Listening and Speaking:
Minimal Pairs: “B/V-“

1. In the Writing & Reading Center, go the section with computers for listening
2. Double click on ESL Pronunciation Folder
3. Scroll down and click on Minimal Pairs
   (http://eslus.com/LESSONS/PRONUNCI/PRONUNCI.HTM>)
4. Under Pronunciation Skills, click on the three links for pronunciation practice for the
   minimal pairs “b/v-“
5. Place your cursor on the word “Listen” and select which word you hear to see if you
   heard the word correctly.
6. Complete the following practice exercises by circling (a) or (b). Then practice the
   pronunciation of “b” and “v” in each sentence.

- There is a worldwide (a. ban / b. van) on ivory trade.
- A (a. bat / b. vat) is a large tank to contain liquid.
- A “(a. bet / b. vet)” is the short way of referring to an animal doctor.
- The judge decided that he could be released on a $200,000 (a. bail / b. veil).
- The boat sprang a leak so we all had to (a. bail / b. veil) out the water.
- In Japan a twenty year old is permitted to (a. boat / b. vote), smoke cigarettes and drink
  alcohol.
- He is so (a. vain / b. bane) that he things that everyone is talking about him.
- A tight rope walker needs to have an extremely good sense of (a. valance / b. balance)
• One of the world's most popular forms of dance is (a. valet / b. ballet)
• It is important to (a. vend / b. bend) you knees when you lift heavy objects.
• Plates and glasses can be kept clean in the kitchen (a. covered / b. cupboard).
• Park your car next to the (a. curve / b. curb).

9. Find an instructor or tutor to check your answers.