

## PRONUNCIATION MATTERS

*by:*

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Grammar and vocabulary lead to effective communication only if the pronunciation is proper. Pronunciation Pro (2021) suggested that wrong pronunciation may create a negative impression from others, lead to miscommunication, and result in avoidance from individuals around a speaker. Pronunciation matters, be it in school or outside, as it is among the determinants of how skillful a person is when communicating. Here are some of the most important methods to develop one's pronunciation:

Practice Buddy. English teachers are professional instructors and can become buddies when a learner wants to practice pronunciation. An educator's feedback is essential, primarily since it serves as an experts English Live (2018) suggested that teachers may immediately correct any wrong pronunciation while the learner develops speaking skills. Educators may also provide the materials for the students to have references. The former could also lean on native speakers' audio and video as guide materials during practice. More than just a teacher-student connection, becoming a buddy of a learner would make them more confident and comfortable when practicing.

Spelling Tests and Pronunciation Workshops. One of the most effective approaches to learning pronunciation is to give them spelling tests that include the necessary definition and pronunciation. While English is a tricky language to learn because of the similar words, spellings could help the students distinguish which needs to be pronounced this way or another. A daily spelling test every English session could help both in the vocabulary and pronunciation of the students, wherein chaotic words would be practiced and cleared up (McLellan, 2019). At least give them ten or more words

to practice each day and open the floor for possible inquiries, such as why a word is pronounced differently despite having a similar spelling.

Fundamentals of Phonemes. If there is an important step that students must learn, it must be studying the contexts outlining phonemes. Phonemes are associated with letters since these are the sounds produced from each alphabet's elements. While secondary education could sound more mature when teaching various concepts, audiovisuals portraying an entertaining way of learning different sounds might help greatly (Reading Rockets, 2022). Learning phonemes should also be systematic through mastering one sound at a time. Afterward, oral practices could be done with the educator as a feedback provider to determine if the learner has fully acquired the phonemes and the contexts around them.

Pronunciation may be one of the essential aspects of English; however, it gives an upper hand to individuals in different avenues requiring good communication skills. Students who can pronounce words accurately are advantageous in career interviews and intercultural communication. Pronunciation yields efficient vocabulary and grammar; without it, the latter may sound less sensible.

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