

HOW TO IMPROVE PRONOUNCATION AND ACCENT AMONG ESL STUDENTS

Shodmonova Nozima Sayidalimovna

Student of Samarkand state institute of foreign languages

nozimashodmonova607@gmail.com

Scientific supervisor: Shamurodova Naima Muxtarovna

***Annotation.** This article highlights various effective methods for improving pronunciation and accent among ESL (English as a Second Language) students. Key techniques include recording, shadowing, and practicing tongue twisters, which significantly enhance pronunciation skills and speaking confidence.*

***Keywords:** recording, shadowing, tongue twisters, role, pronunciation, skills, grammar, vocabulary, aspects, method.*

INTRODUCTION

Pronunciation plays a fundamental role in language learning and effective communication. It goes beyond merely producing sounds correctly; it shapes how messages are understood and influences the perception of a speaker's proficiency. Proper pronunciation enhances clarity and reduces misunderstandings. For learners, mastering pronunciation is quite essential because, even with strong grammar and vocabulary skills, unclear pronunciation can create barriers to communication.

The method of learning pronunciation is quite different from the method of learning the English language itself. Learning English involves studying grammar and vocabulary, while mastering English pronunciation requires focusing on two main aspects:

1. Learning the individual sounds of English, which includes unique vowels and consonants.
2. Using the correct rhythm of English. Just as every style of music has its own rhythms, English has distinct rhythmic patterns.

How important is accent in our language skills? As my American, native English teacher mentioned, "Accent affects how your speech sounds. For instance, if I speak to a British person, they can easily tell that I am American because I sound American - my native language is American English. Additionally, people can often identify national origins when Indian English speakers use English. Pronunciation is about making sounds accurately. If someone pronounces words incorrectly, it may be hard to understand them, and you might have to ask them to repeat themselves. However, accent is not as critical

as pronunciation. Both native and non-native English speakers can usually comprehend what a person is saying, even if they speak with a distinct accent".

General Tips to Improve English Pronunciation

You do not have to do formal exercises to enhance your pronunciation in English. Here are some examples that can be helpful to practice:

1. Read out loud and record yourself. When reading journals, articles, books, or anything similar, try reading out loud. Find a quiet, peaceful place if you don't want to disturb others. Many learners hate listening to their own voice, but if you can overcome this feeling, it's a great opportunity to identify sounds which you need to improve in your pronunciation.

2. Watch English movies and TV shows. These are very beneficial for your pronunciation skills. This way, you can practice listening skills and imitation what you hear.

3. Listen and write. For example, regularly writing out song lyrics or podcast transcripts can be a highly effective learning method. If you find writing difficult due to speed, you can slow the audio to 0.75x or 0.5x speed.

4. Sing songs. English songs can be really complicated to pronounce and even to understand. If you encounter difficulties, you might start with children's songs, which are usually simpler.

5. Find a native speaker for daily or weekly conversations. A friend who is a native speaker can help you to boost your speaking skills and improve your pronunciation. You can also receive feedbacks when needed.

6. Learn pronunciation symbols. There are 26 letters but over 40 distinct sounds in the English language. Learning each sound's symbol is an extremely effective way to improve your pronunciation quickly.

7. Shadowing. This method is one of the well-known ways to improve pronunciation and speaking. Shadowing speeches by famous individuals in TV shows can be a great idea for your practice.

8. Tongue twisters are also way better to use for improvement of pronunciation and accent as well, they often force you to pronounce similar-sounding words clearly, ensuring each phrase is comprehensive.

There are also main tips to reach better pronunciation:

slow down

It is about speaking at a slower pace, which can greatly improve pronunciation. When you take your time, it allows you to focus on each word and sound individually, making it easier to pronounce them accurately. Speaking slowly also reduces the

likelihood of slurring words or skipping over sounds, giving you more control over your speech and helping listeners understand you more clearly.

move your mouth

It means actively engaging your lips, tongue, and jaw while speaking. When you exaggerate the mouth movements required for each sound, you increase your awareness of pronunciation, helping you better articulate each word. This practice strengthens the muscles involved in speech, making it easier to pronounce difficult sounds and develop clearer, more accurate speech over time.

speak up

"Speak up" encourages you to project your voice with confidence, which can significantly improve pronunciation. By speaking louder, you engage more vocal energy and are more likely to articulate each sound clearly. This approach helps you become aware of any unclear sounds or mispronunciations, as it's easier to hear yourself. Speaking up also boosts your confidence, reducing mumbling or dropping sounds, so that your speech becomes clearer and more precise for your listeners.

CONCLUSION

To conclude, improving pronunciation and accent is an essential aspect of mastering English for ESL learners. Pronunciation helps convey messages clearly and accurately, while an accent can add a personal touch to communication. Through consistent practice using techniques like recording, shadowing, and tongue twisters, learners can enhance their pronunciation skills. Additionally, slowing down, moving the mouth actively, and speaking up with confidence can further refine clarity and speech precision. While an accent may not hinder communication, effective pronunciation bridges the gap between the speaker and the listener, ensuring a more comprehensive and engaging conversation. Ultimately, pronunciation improvement is a continuous journey that requires dedication, creativity, and consistent effort. By embracing the strategies discussed, learners can gradually achieve fluency and confidently express themselves in English.

References:

1. AD Ikramboyevna, SD Ikramboyevna, The Ways of Forming Secondary Nomination in Uzbek Language and Its Impact on Linguistics, International Journals of Sciences and High Technologies, 2023.
2. Botirovna, M. A. (2024). Exploring the Distinctive Features of Learning Management Systems in Enhancing Academic Writing in Higher Education. *Ustozlar uchun*, 57(4), 546-549.

3. D Axmedova, S Zarmaskhonov, Exploring Global Perspectives in Language Teaching and Learning, Conference Proceedings: Fostering Your Research Spirit, 205-207, 2024.
4. M Ubaydullaeva, Ö Semerkant, Türk Halklarının Edebiyat Araştırmalarının Gelişim Tarihi.
5. M Ubaydullayeva, O‘zbek Va Qirg‘iz Adabiyotshunoslik Terminlarining Mavzuiy Guruhlari Tahlili, Ilmiy Axborotnoma, 18, 0.
6. Абдумуминов, Э. А., Раджабов, М. Р., & Набиев, Э. С. (2019). Испытания подземных труб под распределенной нагрузкой при опирании на жесткое основание. Интернаука, (19-2), 36-38.
7. Okbaeva, N. (2022). Pascal's triangle, its planar and spatial generalizations. ISJ Theoretical & Applied Science, 3(107), 815-8.
8. Валиева, Н. (2023). Туркистонда Бошқарув Тизими Адабиётлар Таҳлилида. Talqin va tadqiqotlar, 1(19).
9. MA Ubaydullayeva, Methodology of Using The” Analytical Reading” Technique in The Interpretation of The Epos” Alpomish”, Международный Журнал Языка, Образования, Перевода 3 (2), 2022.
10. Худойназаров, Ф. Х. (2024). Кичик Бизнес Субъектлари Фаолиятига Инновацион Технологияларни Жорий Этиш. International scientific journal of Biruni, 3(2), 178-186.
11. N Shamuradova, Kauzallik Va Kauzativlikning Ingliz Va O‘zbek Tillarida Qiyosiy Tadqiqi, Conference Proceedings: Fostering Your Research Spirit, 305-307, 2024.
12. SD Ikrambayevna, Classification of Functions of Communicative Strategy and Tactics in Political Communication, Miasto Przyszłości 50, 548-553, 2024.
13. SN Muxtarovna, Independent learning, Евразийский научный журнал, 374, 375, 2017.
14. Mirzabaevich, B. A. (2024). Juldízlardıń Kelip Shıǵıwı Naqqındaǵı Etiologiyalıq Ársanalar. Өзбекстан Республикасы Илимлер Академиясы Қарақалпақстан бөлімінің ХАБАРШЫСЫ, 1(3), 107-110.
15. Musoyeva, A. B. (2021). The importance of competencies in improving the professional skills of future foreign language teachers. Asian Journal of Multidimensional Research, 10(9), 89-95.
16. Ochildievna, M. R. (2019). The Study of the Modification of Sounds in Coherent Speech in English and Uzbek Languages. European Journal of Research and Reflection in Educational Sciences Vol, 7(12).