

Unit V8-A [ɑ] clock—[ow] cloak

Story

Listen to the story as your teacher reads it, or on tape, until you understand the main ideas.

Time flies when you're having fun. That's what happened when Bob and Amy went to an unusual museum. Everything on display was very big. They were surprised to see a pencil that was as tall as they were. There were large clothes, too. "Look at that (1) **cloak!**" said Amy. It was so big that they couldn't imagine who could wear it.

Bob suggested, "It must have belonged to a giant Count Dracula."

They looked at many other giant things in the museum. Then Amy said, "Look at the (2) **clock!**" "Is it as big as the moon?" asked Bob. He was disappointed when he looked where Amy was pointing. The clock was not big at all. It was just a regular clock.

Then Amy said, "Bob, it's five o'clock already! We came here at two, three hours ago. We'd better get going. I have to be to work by six."

(Note: Words such as tall, already, and saw are pronounced with an [ɑ] sound in some dialects of English. In other dialects, they are pronounced with an [ɔ] sound. In either case, the contrast with [ow] is important to make.)

**Contrasting Sentences**

Listening: Write the appropriate key word in each blank. Later, as you hear each sentence, mark the box, point to the picture, make a gesture, and/or say the rejoinder. Speaking: Choose and say each sentence so that your listener(s) can respond correctly.

- Look at the _____. (It must be Count Dracula's.)
- Look at the _____. (It's five o'clock already.)

Explanations and diagrams for this unit's target sounds are on pages 332–33 in Section 10.