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THE EFFECTIVE WAYS AND TECHNIQUES OF LEARNING ENGLISH FOR PRIMARY LEARNERS

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ABSTRACT

Through this article you will learn how to pronounce correctly in English and at the same time use techniques that will try to improve your pronunciation using the most difficult technologies.

KEYWORDS

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Pronunciation, language, method, knowledge, improve, pronounce, skills, foreign, global, problem, solution, school, English.

INTRODUCTION

The importance of learning and teaching a foreign language today is increasing due to the fact that the world wants to share ideas and thefore the human wants not only give but also take vital information to develop further. Nowadays it is important to develop little ideas comparing to other cultures, traditions and distance. To go through these steps of development the first tool comes language. We know that if our idea

is to be progressed, a foreign language is demanded. In this regard, first of all, to study oral speech in foreign language, to use it comprehensively and on a large scale development works are underway. Today, the attitude towards a foreign language is developing very quickly. Not only in universities, but also in schools and colleges, lyceums and even before school the need for foreign languages is also increasing in the field of

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education. One of the most difficult aspects of learning English is pronunciation, but people don't care about it. In fact, pronunciation is your most important aspect, because what you say creates an impression.

English, as a global language, is spoken by millions of people around the world. Whether you are a student, a professional, or a traveller, possessing good pronunciation skills in English is crucial. Accurate pronunciation not only boosts your confidence but also enhances your communication abilities, making it easier for everyone to understand you. In this blog, we will explore why pronunciation is vital in English and learn valuable tips to help you improve your pronunciation.

The Importance of Pronunciation in English

Clarity in Communication: Proper pronunciation ensures that your message is conveyed clearly. Mispronunciations can lead to misunderstandings, confusion, and ineffective communication.

Credibility and Confidence: When you speak with accurate pronunciation, you appear more credible and confident to your audience. People are more likely to trust and listen to someone who can articulate their thoughts well.

Social Integration: If you are in an English-speaking environment, having good pronunciation can help you

integrate better into the culture and society. It allows you to participate in conversations effortlessly.

Professional Success: In the professional world, clear pronunciation is highly valued. It can impact job interviews, presentations, overall and career advancement.[1]

Any English language learner knows that often spelling isn't very helpful if we want to know how to correctly say a word. Take a look at this sentence, focusing on the words in bold - do you know how to pronounce them?

"The man didn't feel very comfortable in his grey suit. He didn't enjoy wearing smart clothes, and when he wore them he felt a subtle difference in his personality."

English spelling hasn't evolved much over time, but how we pronounce words has. This makes pronunciation a real challenge for language learners. But good pronunciation is not just 'how words and letters sound'; there are other equally important features to consider, like intonation (how the tone of voice changes during a sentence, going up or down), stress (which words and syllables have more 'weight' when we are speaking), and connected speech - how words can sound different when they are joined together in natural speech. All of these features contribute to good pronunciation - but don't confuse them with accent.

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In the UK, the USA and other English speaking countries there are many, many different types of accents, but people with those different accents can all be considered to have correct pronunciation. When you are learning English you don't have to sound British or American. Good pronunciation means being understood; not necessarily sounding like you were born in New York or London. In fact, many native speakers love hearing English spoken with a Spanish, Italian or French accent! So, how can you work on your pronunciation so that people from all over the world can understand you easily, even if you retain your native accent? Here are six top tips for you to practice and perfect your pronunciation.

- 1 Listen! Listening to examples of authentic speech is the most obvious way to improve your own pronunciation. There are lots of ways to do this - watch a film in its original version, listen to podcasts about a topic that interests you in English (you could try the British Council English podcasts app here), even listening to music can help. Try to notice the intonation that people use. You can add to this by 'shadowing'. Shadowing means listening to a short sentence or phrase, and then repeating it afterwards, trying to imitate the sounds, intonation and word stress and noticing how your mouth and tongue move when you speak.
- Record yourself. Once you have practiced shadowing, you could record yourself speaking - either

repeating a short phrase that you have listened to, or doing a longer speaking task from a coursebook, like describing a picture. Listen back and make a note of any sounds that you have problems with - practice these words / sounds slowly and then record yourself again. Can you notice an improvement?

3. Get to know the phonemic chart. TheInternational Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) is a visual representation of different sounds. It might look strange and it might feel like you are learning a whole new language, but it can really help you with pronunciation. All dictionaries have a phonetic transcription of words so that you know how to pronounce them. This is really helpful with English because as we have already seen, English spelling doesn't always correspond with its pronunciation. Think about the letters 'ough' in the words 'though', 'through', 'tough', 'ought'. It would be impossible to guess how to say those words without some help.

Take a look at the British Council's phonemic chart (see link above) or download the Sounds Right app . You can click on the different phonemes and listen to how they sound. This can help you to hear differences between similar sounds.

4. Use a dictionary. As well as printed dictionaries which will give you a phonetic transcription of a word, there are lots of online dictionaries where you can click and listen to the word being spoken. A particularly

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good one is howjsay - even the name of this website is a useful guide as to how to pronounce the common question 'How do you say...?' in a natural way. It's a great resource for checking how new words sound.

5. Do some exercise! Different languages have different sounds, and our mouths adapt to those sounds. Some sounds are physically very difficult for us to make, as they don't exist in our native language. Just like when you are learning a new sport or dance move, it's important that you train your mouth to know how to form new sounds - the more you practice the easier it gets. For example, lots of Spanish speakers have problems with the difference between the /b/ and /v/ sound. We make the /b/ sound by joining our lips together and then letting go. The /v/ sound is similar but your top teeth should touch your bottom lip before you let go. The more you practice this, the easier it gets - try saying "I'd like a very big beverage please"! The Sounds of English section on the BBC's Learning English site has a good selection of video tutorials which explain how to make different sounds and activities to practice them.

6. Get to know your minimal pairs. Minimal pairs are words that have almost the exact same pronunciation, but with one sound that is different - for example, ship and sheep. The difference between the /I/ in 'ship' and the /i:/ in 'sheep' is the length of the vowel. This can be difficult to hear for many language learners, and comes up in lots of different words. The first step is to be able to tell the difference between the sounds when you hear them, them. You can listen to some common minimal pairs here - can you hear the difference? Can you make the different sounds yourself?

Finally, don't feel bad if you still make mistakes with pronunciation - English is famously tricky. As far back as 1922, a Dutch language learner wrote a very long poem about the problems of English pronunciation called 'The Chaos' - it may be chaotic, but with practice it can definitely get better![2]

Accurate pronunciation is an important part of learning any language, and especially when you're learning English. The way your speech sounds can have a big impact on whether or not people understand what you are saying and their initial impression of you. The tricky thing about pronunciation is that it not just a question of acquiring knowledge, it's a physical skill that you need to practise regularly.

How to improve English pronunciation

There are no shortcuts to perfect pronunciation, however there are some ways you can practise more effectively and improve your skills faster. Follow our ten top tips, start improving your pronunciation today and take a step closer towards your goal of perfect English pronunciation.

- Listen to yourself 1.
- Slow down! 2.

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- Picture it... 3.
- Get physical! 4.
- Watch yourself 5.
- Copy the experts 6.
- Practice English alone 7.
- Find a language buddy 8.
- Pay attention to intonation and stress 9.
- Sing a song! 10.

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Listen to yourself 1.

It's often difficult to hear pronunciation errors in your own speech because you are concentrating actually communicating rather than the sound you are making. If you can't hear your pronunciation problems, it's tough to correct them. Try recording your speech with your smartphone or PC and making a note of specific areas you need to improve on.

Slow down!

Many English learners think that speaking fluently means they need to speak fast. This is wrong. Speaking too fast reinforces bad habits and makes the speaker sound nervous and indecisive. Speaking slowly will give you time to breathe properly and think about what you want to say next. Because it gives you time to think while you are speaking, you'll feel more relaxed and be

able to concentrate on making your English sound fantastic.

Picture it... 3.

Close your eyes and think about how to make a sound before saying it. Visualize the positioning of your mouth and face. If you have studied with the phonemic chart, think about the sound you are making and how it relates to other English phonemes. If you have used diagrams of the mouth and tongue, think about the shape you need to make inside your mouth if you want to make the sound correctly.

Get physical! 4.

Pronunciation is a physical skill. You're teaching your mouth a new way to move and using different muscles. Focus on difficult sounds each day. Having trouble with 'th'? Put your tongue between your teeth (don't bite down) and blow air out of your mouth. Feel the air move over the top of your tongue.

Watch yourself 5.

Stand in front of a mirror to see the placement of your tongue, lips, and shape of your mouth when you make certain sounds. Compare what you see with a video of a native-speaker saying the same thing.

6. Copy the experts

There's no replacement for learning pronunciation from the experts – native-speakers. So listen! Listen to

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English radio programs and watch television and movies in English. Imitate what you're hearing - even if you're not sure what they're saying yet.

Practice English alone 7.

Pronunciation problems persist because we're afraid to make mistakes. Create scenarios - meeting someone for the first time, ordering at a restaurant, asking for directions – then act out the dialogue by yourself. Don't be shy.

8. Find a language buddy

Getting feedback from an outside observer is crucial. Find a friend who's also interested in improving their English. Try exchanging recorded messages so you can listen closely to each other's pronunciation.

Pay attention to intonation and stress 9.

Good pronunciation is more than just mastering individual sounds. It's also understanding intonation (the rise and fall of the voice) and stress (some sounds in words and some words in sentences are louder or clearer than others). Read poems, speeches and songs aloud, concentrating on the word stress and intonation.

Sing a song! 10.

Learn the words to [popular English songs](https://englishlive.ef.com/blog/english-in-thereal-world/10-most-famous-english-song-lyrics-ever-

and-their-meaning/) and sing along. Singing helps you relax and just get those words out, as well as helping your rhythm and intonation. Because you don't need to concentrate on constructing sentences for yourself, you can concentrate on making your pronunciation sound great!

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Give each of these tips a try next time you have a chance and find out which of them works best for you. Remember, none of them is an instant fix but they will all help you reach your goals as part of regular practice. ready to improve English you your pronunciation?[3]

Today, the demand for the English language is increasing, but in many cases, due to the inability to pronounce correctly, the consequences of people not understanding each other are quickly encountered. The above-mentioned methods and techniques can be a solution these problems as writing, pronuncing words correctly and fluencey.

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