Pronunciation

So far I’ve introduced you to the kana and their sounds. Which is fantastic, you can now write, read and start speaking the language. However here’s a question, how many times have you conversed with someone, a real smart person, whose second-language is English, they can write and read it well but sometimes you just don’t know what they saying? That’s what we’ll begin to handle in this lesson, because pronunciation is just as important if you want people to understand you 100% of the time.

* Pronunciation big problem learning to speak, convo
* Because if people can’t understand you, confidence, frustrated
* Big barrier for me
* Once passed saw big growth, not only speak but listen
* Arguably more important if you wanna have a convo
* So give now, won’t be hindered
* First part to this ear training
* Replicate
* Rock vs Lock experiment
* So one thing our brain does as we acquire our first language is differentiate the different sounds used in our first language
* Cos different sounds have…
* Let’s look at this chart
* Now this chart describes the input that a child in a English-speaking household would hear
* And this chart describes the input that a child in a Japanese-speaking household would hear
* See the difference? In one household we…
* And if any of you are aware, in the Japanese language, there is no ‘r’ or ‘l’ sound but a ‘rl’ sound which is…
* So looking at these charts it makes sense that when Japanese participants were asked in a test to differentiate between the words ‘rock’ and ‘lock’, they had difficultly differentiating between the two
* This is because as our brains gets enough input, it determines what sounds should be considered by our brains as ‘language’ and so therefore what our ear’s should be looking out for
* Any sounds that are not this exact sound, so for a English speaking child…or a
* Can be considered as noise or just a variation on a known sound that can just be ignored
* So this is why even when I say ‘rl’, you may think I’m not saying a sound between ‘r’ and ‘l’, I’m saying one or the other, our brains just ignore the variation, the so-called ‘noise’
* And this is why even when a person who speaks a second language fluently sometimes have problems understanding others and in turn speaking to others
* It’s because they’ve never retrained their ears to listen out for these different sounds that don’t, in a way, exist in their native tongue
* So how do we fix this, well if we look at the chart for a person in…we see that there’s not much input…which is why
* So all we have to do is, provide our brains and our ears with enough input to start hearing these sounds
* What do is simulate this process, retraining ears to hear and categorise more sounds
* Do this with anki, find pack here
* Second part is training the mouth, tongue positions, shape of mouth
* Tk excerise
* Won’t go thru all, monotonous, major, so can work on rest
* A,I,u,e,o
* R combo of R and L
* Tongue flick, find in Spanish
* Practice by pronouncing outloud the sounds and periodic review by doing a recording every week first four, then monthly, if ‘wrong’, do again, still wrong, record again tomorrow till,
* Learnt how to pronounce correctly, the value of, how the ear/brain hears and how your mouth creates sounds

Okay thanks guys