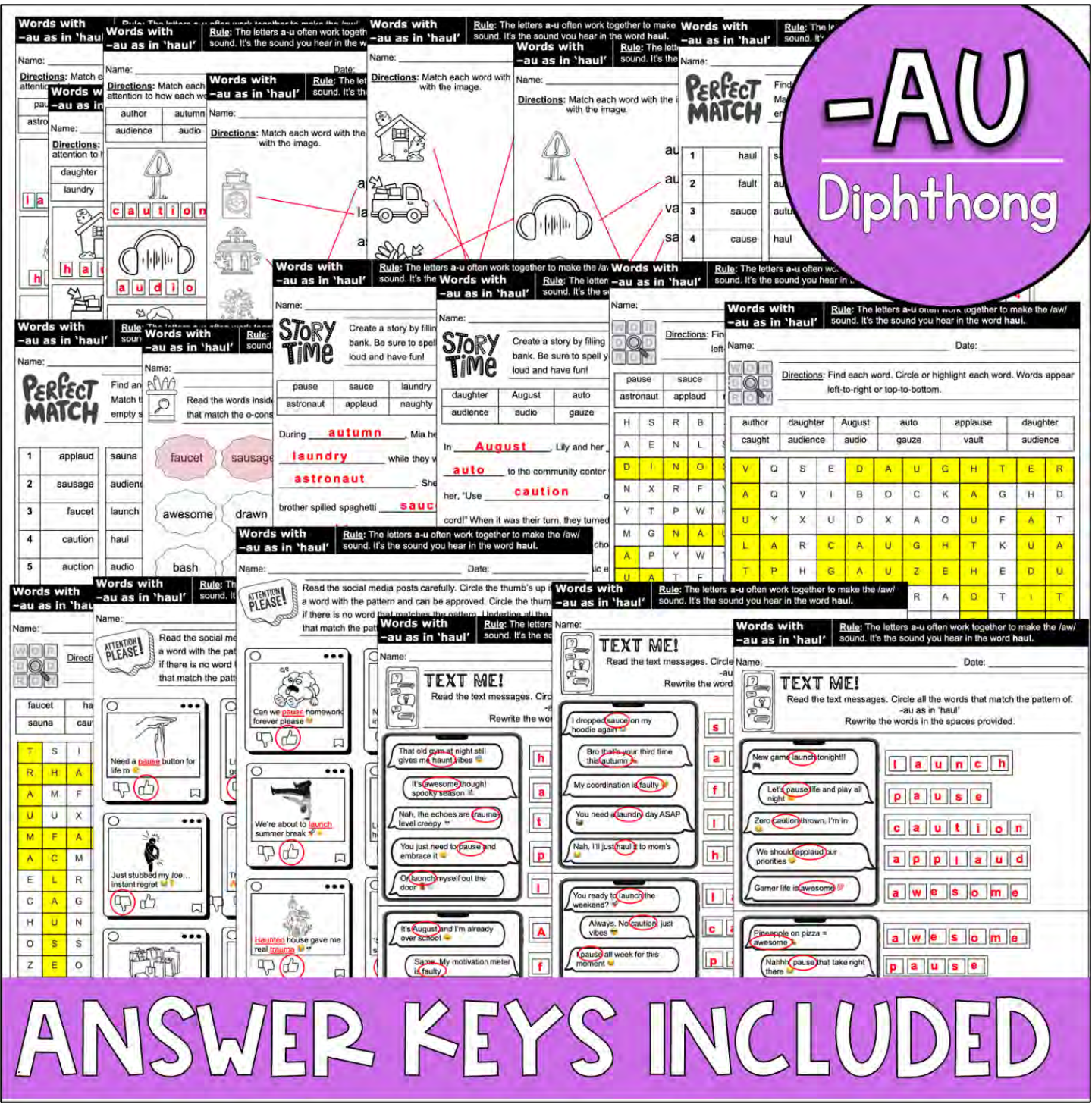
DIPHTHONGS -AU


23
TOTAL WORKSHEETS
FOR OLDER READERS
NO BABYISH STUFF HERE!



SOCIAL MEDIA WORKSHEETS THAT...

ENGAGE OLDER READERS


-AU
Diphthong
Words with -au as in 'haul'
Rule: The letters a-u often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word haul.
Directions: Match each word with the image.
Directions: Find each word. Circle or highlight each word. Words appear left-to-right or top-to-bottom.
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Directions: Match each word with the image.
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Read the words inside that match the o-cons
Read the social media posts carefully. Circle the thumb's up if a word with the pattern and can be approved. Circle the thum if there is no word that matches the pattern. Underline all the that match the pat
Read the text messages. Circle all the words that match the pattern of: -au as in 'haul'
Rewrite the words in the spaces provided.
Read the text messages. Circle all the words that match the pattern of: -au as in 'haul'
Rewrite the words in the spaces provided.
Read the text messages. Circle all the words that match the pattern of: -au as in 'haul'
Rewrite the words in the spaces provided.
Can we pause homework forever please
Need a pause button for life m
We're about to launch summer break
Just stubbed my toe... instant regret
Haunted house gave me real trauma
That old gym at night still gives me haunt vibes
It's awesome though! spooky season
Nah, the echoes are trauma-level creepy
You just need to pause and embrace it
Or launch myself out the door
It's August and I'm already over school
Same. My motivation meter is faulty
I dropped sauce on my hoodie again
Bro that's your third time this autumn
My coordination is faulty
You need a laundry day ASAP
Nah, I'll just haul it to mom's
You ready to launch the weekend?
Always. No caution, just vibes
I pause all week for this moment
New game launch tonight!!
Let's pause life and play all night
Zero caution thrown, I'm in
We should applaud our priorities
Gamer life is awesome
Pineapple on pizza = awesome
Nahhh pause that take right there
ANSWER KEYS INCLUDED

Words with –au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer the questions from the story, The Big Audition. Go back and read parts of the text for help!

Vocabulary Matching: Write the letter of the correct definition next to each word.

1. pause **D**
2. because **F**
3. flaunt **A**
4. audience **B**
5. applaud **C**
6. launch **E**

A. To show off proudly so others will notice.
B. A group of people who watch or listen to a show or performance.
C. To clap or cheer to show approval or enjoyment.
D. To stop briefly before continuing.
E. To begin or start something new, like an event or project.
F. To give a reason for why something happens.

1. What is the main problem in the story?

ⓐ Jordan forgets to practice for his audition.
ⓑ Jordan feels nervous and unsure about performing.
ⓒ Jordan misses his audition time.
ⓓ Jordan argues with a classmate about the play.

2. What does the word *audition* mean as used in the story?

ⓐ A performance to show talent or skill.
ⓑ A meeting between friends.
ⓒ A rehearsal before a concert.
ⓓ A short break between scenes

3. What happens when Jordan finally performs?

ⓐ He forgets his lines and runs off stage.
ⓑ He sings quietly so no one hears him.
ⓒ He overcomes his fear and gives a strong performance.
ⓓ He decides not to perform at all.

4. Why does the audience *applaud* Jordan at the end?

ⓐ Because he tells a funny joke
ⓑ Because they are waiting for the next student
ⓒ Because he is the last person to perform
ⓓ Because they appreciate his confidence and effort

5. What lesson does Jordan learn by the end of the story?

ⓐ It's better not to take risks.
ⓑ Confidence grows when you try, even if you're scared.
ⓒ Only perfect performances matter.
ⓓ It's best to let others go first.

6. What word best describes Jordan at the beginning of the story?

ⓐ Excited.
ⓑ Distraught.
ⓒ Confident.
ⓓ Carefree.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer the questions from the story, The Big Audition. Go back and read parts of the text for help!

1.Why is Jordan nervous about the audition?

Because he's afraid of performing in front of an *audience* and worried he'll make a mistake.

2. What advice does Jordan's teacher or friend give him before he performs?

To *pause*, take a deep breath, and believe in himself.

3. What does the word *distraught* mean in the story?

Upset or extremely worried — how Jordan feels before his audition.

4. How does Jordan feel right after the performance?

Exhausted but proud of himself for not giving up.

5. What causes the audience to *applaud* Jordan?

They can tell he worked hard and showed courage even though he was nervous.

6. What does Jordan realize about failure and courage by the end?

That courage isn't about being perfect — it's about trying even when something feels *daunting*.

7. What does the word *flaunt* mean, and how is it shown in the story?

To show off; one of Jordan's classmates *flaunts* their confidence before performing.

8. What does Jordan do to prepare for his audition?

He practices his lines, takes a *pause* to calm down, and focuses on doing his best.

9. How do Jordan's feelings change from the beginning to the end?

He goes from nervous and *distraught* to confident and proud.

10. What is the main message or theme of the story?

You can overcome fear through effort and self-belief — true success comes from courage, not perfection.

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Words with –au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer the questions from the story, The Science of Stage Courage. Go back and read parts of the text for help!

Vocabulary Matching: Write the letter of the correct definition next to each word.

1. distraught **B**
2. caution **F**
3. fault **D**
4. exhausted **A**
5. audition **C**
6. daunting **E**

A. Very tired or worn out from effort or stress.
B. Feeling upset, worried, or deeply troubled.
C. A short performance to show talent or skill for a role.
D. A reason or mistake someone is responsible for.
E. Something that feels difficult, scary, or challenging to face.
F. Careful attention to stay safe or avoid danger.

1. What is the main idea of "The Science of Stage Courage"?

(a) Performing is easy for everyone.
(b) Science can remove fear completely.
(c) Only actors have stage fright.
(d) Courage is something people can learn and practice, even when they feel nervous.

2. What causes people to feel nervous before performing?

(a) They are too confident.
(b) Their brains react to stress and excitement in similar ways..
(c) They don't care about their audience.
(d) They haven't practiced enough.

3. What does the word *pause* mean in the passage?

(a) To stop briefly and take a breath before continuing.
(b) To give up completely.
(c) To speak louder on stage.
(d) To forget your lines.

4. How does the *audience* affect a performer's courage?

(a) Audiences always makes performers scared
(b) A kind, encouraging audience helps performers feel supported.
(c) The audience decides who wins a prize.
(d) The audience never pays attention.

5. What can performers do when they feel *distraught* or scared before going on stage?

(a) Run away from the performance.
(b) Use breathing and positive thinking to calm down.
(c) Ignore their emotions completely.
(d) Ask someone else to perform instead.

6. What lesson does the passage teach about courage?

(a) Courage means facing fear and moving forward anyway.
(b) Courage means never feeling afraid.
(c) Courage is only for famous people.
(d) Courage disappears when people clap.

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Words with –au as in 'haul'

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer the questions from the story, The Science of Stage Courage. Go back and read parts of the text for help!

1. What physical reactions can happen when someone feels nervous before a performance?

Their heart may race, their hands might sweat, or they might feel butterflies in their stomach.

2. What does the brain do that makes fear and excitement feel similar?

It releases the same stress chemicals that prepare the body for action.

3. What is one scientific way to calm nerves before performing?

Taking slow, deep breaths or pausing to reset the brain's stress response.

4. Why is it important to *pause* before starting a performance?

It helps performers collect their thoughts, calm their nerves, and gain focus.

5. How can practice help performers feel more confident?

Practice builds familiarity and muscle memory, reducing anxiety during real performances.

6. What role does the *audience* play in the experience of stage courage?

A supportive audience can boost confidence, while a distracted one might make nerves worse.

7. What does it mean to *applaud* someone, and why is it important?

To clap in appreciation — it shows encouragement and helps performers feel valued.

8. How is feeling *exhausted* after performing actually a good sign?

It means the performer gave their full energy and effort on stage.

9. What is one *cause* of stage fright mentioned in the passage?

The body's natural fight-or-flight reaction when it senses attention or pressure.

10. What overall lesson does the passage teach about fear and performance?

That fear is natural — but understanding and managing it can turn anxiety into confidence and courage.

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Words with –au as in 'haul'

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Name: _____ Date: _____



Read each sentence. Circle **True** if it is correct. If it is not correct, Circle **False** and then rewrite the sentence so it makes sense.

1. To **pause** means to stop briefly before continuing to speak or act.. → (True) False

2. An **audience** is a group of people who perform on stage together. → True (False)

   False — An *audience* is the group of people who **watch or listen** to a performance.

3. The word **because** shows a reason or explains why something happens. → (True) False

4. To **applaud** means to stay silent after a show so the performer can rest. → True (False)

   False — To *applaud* means to **clap or show approval** after a performance.

5. To **flaunt** something means to show it off proudly so others will notice. → (True) False

6. To **launch** means to begin or start something new, like a project or event. → (True) False

7. Someone who is **distraught** feels calm and peaceful. → True (False)

   False — *Distraught* means **very upset or worried.**

8. If you are **exhausted**, you are full of energy and ready to keep going. → True (False)

   False — *Exhausted* means **very tired or worn out.**

9. **Caution** means being careful to avoid danger or problems. → (True) False

10. An **audition** is a short performance used to show your talent for a role or job. → (True) False

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Words with –au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

Name: _____ Date: _____



Read each sentence carefully. Use the word bank to fill in the blanks with the correct words.

pause	because	flaunt	distraught	caution	fault
audience	applaud	launch	exhausted	audition	daunting

1. Before giving her speech, Maya took a deep breath and decided to ___pause___ for a moment to calm down.
2. The teacher reminded the class to use ___caution___ when walking on the wet floor.
3. Liam was ___distraught___ after losing his sketchbook full of artwork.
4. The excited ___audience___ cheered loudly when the play began.
5. It wasn't your ___fault___ that the science project fell over—the table was wobbly!
6. Everyone will ___applaud___ when you finish your performance with confidence.
7. The new space company plans to ___launch___ a rocket next week.
8. After running in the school marathon, I felt completely ___exhausted___ but proud.
9. Jamie tried to ___flaunt___ his new sneakers by showing them off to his friends.
10. The challenge looked ___daunting___ at first, but working together made it easier.
11. She practiced every night so she would feel ready for her big singing ___audition___.
12. We had to stay inside ___because___ it started pouring rain during recess.

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Words with –au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer the questions from the story, The Haunted Auction. Go back and read parts of the text for help!

Vocabulary Matching: Write the letter of the correct definition next to each word.

1.	haul **B**	A.	A deeply upsetting or shocking experience.
2.	trauma **A**	B.	To carry or pull something heavy from one place to another.
3.	fraud **E**	C.	A sale where people bid money to buy items.
4.	auction **C**	D.	Feeling sick to your stomach or like you might throw up.
5.	nauseous **D**	E.	Being dishonest to gain money or something valuable.
6.	haunted **F**	F.	Believed to have ghosts or strange, spooky events happening

1. What is the main idea of "The Haunted Auction"?
   - (a) Auctions are scary and dangerous.
   - (b) Auctions can be strange, interesting, and teach lessons about honesty.
   - (c) People should never go to auctions.
   - (d) Ghost stories are always true.

2. What does the word *haul* mean in the text?
   - (a) To carry or pull something heavy
   - (b) To shout loudly
   - (c) To hide an object
   - (d) To throw something away

3. What was unusual about the auction mentioned in the story?
   - (a) It was for selling new cars.
   - (b) It took place in a park at night.
   - (c) It was held in a haunted museum.
   - (d) It was for selling homes.

4. What does the author say causes people to feel *nauseous* at haunted auctions?
   - (a) Fear and imagination affecting the body.
   - (b) The smell of old antiques.
   - (c) Bright lights and loud noises.
   - (d) The cold temperature inside.

5. What is one problem that can happen at an auction?
   - (a) Buyers get items for free.
   - (b) Auctions never end on time.
   - (c) People always agree on prices.
   - (d) Sellers can commit *fraud* by lying about an item's value.

6. What is the main lesson readers can learn from the story?
   - (a) Always buy something at an auction.
   - (b) Be cautious and honest when dealing with others.
   - (c) Haunted items have real ghosts in them
   - (d) Auctions should be banned.

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Words with –au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer the questions from the story, The Haunted Auction. Go back and read parts of the text for help!

1. What does the word *auction* mean?

A public sale where people bid money to buy items.

2. What made the auction in the story seem "haunted"?

It included spooky items like old dolls and mirrors that people claimed were cursed.

3. How does fear sometimes affect people's bodies?

It can make them feel *nauseous* or lightheaded because of how the brain reacts to fear.

4. What does the word *fraud* mean?

Lying or cheating to get money — for example, pretending something is worth more than it is.

5. To make sure all buyers and sellers follow fair and *lawful* rules.

To make sure all buyers and sellers follow fair and *lawful* rules.

6. People might waste money or get tricked by fake stories.

People might waste money or get tricked by fake stories.

7. That emotions can physically affect how people feel, even without real danger.

That emotions can physically affect how people feel, even without real danger.

8. It breaks trust and can cause someone to lose money unfairly.

It breaks trust and can cause someone to lose money unfairly.

9. What lesson does the author want readers to remember?

Be honest, fair, and careful when buying or selling — honesty matters more than excitement.

10. Why does the author include both spooky and serious examples in the passage?

To make the text fun and interesting while also teaching about honesty and fairness in real life.

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Words with –au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer the questions from the story, Strange Auctions Around the World. Go back and read parts of the text for help!

Vocabulary Matching: Write the letter of the correct definition next to each word.

1. clause **D**
2. cause **C**
3. naughty **F**
4. caught **B**
5. jaunt **D**
6. sauce **E**

A. A reason something happens.
B. To capture or take hold of something.
C. A rule or section in a legal document or contract.
D. A short, fun trip or outing.
E. A liquid or topping added to food for flavor.
F. Misbehaving or breaking small rules.

1. What is the main idea of "Strange Auctions Around the World"?

ⓐ Auctions are hard to understand.
ⓑ Haunted auctions are very popular.
ⓒ Only rich people can buy items at auctions.
ⓓ Auctions can be exciting, unusual, and sometimes teach lessons about honesty.

2. What does the word *auction* mean in the passage?

ⓐ A public sale where people bid to buy things
ⓑ A contest between people
ⓒ A museum where old items are displayed
ⓓ A haunted house tour

3. Why did the author include a story about a "haunted auction"?

ⓐ To scare the reader
ⓑ To show that some auctions can be strange or entertaining
ⓒ To prove ghosts are real
ⓓ To describe how museums make money

4. What problem sometimes happens at auctions?

ⓐ People forget to pay for what they buy.
ⓑ Auctions never have enough people.
ⓒ Sellers can commit *fraud* by pretending items are worth more than they are.
ⓓ Nobody understands the rules.

5. What does the word *clause* mean as used in the story?

ⓐ A small animal that digs holes
ⓑ A rule or condition in a contract
ⓒ A type of antique sold at auctions
ⓓ A mistake made by the buyer

6. What lesson does the author want readers to take away?

ⓐ Auctions are dangerous.
ⓑ Haunted auctions are fake and boring.
ⓒ Everyone should sell something at an auction.
ⓓ Being honest is more important than making money.

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Words with –au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer the questions from the story, Strange Auctions Around the World. Go back and read parts of the text for help!

1. What does the word *haul* mean as used in the passage?

To carry or move something heavy, such as treasures or items to sell.

2. What kinds of items were sold at some "haunted" auctions?

Dolls, mirrors, or paintings that people claimed were cursed or spooky.

3. Some felt *nauseous* or uneasy because they were scared or believed the objects were haunted.

Some felt *nauseous* or uneasy because they were scared or believed the objects were haunted.

4. What does the word *fraud* mean?

Lying or cheating to make money — for example, selling something fake or overpriced.

5. Why do auctions include a *clause* in their sales?

To explain the rules and protect both the buyer and the seller from dishonest behavior.

6. What is the purpose of the story about the museum auction?

To show that auctions can be interesting, mysterious, and even strange, not just about buying things.

7. What is one *drawback* of going to an unusual auction?

People might waste money or buy something that isn't as valuable as they thought.

8. What lesson does the author teach about honesty?

That being honest in business is the *lawful* and fair way to treat others.

9. What do families enjoy about attending auctions?

They like browsing antiques, seeing unusual items, and enjoying the community event.

10. Why is the author's tone both fun and serious in this passage?

Because the topic is entertaining, but it also teaches an important life lesson about honesty and fairness.

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Words with –au as in 'haul'

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Name: _____ Date: _____



Read each sentence. Circle **True** if it is correct. If it is not correct, Circle **False** and then rewrite the sentence so it makes sense.

1. To **haul** means to carry something heavy from one place to another. → (True) False

2. A **jaunt** is a long, stressful journey across the world. → True (False)

   False — A *jaunt* is **a short, fun trip or outing.**

3. An **auction** is when people buy items by raising their hands to offer bids. → (True) False

4. **Trauma** means a funny or silly event that makes people laugh. → True (False)

   False — *Trauma* means **a deeply upsetting or shocking experience.**

5. If you feel **nauseous**, you might feel sick to your stomach. → (True) False

6. A **naughty** person is always kind and follows every rule. → True (False)

   False — *Naughty* means **someone who misbehaves or breaks small rules.**

7. **Fraud** means being dishonest to get money or something valuable. → (True) False

8. A place that is **haunted** is believed to have ghosts and scary events. → (True) False

9. A **clause** is a type of dessert served at an auction. → True (False)

   False — A *clause* is **a rule or section in a legal document or agreement.**

10. **Caught** is the past tense of *catch* — it means you grabbed something. → (True) False

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Words with –au as in 'haul'

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Name: _____ Date: _____



Read each sentence carefully. Use the word bank to fill in the blanks with the correct words.

haul	trauma	fraud	clause	cause	naughty
auction	nauseous	haunted	caught	jaunt	sauce

1. It took four people to **haul** the heavy boxes of books up the stairs.
2. The little boy felt **nauseous** after spinning too fast on the playground.
3. The lawyer explained the special **clause** in the contract that protected both sides.
4. The spooky mansion was said to be **haunted** by friendly ghosts.
5. We went on a short weekend **jaunt** to the beach before school started again.
6. The teacher reminded the students that it's not okay to be **naughty** in class just to get laughs.
7. Everyone cheered when the firefighter was finally able to rescue the cat he had **caught** in the tall tree.
8. The chef spilled spaghetti **sauce** all over his apron while cooking dinner.
9. The charity held an **auction** to raise money for the local animal shelter.
10. The man was arrested for committing **fraud** after lying to get people's money.
11. The car crash caused a lot of emotional **trauma** for the family involved.
12. The new recycling project became a community **cause** that everyone wanted to support.

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Words with –au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Match each word to the picture. Copy the word under each picture. Pay attention to how each word is spelled. Think about how each word sounds.

pause	sauce	laundry	launch	haunt	author
astronaut	applaud	naughty	dinosaur	autumn	caught



l a u n d r y



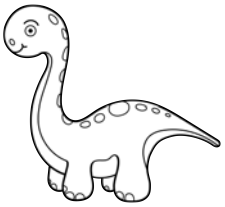
a p p l a u d



a u t h o r



h a u n t



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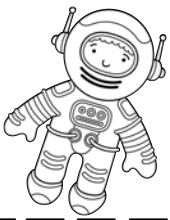

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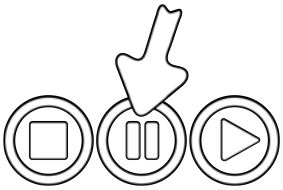

p a u s e



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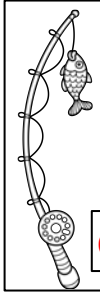
l a u n c h



c a u g h t

The pattern I found in each word is **Every word includes the pattern -au.**

_____.

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Words with –au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Match each word to the picture. Copy the word under each picture. Pay attention to how each word is spelled. Think about how each word sounds.

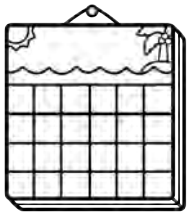
daughter	August	auto	caught	faucet	haul
laundry	launch	gauze	pause	sauce	haunt



h a u n t



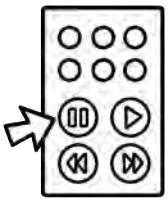
l a u n d r y



A u g u s t



h a u l



p a u s e



a u t o



g a u z e



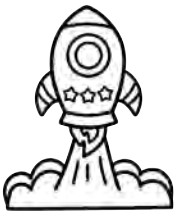
d a u g h t e r



c a u g h t



f a u c e t



l a u n c h



s a u c e

The pattern I found in each word is Every word includes the pattern -au.

_____.

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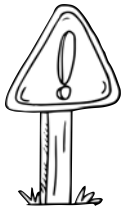
Words with –au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

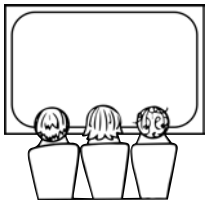
Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Match each word to the picture. Copy the word under each picture. Pay attention to how each word is spelled. Think about how each word sounds.

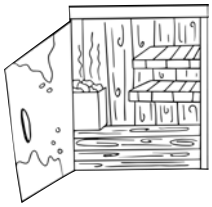
author	autumn	applause	sauce	sausage	auction
audience	audio	vault	saucer	sauna	caution



c a u t i o n



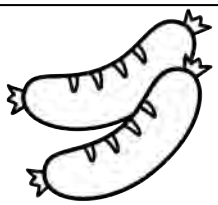
a u d i e n c e



s a u n a



a u d i o



s a u s a g e



l a u n c h



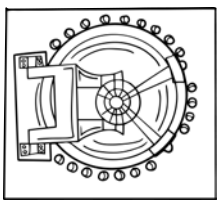
a u t h o r



a p p l a u s e



a u t u m n



v a u l t



a u c t i o n



s a u c e

The pattern I found in each word is **Every word includes the pattern -au.**

_____.

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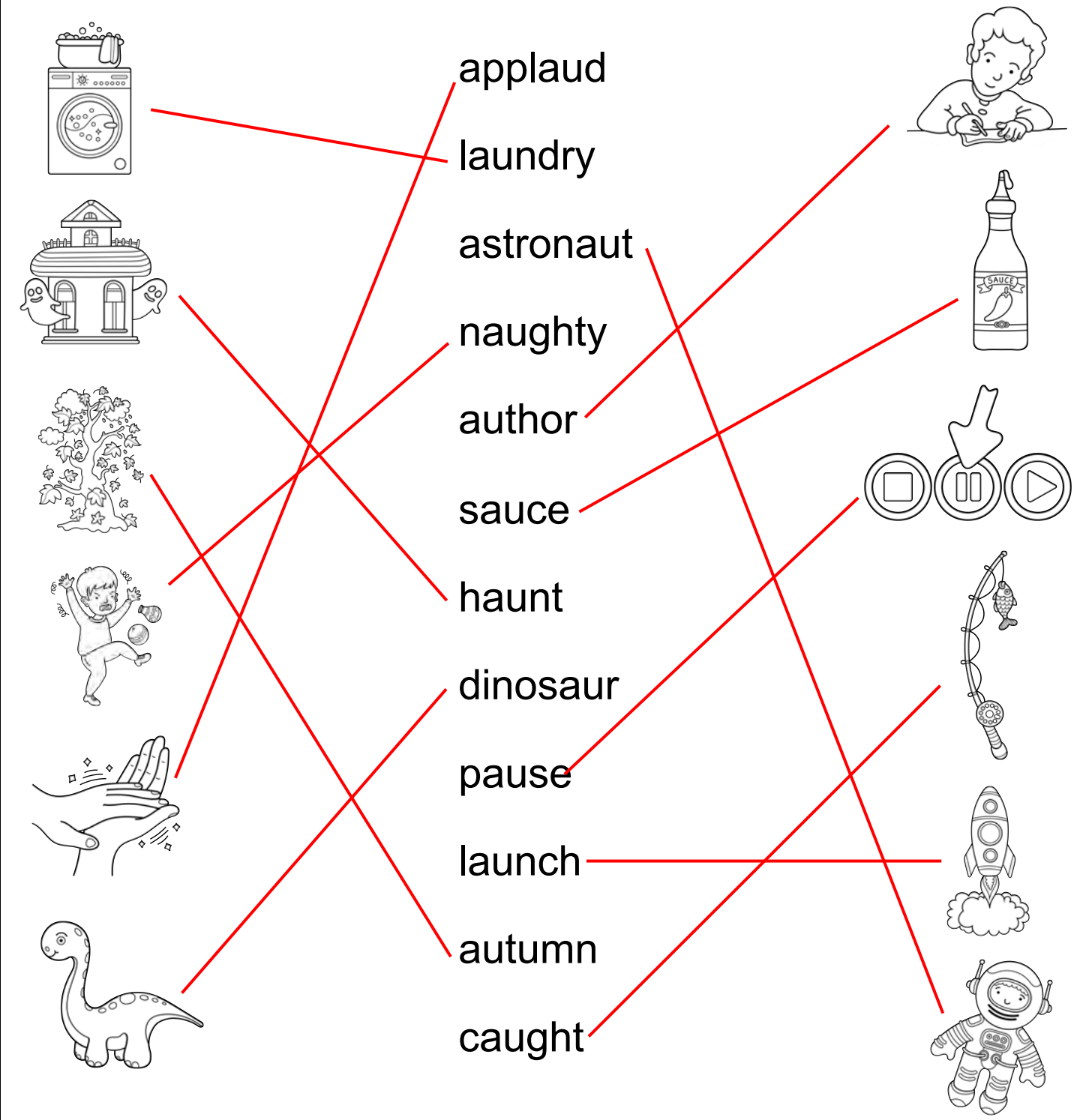
Words with –au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Match each word with the image by drawing a line to connect the word with the image.



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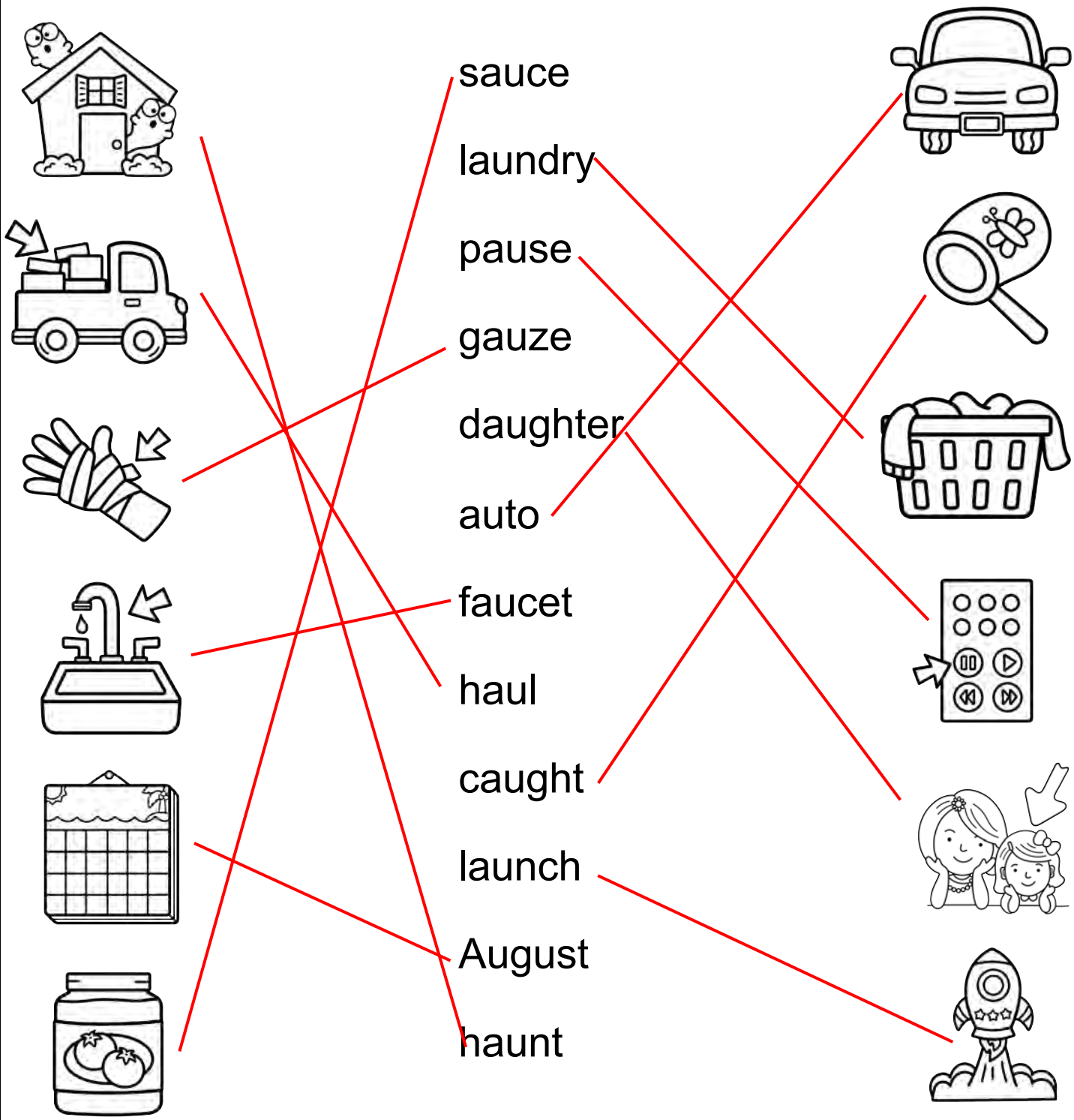

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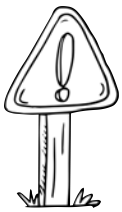
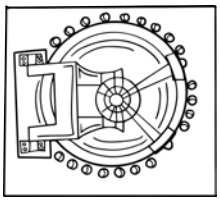
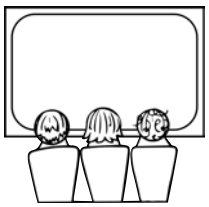
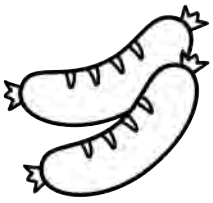












autumn

audio

vault

sausage

applause

sauce

launch

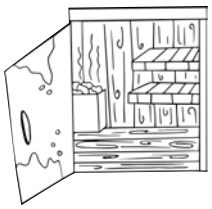
caution

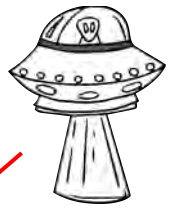
author

sauna

audience

auction













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Words with –au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

Name: _____ Date: _____



Find and match the words together. Read all the words. Match the number for each word. Write the number in the empty space that matches teach word.

			Number
1	haul	sauce	3
2	fault	author	8
3	sauce	autumn	11
4	cause	haul	1
5	pause	astronaut	12
6	launch	August	7
7	August	audience	10
8	author	fault	2
9	laundry	pause	5
10	audience	cause	4
11	autumn	laundry	9
12	astronaut	launch	6

			Number
1	jaunt	distraught	8
2	clause	because	12
3	applaud	trauma	10
4	gaunt	exhaust	7
5	gauze	haunt	11
6	flaunt	gaunt	4
7	exhaust	daunting	9
8	distraught	jaunt	1
9	daunting	applaud	3
10	trauma	clause	2
11	haunt	flaunt	6
12	because	gauze	5

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Words with –au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

Name: _____ Date: _____

PERFECT MATCH

Find and match the words together. Read all the words. Match the number for each word. Write the number in the empty space that matches teach word.

			Number
1	applaud	sauna	9
2	sausage	audience	6
3	faucet	launch	10
4	caution	haul	12
5	auction	audio	7
6	audience	caution	4
7	audio	laundry	11
8	vault	faucet	3
9	sauna	auction	5
10	launch	sausage	6
11	laundry	applaud	1
12	haul	vault	8

			Number
1	fraud	naughty	11
2	audit	taught	4
3	caught	saucer	9
4	taught	nausea	8
5	faulty	clause	7
6	trauma	daughter	12
7	clause	audition	10
8	nausea	faulty	5
9	saucer	caught	3
10	audition	fraud	1
11	naughty	trauma	6
12	daughter	audit	2

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Words with –au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

Name: _____ Date: _____



Read the words inside each shape carefully. Color the shapes with words that match the o-consonant-e pattern. Answer the challenge question.

faucet	sausage	applaud	caution	audience
awesome	drawn	audio	stay	may
bash	toast	vault	float	name
clap	claim	sauna	gone	fawn
became	today	launch	jaw	outside
shawl	pain	haul	play	tape

CHALLENGE

What letter do the colored in shapes spell? T



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Words with –au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

Name: _____ Date: _____



Create a story by filling in the blanks with words from your word bank. Be sure to spell your words correctly. Read your story out loud and have fun!

pause	sauce	laundry	launch	haunt	author
astronaut	applaud	naughty	dinosaurs	autumn	caught

During autumn, Mia helped her mom fold the laundry while they watched a space movie about an astronaut. She had to pause it when her little brother spilled spaghetti sauce all over the floor. "You are so naughty sometimes!" Mia sighed, handing him a towel. Later that day, Mia and her class went to see a famous author who wrote books about space and dinosaurs. The author talked about bravery, teamwork, and never giving up — even when a rocket launch goes wrong. When the presentation ended, everyone began to applaud. Mia caught herself smiling and thought, *Maybe I'll be an astronaut-author one day!* That night, as the wind whistled through the trees, the old stories from the library seemed to haunt her dreams — in the best possible way.

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Words with –au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

Name: _____ Date: _____



Create a story by filling in the blanks with words from your word bank. Be sure to spell your words correctly. Read your story out loud and have fun!

daughter	August	auto	applause	faucet	haul
audience	audio	gauze	vault	sauna	caution

In August, Lily and her daughter drove their auto to the community center for the summer talent show. Lily reminded her, "Use caution on the stage—don't trip over the microphone cord!" When it was their turn, they turned on the audio track and performed a funny song about doing chores. The audience laughed and cheered. When the music ended, the room filled with applause. Afterward, they washed the paint off their hands at the faucet backstage. Lily handed her daughter a bandage and some gauze for a tiny scrape. They stopped by the gym's hot sauna before heading home, relaxed and happy after their big haul of prizes. As they passed the school's trophy vault, Lily smiled. "Next year," she said, "we're going for the grand prize!"

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Words with –au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

Name: _____ Date: _____



Directions: Find each word. Circle or highlight each word. Words appear left-to-right or top-to-bottom.

pause	sauce	laundry	launch	haunt	pause
astronaut	applaud	naughty	dinosaurs	autumn	astronaut

H	S	R	B	J	V	X	R	S	A	U	C	E	K
A	E	N	L	S	I	X	U	W	J	I	N	I	I
D	I	N	O	S	A	U	R	S	E	M	K	H	F
N	X	R	F	Y	Y	E	P	B	X	Q	M	Y	A
Y	T	P	W	H	B	P	J	R	N	I	I	M	F
M	G	N	A	U	G	H	T	Y	B	U	V	E	G
A	P	Y	W	T	M	G	L	A	U	N	D	R	Y
U	A	T	F	L	Z	G	N	E	O	E	B	Q	A
T	P	I	Z	E	Z	D	L	H	A	U	N	T	P
U	P	A	Z	I	U	Q	Q	H	F	Q	P	O	A
M	L	Y	A	S	T	R	O	N	A	U	T	G	U
N	A	V	H	Y	D	L	A	U	N	C	H	B	S
R	U	K	J	C	S	B	N	E	A	M	L	D	E
M	D	G	K	C	B	N	K	L	W	C	M	K	Q

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Name: _____ Date: _____



Directions: Find each word. Circle or highlight each word. Words appear left-to-right or top-to-bottom.

author	daughter	August	auto	applause	daughter
caught	audience	audio	gauze	vault	audience

V	Q	S	E	D	A	U	G	H	T	E	R
A	Q	V	I	B	O	C	K	A	G	H	D
U	Y	X	U	D	X	A	O	U	F	A	T
L	A	R	C	A	U	G	H	T	K	U	A
T	P	H	G	A	U	Z	E	H	E	D	U
H	P	C	O	V	R	R	A	O	T	I	T
O	L	J	Z	P	C	G	W	R	V	O	O
Z	A	A	U	G	U	S	T	T	W	K	L
D	U	B	A	A	U	D	I	E	N	C	E
T	S	C	B	J	B	A	J	H	W	U	A
E	E	Z	V	G	Q	D	B	V	B	X	B
H	V	D	F	G	T	T	P	R	V	B	C

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Words with –au as in 'haul'

Rule: The letters **a-u** often work together to make the /aw/ sound. It's the sound you hear in the word **haul.**

Name: _____ Date: _____



Directions: Find each word. Circle or highlight each word. Words appear left-to-right or top-to-bottom.

faucet	haul	fraud	faulty	clause	saucer
sauna	caution	audit	trauma	nausea	audition

T	S	I	N	C	B	U	B	A	K	C	D	I	Z
R	H	A	U	L	M	Y	A	U	B	B	S	L	X
A	M	F	K	Q	G	Y	B	D	C	Q	P	V	X
U	U	X	K	G	K	J	L	I	Y	T	J	B	Q
M	F	A	U	C	E	T	L	T	P	P	S	M	C
A	C	M	S	M	K	K	U	I	L	E	F	I	C
E	L	R	L	E	N	S	U	O	R	G	R	N	A
C	A	G	F	Y	K	T	T	N	E	A	A	A	U
H	U	N	A	F	S	A	U	C	E	R	U	U	T
O	S	S	O	A	V	K	R	I	C	N	D	S	I
Z	E	O	R	U	F	R	V	Y	C	X	X	E	O
F	U	T	N	L	Q	L	R	S	A	U	N	A	N
U	Z	X	Q	T	W	A	X	P	P	R	I	Q	M
S	I	I	N	Y	F	H	A	U	D	I	T	D	V

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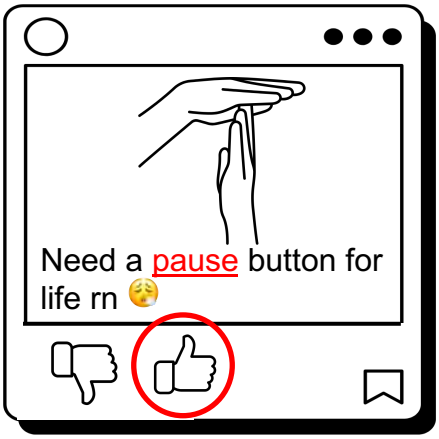
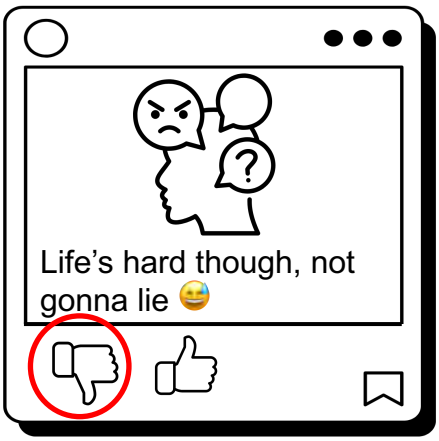
Name: _____ Date: _____

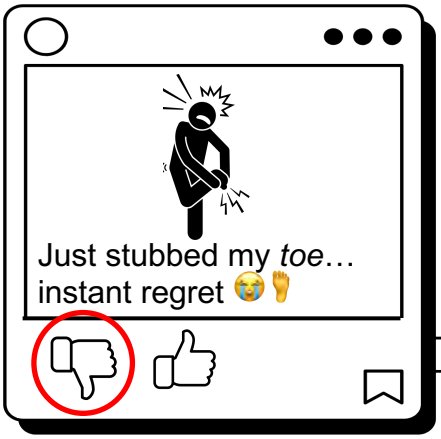
ATTENTION PLEASE!

Read the social media posts carefully. Circle the thumb's up if the post a word with the pattern and can be approved. Circle the thumb's down if there is no word that matches the pattern. Underline all the words that match the pattern.

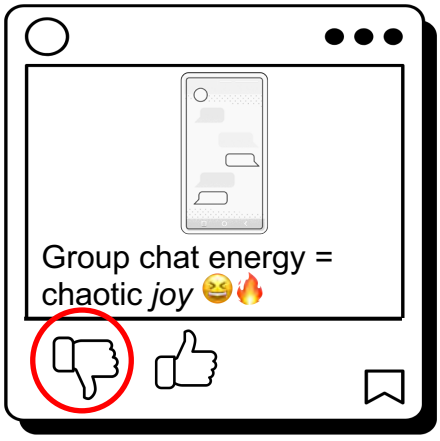




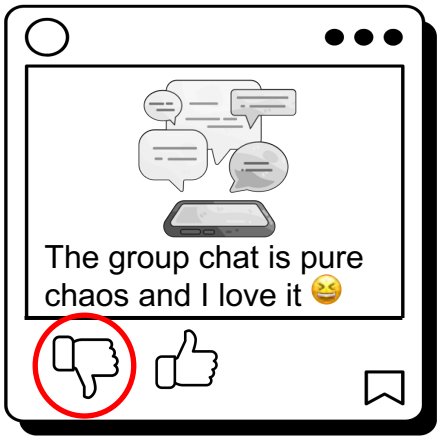














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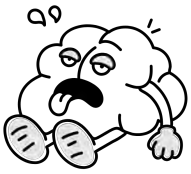


Can we pause homework forever please 🥺



New shoes unlocked = instant joy 🪽🐓



Spilled my drink… it's all sauce now 😩



We're about to launch summer break 🚀☀️



Let's pause & appreciate how far we've come 🌫️



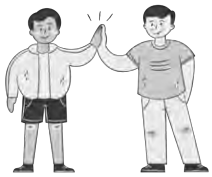
Destroyed the math quiz in a good way this time



Haunted house gave me real trauma 😭💀



"Still in awe of last night's sunset 🌅



Can we applaud how *awesome* we look? 👏🤷‍♀️

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Words with –au as in 'haul'

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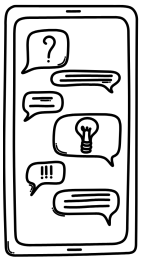

TEXT ME!

Read the text messages. Circle all the words that match the pattern of:
-au as in 'haul'
Rewrite the words in the spaces provided.

That old gym at night still gives me haunt vibes 😨

It's awesome though! spooky season 👻

Nah, the echoes are trauma-level creepy 💀

You just need to pause and embrace it 😆

Or launch myself out the door 🚪💨

h a u n t s

a w e s o m e

t r a u m a

p a u s e

l a u n c h

It's August and I'm already over school 😩

Same. My motivation meter is faulty

I pause my alarm five times daily 😂

That's a naughty habit 😆

I'll haul myself up... eventually 😴

A u g u s t

f a u l t y

p a u s e

n a u g h t y

h a u l

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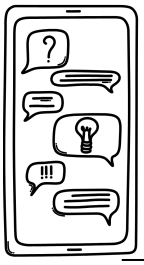

TEXT ME!

Read the text messages. Circle all the words that match the pattern of:
-au as in 'haul'
Rewrite the words in the spaces provided.

I dropped sauce on my hoodie again 🥵

s a u c e

Bro that's your third time this autumn 🍂

a u t u m n

My coordination is faulty 🤪

f a u l t y

You need a laundry day ASAP 🧺

l a u n d r y

Nah, I'll just haul it to mom's 😂

h a u l

You ready to launch the weekend? 🚀

l a u n c h

Always. No caution, just vibes 😎

c a u t i o n

I pause all week for this moment 😂

p a u s e

We should applaud our dedication to fun 👏

a p p l a u d

Facts. No faulty energy allowed 🐓

f a u l t y

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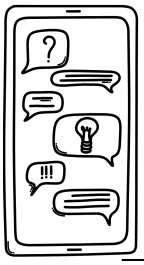

TEXT ME!

Read the text messages. Circle all the words that match the pattern of:
-au as in 'haul'
Rewrite the words in the spaces provided.

New game launch tonight!! 🎮

Let's pause life and play all night 😏

Zero caution thrown, I'm in 😂

We should applaud our priorities 🤣

Gamer life is awesome 💯

l	a	u	n	c	h

p	a	u	s	e

c	a	u	t	i	o	n

a	p	p	l	a	u	d

a	w	e	s	o	m	e

Pineapple on pizza = awesome 🍍

Nahhh, pause that take right there 😂

What about extra sauce?

Okay fine, that I'll applaud 👏

Then we're good. Haul me a slice 🍕

a	w	e	s	o	m	e

p	a	u	s	e

s	a	u	c	e

a	p	p	l	a	u	d

h	a	u	l

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