

**Rhotic Vowel Minimal Pairs/Sets**

1. /ɜ/ vs. /ʌ/

| <b>A</b> | <b>B</b> |
|----------|----------|
| shirt    | shut     |
| hurt     | hut      |
| bird     | bud      |
| fern     | fun      |
| girl     | gull     |
| burl     | bull     |
| turn     | ton      |
| curt     | cut      |
| curd     | cud      |
| lurk     | luck     |

2. /ɜ, ɔə/

| <b>A</b> | <b>B</b> |
|----------|----------|
| shirt    | short    |
| curt     | court    |
| bird     | board    |
| curd     | cord     |
| pert     | port     |
| turn     | torn     |
| burn     | born     |
| heard    | horde    |
| Kirk     | cork     |
| Dirk     | dork     |

3. /ɜ, ʌ, ɔə/

| <b>A</b> | <b>B</b> | <b>C</b> |
|----------|----------|----------|
| turn     | ton      | torn     |
| curt     | cut      | court    |
| curd     | cud      | cord     |
| bird     | bud      | board    |
| pert     | putt     | port     |

4. /ɜ, ɔə, uə/

| A     | B     | C    |
|-------|-------|------|
| curt  | court | cart |
| bird  | board | bard |
| curd  | cord  | card |
| pert  | port  | part |
| burn  | born  | barn |
| heard | horde | hard |
| Dirk  | dork  | dark |
| fur   | for   | far  |
| purr  | pour  | par  |
| burr  | bore  | bar  |
| cur   | core  | car  |