

# MORE VOWEL TRIGRAMS

FRANK HARDINGTON

In the February 1971 *Word Ways*, Delphi Knoxjaqzonville presented a list of words and names displaying vowel trigrams. However, she only considered the letters A, E, I, O and U as vowels, excluding Y. From five vowels 125 trigrams can be generated, while from six vowels the figure is 216. In her article, Miss Knoxjaqzonville gave examples of words and names which used most of the 125 AEIOU trigrams, and appealed to readers to search for words which used the 91 trigrams containing the letter Y. I decided to respond to her appeal.

Initially, I searched the Second and Third Editions of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary and found words for seventy different trigrams:

AEY teay	IYU Seiyuhonto	YEI eyeing
AIY copaiye	IYY siyyid	YEO yeoman
AOY taoyin	OEY joey	YEU voyeur
AUY hauynite	OOY forhooy	YEY clayey
AYA maya	OUY ouyezd	YIA orgyia
AYE taxpayer	OYA voyage	YIE yield
AYI saying	OYE enjoyed	YII ki-yiing
AYO bayonet	OYI boyish	YIO myiosis
AYU Cayuga	OYO joyous	YOA myoalbumin
AYY sayyid	OYU coyure	YOE hyoepiglottic
EAY fleay	UAY quay	YOI yoicks
EEY treey	UEY bluey	YOO yoop
EOY peeoy	UOY buoyant	YOU yourself
EYA abeyance	UYA buyable	YOY yoy
EYE eye	UYE buyer	YUA yuan
EYI obeying	UYI buying	YUE Yuechi
EYO beyond	UYO guyot	YUI Yuit
EYY snarleyyow	UYU kikuyu	YUY ayuyu
IEY criey	YAE hyaena	YYA Omayyad
IYA sukiyaki	YAI Banyai	YYE cubbyyew
IYE biyearly	YAU kyaung	YVI sayyid
IYI kiyi	YAY yaya	YYO gayyou
IYO ukiyoye	YEA year	YYU Fayyumlc
	YEE employee	

Possibly, words containing one or more of the 21 remaining trigrams exist in the two large Webster dictionaries. If they do, they escaped my notice.

In an attempt to find words and names to fill the 21 gaps, I searched the First Edition of the unabridged Webster's dictionary and the Times Index Gazetteer of the World. The former was not used as a reference in Miss Knoxjaqzonville's original article, but the latter was. Using these two references I have managed to find words and names containing most of the outstanding trigrams:

AAY Baay, a town in the Philippine Islands  
 EIY Leiyang, a town in China  
 EUY Leuy, a town in France  
 EYU Beyukkyshlak, a town in the U.S.S.R.  
 IAY Kiayukwan, a town in China  
 IOY Rioyo, a town in the Caroline Islands  
 IUY Kiuyuanshan, a town in China  
 OAY Toay, a town in Argentina  
 OIY Loiya, a town in Kenya  
 OYY Koyyalagudem, a town in India  
 UIY Kuyahi, a town in Nepal  
 YAA yaap, a dialect spelling of yaup, a loud noise  
 YAO yaourt, a variant spelling of yogurt  
 YIU yiung, an obsolete spelling of young  
 YIY Yiyang, a town in China  
 YUO yuond, an obsolete spelling of yond, meaning yonder

86 of the 91 trigrams have now been found. What of the remaining five -- IY, UUY, UYY, YUU and YYY? Can any Word Ways reader find words or names exhibiting these trigrams?