

## HOW TO GREATLY IMPROVE THE PRONUNCIATION IN ENGLISH

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**Abstract:** This article discusses the importance of good pronunciation and how to improve it. Nowadays almost all learners have challenges to pronounce English sounds correctly. Good pronunciation can create a number of facilities to learn a foreign language, English. Now we shall see how we can improve our pronunciation in English, the strategies that help us, and solving the problems with pronunciation.

**Key words:** a new language, pronounce, sounds, challenges, native language, correctly, speech, clearly, foreign language, poor pronunciation, strategy, listening, dictionary, tongue, lips, words, dialect.

In learning a new language, English, one of the hardest parts of it is to pronounce the words correctly, because there are sounds which are different with your native language. So the challenges you face when pronouncing an English word depends on your first language, always. The reason why non-native speakers make pronunciation mistakes while speaking a foreign language is that some sounds that exist in English do not exist in other languages. It is true that it takes a lot of time to pronounce English words in a correct way, however it is not impossible. After learning strategies, rules and lasting practice, everybody can do this. Because, the saying “practice makes perfect” is really true.

Good pronunciation is very important anytime, anywhere. The cause of this is that we must make sure that the person listening to us will be easily understand our speech easily and it leads we can say exactly what we want to say. If you are brilliant at grammar, vocabulary, as well as pronunciation, it will help others hear and understand you even more clearly. In addition, good pronunciation can help you learn English more easily. This is because pronunciation makes you to listen to native speakers more carefully, taking into consideration pronouncing the right sounds when they speak. Besides, the more you listen to them, the easier you become to comprehend and get used to them in your speech, as well.

If you have a poor pronunciation, you can solve this problem simply. First and foremost, listen to native speakers and expose yourself to the English sounds, even



if you do not understand all of them. Secondly, do not rush and miss words you cannot pronounce because it will take some time. Finally, practice the words which are difficult for you and record your speech. By doing so, you can correct your mistakes by yourself.

There are also some useful tips that can help you improve your pronunciation.

Learn to listen! Babies also listen to a language for months before they can speak. Many English learners get overwhelmed when listening to English podcasts, music, movies and native speakers' speech. Because they do not understand everything told. However, understanding everything should not be our major goal. We must expose ourselves to a language, not a grammar. In addition, the other cause of learning to listening before how to speak is that some sounds can be hard to pronounce during listening. For example, you may have such kinds of questions that 'Did the speaker say sleep or slip?', 'Did she say chin or shin?' and so forth. If you can hear the differences, you can speak the difference easily.

Use a mirror! If you want to speak like native speakers, make use of mirror to help you practice. Watch your mouth, teeth, tongue carefully and try to make them the same as a native English speaker while pronouncing. Each mouth position is essential to say even just a word. This is because how you move your mouth affects how you pronounce a word.

Learn with the Best English Pronunciation Dictionaries! It is natural that all English learners have a dictionary in spite of being a book variant or a digital one. However always try to use the dictionaries that have good pronunciation guides. By doing so, you can learn both the vocabulary and its pronunciation together. First you should hear it, then repeat. This is very useful way of memorizing new words with pronunciation correctly.

Record yourself! This improves your pronunciation highly. In recording, you can speak about any topic or describe somebody, something, or any place, then listen your speech. While listening, try to find your mistakes and give the solution to this problem by learning them carefully. After that record yourself again, and see the result. By using this technic for weeks, you can feel your improvement.

Learn the phonemic chart. It might look difficult or strange to you, however it can really help you with pronunciation. All dictionaries have each words' phonetic transcriptions that you can know how to pronounce them. As you know, all English



words' spelling does not always correspond with their pronunciation. Let us look the letters 'ough' in the words 'tough', 'ought', 'through' and 'though'. These letters are pronounced differently in each word.

Try some tongue twisters. If you have pronunciation problems yet, you have to give your mouth and tongue muscles a workout. One great way to improve your English skills with pronunciation exercises like "tongue twisters". There are silly sentences that have almost the same pronunciation that are extremely hard to pronounce in first attempt in the tongue twister. For example, try to pronounce the phrase "She sells seashells by the seashore" as quickly as possible. It is difficult for everybody, even for English people in first try. This is because, there are two minimal pairs: "she/sea" and "sells/shells". In both cases, the words are identical except for the first sound. This difference is important because of helping in differentiating similar-sounding words in English.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, there a plenty of crucial ways to work on your pronunciation and improve it. Each of them can help you in some ways. So, choose the ways you want, and practice them. I am sure that after a month hard practice, you will begin to pronounce the sounds as native speakers without many mistakes. The more you practice, the more fluent you will become. Do not put too much pressure on yourself and rather spend the time practicing as much as you can.

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