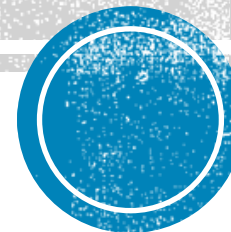


Vokaalisointu

The Vowel Harmony

Finnish for Foreigners I
Aalto University Mikkeli
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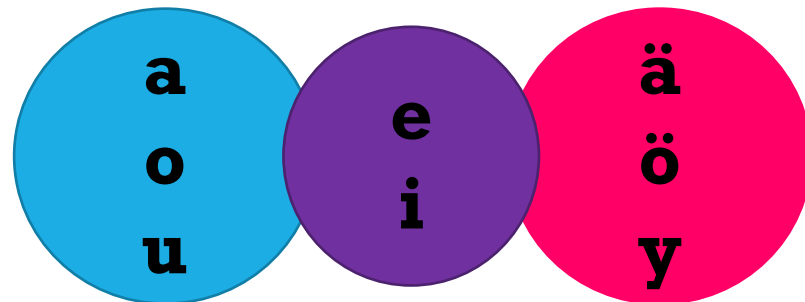
THE VOWEL HARMONY

- There is so called vowel harmony in the Finnish language, which means that it is not possible to mix the letters **a**, **o** or **u** with the letters **ä**, **ö** or **y** in a separate word.

auto kauppa puhua
löytö köyhä kysyä

- The letters **i** and **e** can occur with any other letter.

tieto käynti etsiä
siili tie tee



ENDINGS

- Because of the vowel harmony there are two series of endings and suffixes, either with **a** or **ä**, **o** or **ö**
 - Note! You may replace a with ä or o with ö in an ending only.
- In compound words, the latter part is the one to look at.
- No dots if there **is a, o or u**:
aut**ossa**, kaup**assa**, puhuv**at**, tiet**oa**
kirjakaup**assa**, yövuor**ossa**
- The dots if there is **not a, o or u**:
löydö**ssä**, köyhäll**ä**, kysyv**ät**, käynti**ä**, etsiv**ät**
siil**illä**, tiell**ä**, teess**ä**
kirjahylly**ssä**, suklaajäätelö**ssä**

