

Lesson 6: Correcting Consonant Sounds

Teacher's Note: This lesson is a very focused session on common pronunciation issues. Our goal is to train our mouths and ears to produce and hear these specific sounds correctly. The key to success is repetition.

I. Review: Mini-Quiz (5 minutes)

Instructions: "Before we start, let's do a quick review of our consonant clusters. We will each say a word from our last lesson. When you hear the word, raise your hand if you can identify the three-consonant cluster!"

Examples:

Teacher says: "Spring"

Student says: "SPR"

Teacher says: "Stress"

Student says: "STR"

Teacher says: "Splash"

Student says: "SPL"

II. Student Elevator Pitches (10 minutes)

Instructions: Practice AI-improved Elevator Pitches.

III. Target Pronunciation: Choral Reading (15 minutes)

Instructions: "Today, we will focus on some of the most difficult sounds for Thai speakers. We'll start by reading them together so our mouths and ears get used to them. Listen carefully and repeat after me."

R vs. L

- **R:** Round the lips, but don't touch the tongue to the roof of the mouth. Think of the sound in *red, right, road*.
- **L:** Place the tip of the tongue on the roof of the mouth, behind the teeth. Think of the sound in *light, long, love*.

Practice Words: right/light, road/load, rock/lock

S vs. T

- **S:** Make a long, hissing sound with the tongue behind the teeth. Think of the sound in *stop, see, sun*.
- **T:** This is a quick sound where the tongue hits the back of the teeth and air comes out. Think of the sound in *team, top, time*.

Practice Words: seat/feet, list/lit, test/lit

V vs. W

- **V:** The top teeth lightly touch the bottom lip. The sound comes from the voice box. Think of the sound in *vest, very, video*.
- **W:** The lips form a small circle like saying "ooooh". Think of the sound in *we, work, want*.

Practice Words: vest/west, very/wary, van/wan

X, C, K

These letters make the same sound at the end of many words. Think of a quick burst of air from the back of the throat.

Practice Words: box, fix, work, look, clock

IV. Game: Team Charades (15 minutes)

Instructions: Get into teams and select one player to act out the words. Get a stack of Charades Cards. The team will race to guess the most cards in 1 minute. Change players after each round.

V. Group Activity: Dialogue Practice (15 minutes)

Instructions: Use the Charades game cards Teacher Dan gives you to write your own dialogue.

Dialogue example:

Word Cards: *weld, wire, box, fix, worried, voltage, work*

Student 1: "I will weld this wire to the box to fix it."

Student 2: "Thank you! I was worried about the voltage. We have to work fast on this."