

# PRONUNCIATION

Pronunciation focuses on stress, rhythm and intonation of the syllables in the word. It is the way in which the words of a language are made to sound when speaking. In pronunciation, we change the sounds by using stress, rhythm, connected speech (fluency), and tone change on different syllables of words. By the way, a syllable is the phonological 'building block' of words. It is a unit of organization for a sequence of ~~sp~~ speech sounds.

Generally, a syllable is marked by a vowel. For example, the word-~~wa~~ water is composed of two syllables: - 'wa' and 'ter'.

Pronunciation refers to the way in which we make the sound of words. As well as creating correct vowel and consonant sounds using the muscles of our mouth; tongue and lips, there are also important aspects of pronunciation, including word stress - emphasis on certain syllables in a word.

Speakers of different languages tend to develop different muscles of the mouth for pronunciation. When we speak a foreign language, our muscles may not be well developed for that language, and we will find pronunciation, our muscles develop and pronunciation improve.

There are other important aspects of pronunciation, like —

- Word stress — emphasis on certain syllables in a word.
- Sentence stress — emphasis on certain words in a sentence.
- Linking — joining certain words together.
- Intonation — the rise and fall of our voice as we speak.

Good pronunciation has two main benefits —

- Intelligibility, First, it makes you easier to understand.
- Faster Learning, Second and quite unexpectedly — good pronunciation ~~course covering~~ ~~over~~ helps you learn faster.

# The Importance of Pronunciation

1. Learn to listen to others. The more you listen, the more successful you will be. Nowadays, there are many opportunities of hearing native English speech, songs, films, TV, series, videos on YouTube and sites, audiobooks, voice chats etc. This make the most of this unique opportunity which has become available in the last few years.

2. Practice makes perfect. Even your English level is high, you can lose your phonetic skills if you have too little practice. To avoid it just do some simple exercises -

- read ~~at~~ aloud or in a whisper, and repeat the words which you find difficult to pronounce.
- recite poems or sing songs, observing rhythm and intonation.
- Speak English to your friends whose English is good.

3. If your pronunciation is not perfect, don't speak fast. Pronounce words slowly and clearly. With these simple recommendations your improving self-confidence will help you to cope with difficulties in everyday communication in English more effectively.

4. Improving your pronunciation - There are some ways you can practise more effectively and improve your skills faster. Follow our ten top tips:-

1. Listen to yourself (you need to improve on).
2. Slow down (speaking slowly will give you time to speak properly).
3. Picture it. (close your eyes and think about)
4. Get physical (Pronunciation is a physical skill)
5. Watch yourself (stand in front of a mirror and practice)
6. Copy the experts (Listen to English radio and TV)
7. Find a language buddy (find a friend who improves you)
8. Practice English alone
9. Pay attention to intonation and stress
10. Sing a song