

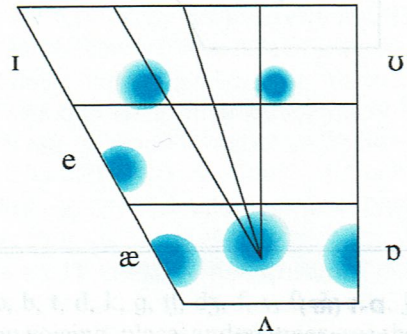
## 3 The English phonemic system and its notation

**3.1 Vowels and diphthongs** The English vowels and diphthongs are conveniently considered in five groups (A, B, C, D, E below). There are certain differences between RP and GenAm, both in realization (vowel quality) and in the system (vowel inventory).

The **short** vowels are:

### A

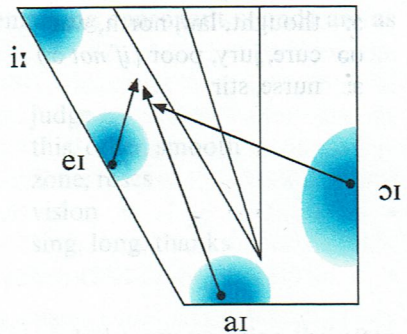
- ɪ kit, bid
- e dress, bed
- æ trap, bad
- ɒ (RP) lot, odd
- ʌ strut, bud
- ʊ foot, good



The **long** vowels and **diphthongs** are:

### B

- i: fleece, see
- eɪ face, day
- aɪ price, high
- ɔɪ choice, boy



### C-1 (RP)

- u: goose, two
- əʊ goat, show
- aʊ mouth, now
- ɒʊ *near-RP variant in cold (see 3.6)*

