

High School Beginner ESL - 'Th' Sound Practice

Hello Student!

These follow-up worksheets will help you practice:

- The 'th' sounds in English (both voiced and unvoiced)
- Shopping vocabulary using 'th' sounds
- Speaking clearly with proper pronunciation
- Building on your shopping conversation skills

Section 1: Understanding the Two 'Th' Sounds

There are two 'th' sounds in English:

1. **Unvoiced 'th'** (soft sound): Like in "thin" or "thanks"
2. **Voiced 'th'** (buzzing sound): Like in "this" or "that"

How to Make the 'Th' Sounds:

1. Put the tip of your tongue between your top and bottom teeth
2. For unvoiced 'th': Blow air through the small space (no voice)
3. For voiced 'th': Make a buzzing sound with your voice

Practice Making the Sounds:

- Unvoiced 'th': 🗨️ Put your hand in front of your mouth - you should feel air
- Voiced 'th': 🔊 Put your fingers on your throat - you should feel vibration

Section 2: Shopping Words with 'Th' Sounds

Unvoiced 'Th' Words 🗨️

Practice saying each word 3 times:

- **thank** (example: "Thank you for helping me.")
- **thrift** (example: "I shop at the thrift store.")
- **thin** (example: "This fabric is too thin.")
- **thick** (example: "I like thick sweaters.")
- **three** (example: "I need three more items.")

- **thirty** (example: "It costs thirty dollars.")
- **fourth** (example: "This is my fourth time shopping here.")
- **worth** (example: "Is it worth the price?")
- **birthday** (example: "I'm shopping for a birthday gift.")

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

Voiced 'Th' Words

Practice saying each word 3 times:

- **the** (example: "The blue shirt looks nice.")
- **this/that** (example: "I like this better than that.")
- **these/those** (example: "These shoes cost less than those.")
- **they** (example: "They have a sale today.")
- **there** (example: "There are many stores here.")
- **then** (example: "First try it on, then decide.")
- **clothes** (example: "I need new clothes.")
- **leather** (example: "Is this real leather?")
- **smooth** (example: "The fabric feels smooth.")

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

Section 3: Shopping Conversations with 'Th' Sounds

How to do this:

1. Read each conversation out loud
2. Pay special attention to all 'th' sounds
3. Practice with a partner if possible

Conversation 1: At the Clothing Store

Customer: Excuse me, do you have **these** shirts in a **third** color?

Salesperson: Yes, we have **them** in blue. **They're** over **there** by **the** window.

Customer: Thank you. How much do **they** cost?

Salesperson: **They're thirty**-five dollars each, but **there's** a sale. **They're thirty** percent off.

Customer: **That's** great! I **think** I'll buy **three** of **them**.

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

Conversation 2: Comparing Items

Friend 1: What do you **think** about **this** jacket?

Friend 2: I **think** it looks nice, but **that** one over **there** might be better.

Friend 1: You're right. **This** one is **thinner** and **that** one looks **thicker** and warmer.

Friend 2: Let's check **the** prices of both. Oh, **this** one costs more **than that** one!

Friend 1: Even **though** it's more expensive, I **think** it's **worth the** money.

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

Section 4: 'Th' Sound Minimal Pairs

How to do this:

1. Say both words in each pair
2. Listen to the difference between 'th' and other similar sounds
3. Practice until you can clearly hear and say the difference

'Th' vs. 'S' Sounds

- **think** / sink
- **thumb** / sum
- **thick** / sick
- **mouth** / mouse
- **path** / pass

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

'Th' vs. 'T' Sounds

- **three** / tree
- **bath** / bat
- **cloth** / clot
- **thin** / tin
- **thank** / tank

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

'Th' vs. 'D' Sounds

- **then** / den
- **there** / dare
- **those** / doze
- **they** / day
- **breathe** / breed

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

Section 5: Shopping Sentences with 'Th' Sounds

How to do this:

1. Read each sentence slowly, focusing on the 'th' sounds
2. Repeat three times, getting faster each time
3. Try to use the correct intonation (shown with arrows)
4. **Thank** you for showing me **these thirty**-dollar shoes. ↓
5. I **think this** shirt costs less **than that** one. ↑ ↓
6. **They** said **there** will be a sale on **Thursday**. ↓
7. Is **this the third** store we've visited today? ↑
8. **These thick** sweaters are worth **the** money. ↓
9. Brea**the** deeply when you try on **these clothes**. ↓
10. Is **there** another **there** store over **there** with cheaper **things**? ↑

11. I'd **rather** buy **this** one **than that** one. ↓

12. **The** cashier **thanked** me for shopping **there**. ↓

13. My **birthday** gift for my **brother** cost **thirty-three** dollars. ↓

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

Section 6: 'Th' Tongue Twisters for Shopping

How to do this:

1. Start slowly and clearly
2. Speed up gradually as you get more comfortable
3. Have fun with these challenging phrases!
4. **These three thin** shirts **thankfully** fit.
5. **That thrifty** shopper bought **thirty-three** items.
6. **Think** about **the things they** sell **there**.
7. **This thick thermal** shirt keeps me warm.
8. **Those leather** boots are worth **thirty** dollars.
9. **The third** store has better clothes **than the others**.
10. **Thank them** for **their thoughtful** service.
11. **Either this** shirt or **that** one will match my pants.

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

Section 7: Reading Practice: Shopping with 'Th' Sounds

How to do this:

1. Read the story slowly first
2. Pay special attention to all 'th' sounds (highlighted in bold)
3. Read again with proper intonation shown by arrows

On **Thursday**, I went shopping with my **brother**. **The** mall was busy, but we didn't mind. First, we looked for a **birthday** gift for our **mother**. "What do you **think** about **this** scarf?" my **brother** asked. "I **think** it's beautiful, but I saw **another** one over **there**," I replied. ↓

We found a lovely scarf made of **thick** wool. It cost **thirty**-five dollars. "**That's** not too expensive," my **brother** said. "And I **think** she'll love it." We decided to buy it. ⬇️

Then we looked for new clothes for ourselves. My **brother** needed **three** shirts for work. **The** store had many options. "I like **these** better **than those**," he said, pointing to **the** blue shirts. ⬆️ ⬇️

After **that**, we went to a shoe store. I tried on a pair of **leather** boots. "Are **they** worth **the** money?" I asked. "Yes, **they'll** last longer **than the others**," said **the** salesperson. ⬆️ ⬇️

Finally, we stopped at **the** food court. "**Thank** you for coming with me," I told my **brother**. "No problem," he said. "Let's do **this** again next month!" ⬇️

Reading Tips:

- Take a quick breath at periods (.)
- Pause briefly at commas (,)
- Make 'th' sounds clear by putting your tongue between your teeth
- Don't forget intonation (voice going up ⬆️ or down ⬇️)

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

Section 8: Wrap-Up: What Did You Learn Today?

'Th' Words I Learned Today:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Words I Need to Practice More:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

My Favorite 'Th' Word Today: _____

How I'll Practice at Home:

- Read aloud in front of a mirror (watch my tongue)
- Record myself saying 'th' words and listen back
- Practice 3 tongue twisters every day
- Find 5 new 'th' words while shopping