**Diction Exercises for 'B' words:**

*Betty bought a bit of butter, but she found the butter bitter, so Betty bought a bit of better butter to make the bitter butter better.*

*Bill had a billboard.  
Bill also had a board bill.  
The board bill bored Bill,  
So Bill sold his billboard  
And paid his board bill.  
Then the board bill  
No longer bored Bill,  
But though he had no board bill,  
Neither did he have his billboard!*

**For 'D' words try:**

*Did Doug dig David's garden or did David dig Doug's garden?*

*Do drop in at the Dewdrop Inn*

**Diction Exercises for 'F' words:**

*Four furious friends fought for the phone*

*Five flippant Frenchmen fly from France for fashions*

**For 'H' words try:**

*How was Harry hastened so hurriedly from the hunt?*

*In Hertford,Hereford and Hampshire hurricanes hardly ever happen*

**Diction Exercises for 'J' words:**

*James just jostled Jean gently.*

*Jack the jailbird jacked a jeep.*

**Diction Exercises for 'K' words:**

*Kiss her quick, kiss her quicker, kiss her quickest.*

*My cutlery cuts keenly and cleanly.*

**Diction Exercises for 'L' words:**

*Literally literary.*

*Larry sent the latter a letter later.*

*Lucy lingered, looking longingly for her lost lap-dog.*

**Diction Exercise for 'N' and 'U' sounds:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | | *You know New York, You need New York, You know you need unique New York.* |

**Diction Exercises for 'P' words:**

*Peter piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.  
If Peter piper picked a peck of pickled peppers,  
Where's the peck of pickled peppers that Peter Piper picked?*

*Pearls, please, pretty Penelope,  
Pretty Penelope, pretty Penelope,  
Pearls, please, pretty Penelope,  
Pretty Penelope Pring.*

**For 'Q' words:**

*Quick kiss. Quicker kiss. Quickest kiss.*

*Quickly, quickly, quickly, quickly, quickly...*

**For 'R' words:**

*Round the rugged rocks the ragged rascal ran.*

*Reading and writing are richly rewarding.*

**Exercises for 'S' words:**

*Six thick thistle sticks*

*Theophilus Thistler, the thistle sifter, in sifting a sieve of unsifted thistles, thrust three thousand thistles through the thick of his thumb.*

*The shrewd shrew sold Sarah seven sliver fish slices.*

*Sister Susie sat on the sea shore sewing shirts for sailors.*

*Moses supposes his toeses are roses,  
But Moses supposes erroneously,  
For nobody's toeses are posies of roses  
As Moses supposes his toeses to be.*

(Pronounce the word *'toeses'* to rhyme with *'Moses'*.)

**For 'T' words:**

*Ten tame tadpoles tucked tightly in a thin tall tin.*

*Two toads, totally tired, trying to trot to Tewkesbury.*

**For 'V' words:**

*Vincent vowed vengeance very vehemently.*

*Vera valued the valley violets.*

**And lastly, two especially for your tongue**

*Red leather, yellow leather...*

*Red lorry, yellow lorry...*

**And then, one more for good measure!**

This comes from Gilbert and Sullivan's light opera **'The Pirates of Penzance'.**

It's *guaranteed* to make you work as it's the tongue's equivalent of a triathlon!

It includes many difficult combinations impossible to get right unless you articulate clearly. Have fun with it.

*'I am the very pattern of a modern Major-General;  
I've information vegetable, animal, and mineral;  
I know the Kings of England, and I quote the fights historical,  
From Marathon to Waterloo, in order categorical;  
I'm very well acquainted too with matters mathematical,  
I understand equations, both simple and quadratical,  
About binomial theorem I'm teeming with a lot o' news,  
With many cheerful facts about the square of the hypotenuse.  
I'm very good at integral and differential calculus,  
I know the scientific names of beings animalculous,  
In short, in matters vegetable, animal, and mineral,  
I am the very model of a modern Major-General.'*

MORE

Slick slim sycamore saplings.

A box of biscuits, a batch of mixed biscuits

A skunk sat on a stump and thunk the stump stunk,  
but the stump thunk the skunk stunk.

Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.  
Did Peter Piper pick a peck of pickled peppers?  
If Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers,  
where's the peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked?

Red lorry, yellow lorry, red lorry, yellow lorry.

Unique New York.

Betty Botter had some butter,  
"But," she said, "this butter's bitter.  
If I bake this bitter butter,  
it would make my batter bitter.  
But a bit of better butter--  
*that* would make my batter better."  
  
So she bought a bit of butter,  
better than her bitter butter,  
and she baked it in her batter,  
and the batter was not bitter.  
So 'twas better Betty Botter  
bought a bit of better butter.

Six thick thistle sticks. Six thick thistles stick.

Is this your sister's sixth zither, sir?

A big black bug bit a big black bear,  
made the big black bear bleed blood.

The sixth sick sheik's sixth sheep's sick.

Toy boat. Toy boat. Toy boat.

One smart fellow, he felt smart.  
Two smart fellows, they felt smart.  
Three smart fellows, they all felt smart.

Pope Sixtus VI's six texts.

I slit the sheet, the sheet I slit, and on the slitted sheet I sit.

She sells sea shells by the sea shore.  
The shells she sells are surely seashells.  
So if she sells shells on the seashore,  
I'm sure she sells seashore shells.

Mrs. Smith's Fish Sauce Shop.

"Surely Sylvia swims!" shrieked Sammy, surprised.  
"Someone should show Sylvia some strokes so she shall not sink."

A Tudor who tooted a flute  
tried to tutor two tooters to toot.  
Said the two to their tutor,  
"Is it harder to toot  
or to tutor two tooters to toot?"

Shy Shelly says she shall sew sheets.

Three free throws.

I am not the pheasant plucker,  
I'm the pheasant plucker's mate.  
I am only plucking pheasants  
'cause the pheasant plucker's running late.

Sam's shop stocks short spotted socks.

A flea and a fly flew up in a flue.  
Said the flea, "Let us fly!"  
Said the fly, "Let us flee!"  
So they flew through a flaw in the flue.

Knapsack straps.

Which wristwatches are Swiss wristwatches?

Lesser leather never weathered wetter weather better.

A bitter biting bittern  
Bit a better brother bittern,  
And the bitter better bittern  
Bit the bitter biter back.  
And the bitter bittern, bitten,  
By the better bitten bittern,  
Said: "I'm a bitter biter bit, alack!"

Inchworms itching.

A noisy noise annoys an oyster.

The myth of Miss Muffet.

Mr. See owned a saw.  
And Mr. Soar owned a seesaw.  
Now See's saw sawed Soar's seesaw  
Before Soar saw See,  
Which made Soar sore.  
Had Soar seen See's saw  
Before See sawed Soar's seesaw,  
See's saw would not have sawed  
Soar's seesaw.  
So See's saw sawed Soar's seesaw.  
But it was sad to see Soar so sore  
Just because See's saw sawed  
Soar's seesaw!

Friendly Frank flips fine flapjacks.

Vincent vowed vengeance very vehemently.

Cheap ship trip.

I cannot bear to see a bear  
Bear down upon a hare.  
When bare of hair he strips the hare,  
Right there I cry, "Forbear!"

Lovely lemon liniment.

Gertie's great-grandma grew aghast at Gertie's grammar.

Tim, the thin twin tinsmith

Fat frogs flying past fast.

I need not your needles, they're needless to me;  
For kneading of noodles, 'twere needless, you see;  
But did my neat knickers but need to be kneed,  
I then should have need of your needles indeed.

Flee from fog to fight flu fast!

Greek grapes.

The boot black bought the black boot back.

How much wood would a woodchuck chuck  
if a woodchuck could chuck wood?  
He would chuck, he would, as much as he could,  
and chuck as much wood as a woodchuck would  
if a woodchuck could chuck wood.

We surely shall see the sun shine soon.

Moose noshing much mush.

Ruby Rugby's brother bought and brought her  
back some rubber baby-buggy bumpers.

Sly Sam slurps Sally's soup.

My dame hath a lame tame crane,  
My dame hath a crane that is lame.

Six short slow shepherds.

A tree toad loved a she-toad  
Who lived up in a tree.  
He was a two-toed tree toad  
But a three-toed toad was she.  
The two-toed tree toad tried to win  
The three-toed she-toad's heart,  
For the two-toed tree toad loved the ground  
That the three-toed tree toad trod.  
But the two-toed tree toad tried in vain.  
He couldn't please her whim.  
From her tree toad bower  
With her three-toed power  
The she-toad vetoed him.

Which witch wished which wicked wish?

Old oily Ollie oils old oily autos.

The two-twenty-two train tore through the tunnel.

Silly Sally swiftly shooed seven silly sheep.  
The seven silly sheep Silly Sally shooed  
shilly-shallied south.  
These sheep shouldn't sleep in a shack;  
sheep should sleep in a shed.

Twelve twins twirled twelve twigs.

Three gray geese in the green grass grazing.  
Gray were the geese and green was the grass.

Many an anemone sees an enemy anemone.

Nine nice night nurses nursing nicely.

Peggy Babcock.

You've no need to light a night-light  
On a light night like tonight,  
For a night-light's light's a slight light,  
And tonight's a night that's light.  
When a night's light, like tonight's light,  
It is really not quite right  
To light night-lights with their slight lights  
On a light night like tonight.

Black bug's blood.

Flash message!

Say this sharply, say this sweetly,  
Say this shortly, say this softly.  
Say this sixteen times in succession.

Six sticky sucker sticks.

If Stu chews shoes, should Stu  
choose the shoes he chews?

Crisp crusts crackle crunchily.

Give papa a cup of proper coffee in a copper coffee cup.

Six sharp smart sharks.

What a shame such a shapely sash  
should such shabby stitches show.

Sure the ship's shipshape, sir.

Betty better butter Brad's bread.

Of all the felt I ever felt,  
I never felt a piece of felt  
which felt as fine as that felt felt,  
when first I felt that felt hat's felt.

Sixish.

Don't pamper damp scamp tramps that camp under ramp lamps.

Swan swam over the sea,  
Swim, swan, swim!  
Swan swam back again  
Well swum, swan!

Six shimmering sharks sharply striking shins.

I thought a thought.  
But the thought I thought wasn't the thought  
I thought I thought.

Brad's big black bath brush broke.

Thieves seize skis.

Chop shops stock chops.

Sarah saw a shot-silk sash shop full of shot-silk sashes  
as the sunshine shone on the side of the shot-silk sash shop.

Strict strong stringy Stephen Stretch  
slickly snared six sickly silky snakes.

Susan shineth shoes and socks;  
socks and shoes shines Susan.  
She ceased shining shoes and socks,  
for shoes and socks shock Susan.

Truly rural.

The blue bluebird blinks.

Betty and Bob brought back blue balloons from the big bazaar.

When a twister a-twisting will twist him a twist,  
For the twisting of his twist, he three twines doth intwist;  
But if one of the twines of the twist do untwist,  
The twine that untwisteth untwisteth the twist.

Untwirling the twine that untwisteth between,  
He twirls, with his twister, the two in a twine;  
Then twice having twisted the twines of the twine,  
He twitcheth the twice he had twined in twain.

The twain that in twining before in the twine,  
As twines were intwisted he now doth untwine;  
Twist the twain inter-twisting a twine more between,  
He, twirling his twister, makes a twist of the twine.

The Leith police dismisseth us.

The seething seas ceaseth  
and twiceth the seething seas sufficeth us.

If one doctor doctors another doctor, does the doctor  
who doctors the doctor doctor the doctor the way the  
doctor he is doctoring doctors? Or does he doctor  
the doctor the way the doctor who doctors doctors?

Two Truckee truckers truculently truckling  
to have truck to truck two trucks of truck.

Plague-bearing prairie dogs.

Ed had edited it.

She sifted thistles through her thistle-sifter.

Give me the gift of a grip top sock:  
a drip-drape, ship-shape, tip-top sock.

While we were walking, we were watching window washers  
wash Washington's windows with warm washing water.

Freshly fried fresh flesh.

Pacific Lithograph.

Six twin screwed steel steam cruisers.

The crow flew over the river  
with a lump of raw liver.

Preshrunk silk shirts

A bloke's back bike brake block broke.

A pleasant place to place a plaice is a place  
where a plaice is pleased to be placed.

I correctly recollect Rebecca MacGregor's reckoning.

Good blood, bad blood.

Quick kiss. Quicker kiss.

I saw Esau kissing Kate. I saw Esau,  
he saw me, and she saw I saw Esau.

Cedar shingles should be shaved and saved.

Lily ladles little Letty's lentil soup.

Amidst the mists and coldest frosts,  
with stoutest wrists and loudest boasts,  
he thrusts his fist against the posts  
and still insists he sees the ghosts.

Shelter for six sick scenic sightseers.

Listen to the local yokel yodel.

Give Mr. Snipa's wife's knife a swipe.

Whereat with blade,  
with bloody, blameful blade,  
he bravely broached his boiling bloody breast.

Are our oars oak?

Can you imagine an imaginary menagerie manager  
imagining managing an imaginary menagerie?

A lusty lady loved a lawyer  
and longed to lure him from his laboratory.

The epitome of femininity.

She stood on the balcony  
inexplicably mimicing him hiccupping,  
and amicably welcoming him home.

Kris Kringle carefully crunched on candy canes.

Please pay promptly.

On mules we find two legs behind  
and two we find before.  
We stand behind before we find  
what those behind be for.

What time does the wristwatch strap shop shut?

One-One was a racehorse.  
Two-Two was one, too.  
When One-One won one race,  
Two-Two won one, too.

Girl gargoyle, guy gargoyle.

Pick a partner and practice passing,  
for if you pass proficiently,  
perhaps you'll play professionally.

Once upon a barren moor  
There dwelt a bear, also a boar.  
The bear could not bear the boar.  
The boar thought the bear a bore.  
At last the bear could bear no more  
Of that boar that bored him on the moor,  
And so one morn he bored the boar--  
That boar will bore the bear no more.

If a Hottentot taught a Hottentot tot  
To talk ere the tot could totter,  
Ought the Hottenton tot  
Be taught to say aught, or naught,  
Or what ought to be taught her?  
If to hoot and to toot a Hottentot tot  
Be taught by her Hottentot tutor,  
Ought the tutor get hot  
If the Hottentot tot  
Hoot and toot at her Hottentot tutor?

Will you, William?

Mix, Miss Mix!

Who washed Washington's white woolen underwear  
when Washington's washer woman went west?

Two toads, totally tired.

Freshly-fried flying fish.

The sawingest saw I ever saw saw  
was the saw I saw saw in Arkansas.

Just think, that sphinx has a sphincter that stinks!

Strange strategic statistics.

Sarah sitting in her Chevrolet,  
All she does is sits and shifts,  
All she does is sits and shifts.

Hi-Tech Traveling Tractor Trailor Truck Tracker

Ned Nott was shot

and Sam Shott was not.

So it is better to be Shott

than Nott.

Some say Nott

was not shot.

But Shott says

he shot Nott.

Either the shot Shott shot at Nott

was not shot,

or

Nott was shot.

If the shot Shott shot shot Nott,

Nott was shot.

But if the shot Shott shot shot Shott,

then Shott was shot,

not Nott.

However,

the shot Shott shot shot not Shott --

but Nott.

Six slippery snails, slid slowly seaward.

Three twigs twined tightly.

There was a young fisher named Fischer  
Who fished for a fish in a fissure.  
The fish with a grin,  
Pulled the fisherman in;  
Now they're fishing the fissure for Fischer.

Pretty Kitty Creighton had a cotton batten cat.  
The cotton batten cat was bitten by a rat.  
The kitten that was bitten had a button for an eye,  
And biting off the button made the cotton batten fly.

Suddenly swerving, seven small swans  
Swam silently southward,  
Seeing six swift sailboats  
Sailing sedately seaward.

The ochre ogre ogled the poker.

If you stick a stock of liquor in your locker,  
It's slick to stick a lock upon your stock,  
Or some stickler who is slicker  
Will stick you of your liquor  
If you fail to lock your liquor  
With a lock!

Shredded Swiss chesse.

The soldiers shouldered shooters on their shoulders.

Theophiles Thistle, the successful thistle-sifter,  
in sifting a sieve full of un-sifted thistles,  
thrust three thousand thistles through the thick of his thumb.

Now.....if Theophiles Thistle, the successful thistle-sifter,  
in sifting a sieve full of un-sifted thistles,  
thrust three thousand thistles through the thick of his thumb,  
see that thou, in sifting a sieve full of un-sifted thistles,  
thrust not three thousand thistles through the thick of thy thumb.

Success to the successful thistle-sifter!

Thank the other three brothers of their father's mother's brother's side.

They both, though, have thirty-three thick thimbles to thaw.

Irish wristwatch.

Fred fed Ted bread, and Ted fed Fred bread.

Cows graze in groves on grass which grows in grooves in groves.