**ER 9.1 *Hot water***

(a) Listen to how the vowels in these words are pronounced. They are the pronunciation that some Indian speakers would use. Make a statement about how the RP sound involved is pronounced in some versions of IE:

*hot not long slot shop*

(b) Now listen to how the first consonant is pronounced in these words. Again, they are the pronunciation that some Indian speakers would use. Make a statement about the RP and IE pronunciation:

*water west wine vine vest*

The answers are given below.

**Answers**

(a) Some Indian speakers pronounce the RP vowel /ɒ/ as /ɑː/. So ‘hot’ is /hɑːt/ and ‘not’ is /nɑːt/. This happens particularly, Wells says (1982:672), when there is an ‘a’ in the spelling, as in the word *want* (which in RP has /ɒ/). Think of some more examples of where RP /ɒ/ is written as ‘a’ in BrE.

(b) The consonants /v/ and /w/ are not always distinguished, with /v/ being used for both. So *wine* and *vine* would be pronounced in the same way, as would *west* and *vest*.