



# VOICE & ACCENT



# WHAT IS ACCENT?

- ❑ accent has various meanings,
- ❑ but in speaking, an **identifiable style of pronunciation**,
- ❑ often **varying** regionally or even socioeconomically.
- ❑ a **particular way** of pronouncing a language.
- ❑ **'Warsh'** for wash in Cajun Louisiana, **'New Yawk'** for New York among native New Yorkers, **'aboot'** for about in Canada.

# Components of Accent

- There are 2 main parts to an accent:

1. Pronunciation

2. Intonation

Some important points to know about **English pronunciation**:

## Sounds in English

There are **44** sounds in English  
Language

➤ **24 Consonants**

➤ **12 Vowels**

□ **07 short vowels**

□ **05 long vowels**

◆ **08 diphthongs (a sound made by gliding  
from one vowel sound to another)**

# Pronunciation

## What is good English pronunciation?

- There are three levels of English pronunciation:

**Level 1:** People often don't understand what you want to say. You use the wrong sounds in English words.

**Level 2:** People understand what you want to say, but it is unpleasant to listen to you.

**Level 3:** People understand you, and your English is pleasant to listen to.

- Level 3 will be called good pronunciation.
- Notice that good pronunciation is not "perfect American or British accent". You don't have to sound like the Queen of England or the President of the United States of America.

# WHAT ARE VOWELS?

- ❑ Those sounds during the utterance of which the **air escapes freely, without any obstruction.**

**OR**

Uninterrupted flow of air

- ❑ In written English there are 5 vowels i.e. a, e, i, o, u.
- ❑ But, in spoken English there are **20 distinctive vowel sounds**, made up of 12 pure vowels or monophthongs and 8 vowel glides or diphthongs.

# POLL QUESTION

- What are the total number of sounds in English Language?
- A. 40
- B. 26
- C. 24
- D. 44

**Answer : D**

# Categorization of VOWELS(20 Vowel sounds)

<b>12 Pure Vowels OR Monophthongs</b>	<b>8 gliding vowels OR Diphthongs</b>
<b>With single or unchanging sound quality OR Non-gliding vowel sounds</b>	<b>One vowel sound glides into another one (whose sound changes within the same syllable.)</b>
<b>For instance : Rat, bit, cut</b>	<b>For instance : take, fear, cow</b>
<b>In other words, sound is made with one tongue position</b>	<b>In other words, sound is made with lips or tongue movement</b>
<b>Two types of Monophthongs: A. 7 Short Vowels    B. 5 Long Vowels</b>	<b>No Types</b>



# Classification of Monophthongs

## 12 Pure Vowels

i: sheep	ɪ ship	ʊ good	u: shoot
e bed	ə teacher	ɜ: bird	ɔ: door
æ cat	ʌ up	ɑ: far	ɒ on

# Examples of Short and Long vowel Sounds

<b>A: short</b> back snack fad mad Sam	<b>A: long</b> bake snake fade made/maid same
<b>E: short</b> Bed Ben men ten	<b>E: long</b> bead bean mean teen
<b>I: short</b> lick hid slid dim Tim	<b>I: long</b> like hide slide dime time

# POLL QUESTION

- How many vowel sounds are available in English Language?
- A. 15
- B. 16
- C. 20
- D. 24

**Answer : C**

# Examples of Short and Long vowel Sounds

<b>O: short</b> rob hop Mop cot not rot	<b>O: long</b> robe hope Mope coat note rote/wrote
<b>U: short</b> Cub tub Hug cut flutter mutter	<b>U: long</b> cube tube huge cute flute mute

# POLL QUESTION

■ Which of the following word carries/consists a long vowel sound:

A. Mad

B. Coat

C. Slid

D. Flutter

**Answer : B**

# Classification of Diphthongs

## DIPHTHONGS

**/eɪ/** as in 'take'

**/aɪ/** as in 'buy'

**/ɔɪ/** as in 'boy'

**/ɪə/** as in 'fear'

**/eə/** as in 'care'

**/əʊ/** as in 'go'

**/ʊə/** as in 'poor'

**/aʊ/** as in 'cow'



# POLL QUESTION

■ Which of the following word carries/consists a short vowel sound:

A. Hope

B. Cute

C. Fad

D. Teen

**Answer : C**

# Examples of Diphthongs

## Diphthongs

1.	[ ei ]	e.g. <u>day</u> , af <u>rai</u> d, gr <u>ea</u> t
2.	[ ai ]	e.g. Ju <u>ly</u> , dec <u>i</u> de, bu <u>y</u>
3.	[ oi ]	e.g. bo <u>y</u> , vo <u>i</u> ce, en <u>jo</u> y
4.	[ əʊ ]	e.g. cl <u>ose</u> , kn <u>ow</u> , mo <u>me</u> nt
5.	[ aʊ ]	e.g. to <u>wn</u> , fl <u>ow</u> er, mo <u>un</u> tain
6.	[ iə ]	e.g. h <u>ear</u> , h <u>ere</u> , app <u>ear</u>
7.	[ eə ]	e.g. h <u>air</u> , w <u>ear</u> , p <u>ar</u> ents
8.	[ ʊə ]	e.g. s <u>ure</u> , Jan <u>uar</u> y

# 20 Vowel Sounds

## Vowels

ɪ	p <u>it</u>	ɔ:	b <u>or</u> n
e	p <u>e</u> t	u:	b <u>oo</u> n
æ	p <u>a</u> t	aɪ	b <u>i</u> te
ʊ	p <u>o</u> t	eɪ	b <u>a</u> it
ʌ	b <u>u</u> t	ɔɪ	b <u>oy</u>
ʊ	b <u>oo</u> k	əʊ	t <u>oe</u>
ə	m <u>o</u> ther	aʊ	h <u>ou</u> se
i:	b <u>ea</u> n	ʊə	p <u>oo</u> r
ɜ:	b <u>ur</u> n	ɪə	<u>ear</u>
ɑ:	b <u>a</u> rn	eə	<u>air</u>

# POLL QUESTION

■ Which of the following word is a diphthong?

A. Bean

B. Slide

C. Tube

D. boy

**Answer : D**

# POLL QUESTION

■ The gliding vowels (also known as diphthongs) are pronounced \_\_\_\_\_ .

A. When one vowel sound glides into another one

B. With single or unchanging sound quality

C. Both A and B

D. Neither A nor B

**Answer : A**



# Some Commonly Mispronounced Words

■ Hotel	Component	Petrol
■ Industry	Engineer	Cassette
■ Decade	Chaos	Development

# WHAT ARE CONSONANTS?

- ❑ sounds are produced by **partial or full interruption** of the breath flow.
- ❑ give clarity and sharpness to the words.
- ❑ make our speech crisp and clear, just like the function of treble in a music system. When you whisper it is consonants that carry forward the sound and the meaning.
- ❑ They also convey logic.

## **Remember:**

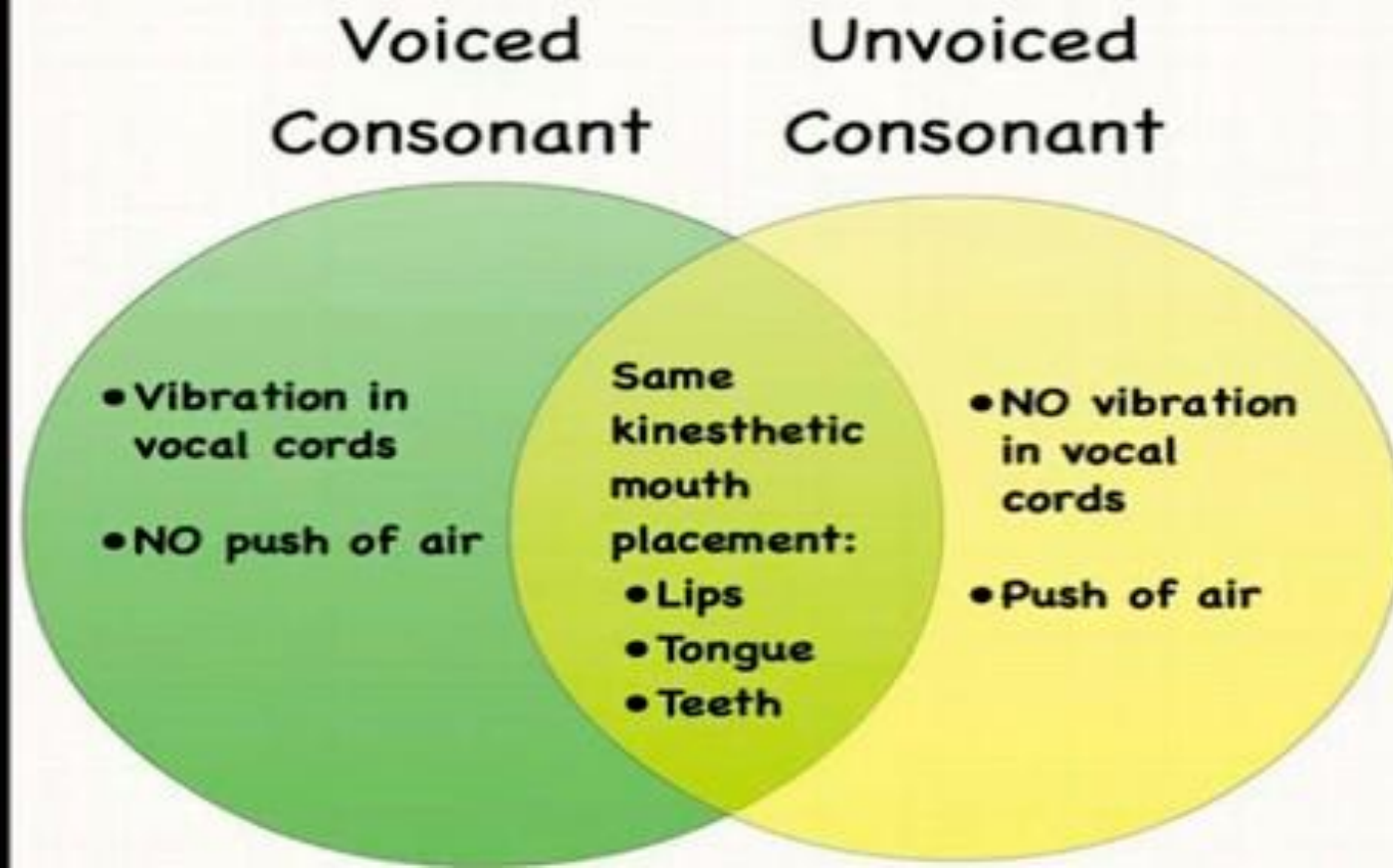
A-Z is the Alphabet

B C D are called letters of the alphabet

# Classification of Consonant sounds

Voiced consonants OR Plosive	Unvoiced consonants OR Non-Plosive
Vocal cords vibrate in throat, causing a vibration	Vocal cords do not vibrates, air passes through them
<b>For example:</b> bath, game, them  Put finger on your throat to feel vibration	<b>For example:</b> path, time, came  No vibration felt in the throat
All <b>vowels</b> are voiced consonants (a, e, i, o, u)  Other consonants(b, g, j, l, m, n, r, v, w, x, y, z) (at the beginning or in the middle of the words)	Unvoiced consonants(c, f, h, k, p, s, t, x) (at the end of the words)

HOW CAN WE DISTINGUISH BETWEEN  
VOICED VS. UNVOICED CONSONANTS?



# Difference in the sounds

## Unvoiced (no vibration)

[f] **f**at  
[k] **c**ome  
[p] **p**it  
[s] **s**ip  
[t] **t**on  
[tʃ] **ch**in  
[θ] **th**ick  
[ʃ] press**u**re

## Voiced (vibration)

[v] **v**at  
[g] **g**um  
[b] **b**it  
[z] **z**ip  
[d] **d**one  
[dʒ] **g**in  
[ð] **th**is  
[ʒ] pleas**u**re

# POLL QUESTION

■ Which of the following word is an unvoiced consonant?

- A. Breathe
- B. Church
- C. Pleasure
- D. Vinegar

**Answer : B**

# POLL QUESTION

■ Which of the following word is a voiced consonant?

A. Good

B. Thirsty

C. Please

D. Slept



**Answer : A**

# 24 Consonant Sounds

1. /p/ -	<b>pit</b>	13. /h/ -	<b>hot</b>
2. /b/ -	<b>bit</b>	14. /l/ -	<b>lad</b>
3. /t/ -	<b>tab</b>	15. /r/ -	<b>red</b>
4. /d/ -	<b>dab</b>	16. /w/ -	<b>wed</b>
5. /k/ -	<b>cab</b>	17. /θ/ -	<b>thought</b>
6. /g/ -	<b>gab</b>	18. /ð/ -	<b>them</b>
7. /f/ -	<b>fan</b>	19. /ʃ/ -	<b>shy</b>
8. /v/ -	<b>van</b>	20. /ʒ/ -	<b>treasure</b>
9. /s/ -	<b>sad</b>	21. /tʃ/ -	<b>chime</b>
10. /z/ -	<b>zoo</b>	22. /dʒ/ -	<b>jam</b>
11. /m/ -	<b>man</b>	23. /j/ -	<b>yum</b>
12. /n/ -	<b>not</b>	24. /ŋ/ -	<b>sing</b>

# **The 'P' sound (Practice Exercise)**

- ☐ **Peter had a problem with his project**
- ☐ **Pickles are more expensive than peas.**
- ☐ **My parents made the payment for Patricia's picnic.**
- ☐ **Politicians are publicizing the polished policemen's work.**
- ☐ **The patient ran in panic for no particular reason**

# The 'P' sound

**This is an unvoiced aspirated sound. It is pronounced like 'ph' with distinct breath coming out.**

## **Example:**

Problem -	Phraablem
Past -	Phaest
Promise-	Phraamis

# **The ‘K’ sound (Practice Exercise)**

**This is an aspirated sound. It has to be pronounced like ‘kh’ with a puff of air thrown out:**

**Examples:**

<b>Color-</b>	<b>Khalar</b>
<b>Contribute-</b>	<b>Khantribute</b>
<b>Customer-</b>	<b>Khustomer</b>

# POLL QUESTION

- How many consonant sounds are there in English Language?
- A. 12
- B. 14
- C. 20
- D. 24

**Answer : D**

# Activity

Try speaking these tongue twisters and differentiate amongst the vowel sounds ■

Gnats are not now gnawing on  
the nuts at night.

The sheep on the ship slipped  
on the sheet of slit.

The keen king kissed the  
quick queen on her green ring.

The spoiled boy foiled the coy  
boy's joy by purloining his toy.

He let himself be led to the  
place for the plays.





**THANK YOU**