Name_____________________

Chapter 9, exercise C

C In the seventeenth, eighteenth, and early nineteenth centuries (see Sources), there were said to be three sets of vowels: (1) a set exemplified by the vowels in see, play, father (and intermediate possibilities), which were said to be distinguished simply by degree of jaw opening; (2) a set exemplified by the vowels in fool, home, father (and intermediate possibilities), which were said to be distinguished simply by degree of lip rounding; and (3) a set exemplified by the vowels now symbolized by [y, ø] as in the French words tu, peu ‘you, small’, which were said to be distinguished both by the degree of jaw opening and the degree of lip rounding. These notions were shown in diagrams similar to that in Figure 9.14. How do they compare with contemporary descriptions of vowels? What general type of vowel cannot be described in these terms?