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Pronunciation

The Pronunciation of Consonants

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Grammar Points

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Grammar Points

The Focus of This Lesson Is Consonants in English.

In this lesson, we'll explore American English consonants. American English has voiced consonant sounds and voiceless consonant sounds. We make a voiced sound with our vibrating vocal cords. All vowel sounds in the previous lesson, for example, are voiced. A voiceless sound occurs when your vocal cords are not vibrating, and we just make the sound with air, the shape of our mouths, and the position of our tongues.

There are twenty-four or twenty-five consonants in total: the number varies depending on the researcher. As with the vowel lesson, we will give you the sound with an example word.

For Example:

- 1. Consonant sound in "pin"
- 2. Consonant sound in "bin"
- 3. Consonant sound in "toe"
- 4. Consonant sound in "doe"
- 5. Consonant sound in "cap"
- 6. Consonant sound in "gap"
- 7. Consonant sound in "choose"
- 8. Consonant sound in "juice"
- 9. Consonant sound in "main"
- 10. Consonant sound in "name"
- 11. Consonant sound in "hang"

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- Consonant sound in "fast"
- Consonant sound in "vast"
- Consonant sound in "thick"
- Consonant sound in "this"
- Consonant sound in "sap"
- Consonant sound in "zap"
- Consonant sound in "shin"
- Consonant sound in "pleasure"
- Consonant sound in "house"
- Consonant sound in "wine"
- Consonant sound in "rose"
- Consonant sound in "young"
- Consonant sound in "left"

Many of these sounds may be familiar to you from your native tongue. However, you may not use some of these sounds in your language. Pay attention to the sounds that you do not use in your native language so that you can get used to the tongue positioning of the word.

Be aware that English spelling can be tricky in that the same combination of letters may not always have the same pronunciation in different words. With some patience and much practice, the pronunciation will become easier and the words will be less difficult to pronounce. Try exaggerating the sounds when you practice so that you get a better idea of how to shape your mouth and how to position your tongue in your mouth.

