

MTI

What is MTI problem (Mother Tongue Influence)?

- Mother tongue influence or MTI means the impact of the way your first language is spoken on the second language you are trying to learn.
- For us, it means effect of our mother tongue on the way we speak English.
- So, when you see someone speaking English with a heavy Bengali or Punjabi or Telugu accent, you know the person has an MTI problem.

Why does MTI happen?

- If up to an advanced age, the only language we speak is our mother tongue, a lot of the speech patterns get set really hard in our brain.
- Every language has its own specific way words are pronounced. Each language has peculiar sounds specific to it.
- If we start speaking more than one language from early childhood, we easily retain the flexibility of uttering sounds from different language systems.

- Our brain can be easily trained for different sounds from different languages.
- But if we do not receive that training in our childhood, our brains get accustomed to the sounds of only one language and at a later stage it becomes very difficult to train the brain for a totally different sound system needed for the second language.
- Essentially, bilingual kids do not face the MTI problem in general because their brains have been trained in the flexibility of two or more language systems and they are able to easily speak two languages without errors.

Want to remove mother tongue influence?

- **Correcting your Pronunciation-**

Pronunciation is the most important part of making your English fluent. You need to consciously learn how to articulate English sounds to improve their pronunciation in English. If the trainer models a sound, then the learner will be assured of articulating certain sound. As the practice goes on, you will keep correcting your pronunciation of English.

- **Regular Speaking of English words-**

One of the best ways to work on your MTI issues is to keep using English words in the actual tone. **When you listen to any word, carefully listen to it on how the word is pronounced and in the tone. In the initial stage, this could be difficult, but as you keep talking, you will certainly keep improving on your word usage.** It is better to record the session and listen to what the trainer says and how words are used.

- **Learn correct Intonation and English Rhythm—**

You know you got a strong Mother Tongue Influence, and when you speak with wrong intonation and English rhythm, person will certainly have hard time understanding you. Therefore, the best way is to correcting your intonation and rhythm. **You can correct your issues by regular practices. The main thing is to make the person understand on what you speak.**

- **Keep Reading-**

Be it the novel, newspaper or journal, to make your MTI issue solved, the best is to keep reading, that too in high volume. This will help you to find new words and using it right way. The best is to record what you read and make it listen to your trainer who will guide you. If there is any correction needed in your pronunciation or tone, the trainer will correct it.

- **Daily English Communication-**

One of the best ways to make your English sound fluent and MTI issue solved is to communicate in English daily. Speak to your colleagues, friends and even to your English learning partner. Daily communication will help to bring down the MTI effect. Moreover, it will help you to speak confidently in English.

- **Listen and watch English songs and movies—**

Movies and songs have huge impact on us. Therefore, when you watch or listen to English movies or songs, it can affect our communication since we try to imitate the language. So one way of improving your English fluency and MTI issues is to keep listening to English songs and try singing it. Similarly **watch English movies to know the accent and words. This will have a great impact on your English fluency.**

- **Record your own voice for Pronunciation-**

As you keep practicing, do keep recording to listen to your pronunciation. This will help you to correct and know how well you are improving. **Make it listen to your trainer and friends who will review and give feedback. Take this feedback sportingly and improve on your mistakes.**

How to remove mother tongue influence (MTI) while speaking in English?

- **You must have come across many people who while speaking in English have a deep mother tongue influence.**
- Native speakers usually speak MTI influenced English and find it hard to overcome the accent.
- For many, this can be a big issue to communicate with people around.
- However, with the help of online English classes, native speakers can bring massive change in MTI and speak fluent English.
- **Regular practice, regular communication and using right practice material further helps to overcome the problem.**

THANK YOU