



E-Content

Instructional Media Centre
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Subject / Course – English

Paper : Aspects of Language

Module Name/Title : Importance of Pronunciation in Communicative English-I



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IMPORTANCE OF PRONUNCIATION

- ▶ **What is Phonetics?**
- ▶ **What is Pronunciation?**
- ▶ **English Letters[(26)Alphabet]**
- ▶ **English Sounds (44)**

IMPORTANCE OF LANGUAGE

- ▶ What is “Language”?
- ▶ “Intelligibility” of Language?

Examples:

- **Mr. Amithabachhan**(Indian Film Actor)
- **Mr. Chidambaram** (Indian Political Leader)
- **Mr. Harsha Bogle** (Cricket Commentator)
- **Mr. Arnab Goswamy** (News Reader)

Standard Model for English

- ▶ **RP** (Received Pronunciation)
- ▶ **BBC English** (British Broad Casting)
- ▶ **NIE**(Neutralization of Indian English)

PRONUNCIATION RULES

- ❑ **Rule of Aspiration (h)**
- ❑ **Plural Markers (s, es)**
- ❑ **Past Tense Markers (ed)**

Rule of Aspiration

- ▶ **Aspiration:** “*greater breath force*”.
- ▶ When /p, t, k/ occur in the **initial position of a stressed syllable** (and are not accompanied by any one consonant like ‘s’, ‘r’ and ‘l’), they are aspirated.

Rule of Aspiration-(h)

Wrong Pronunciation/ Indian English:

❑ Paper

❑ Appointment

❑ Table

❑ Testify

❑ Content

❑ Purpose

❑ Apartment

❑ Temptation

❑ Historical

❑ Participate

Rule of Aspiration-(h)

Correct Pronunciation/ RP/ BBC English:

❑ ' paper

❑ ap ' pointment

❑ ' table

❑ ' testify

❑ ' content

❑ ' purpose

❑ a ' partment

❑ temp ' tation

❑ His ' torical

❑ ' participate

Plural Marker (-s) Rule

- There are **three ways** of pronouncing the plural suffix ‘**s**’.

Rule:1

If the word ends in one of the voiceless sounds-(/**p**/, /**t**/, /**k**/, /**θ**/, /**f**/ then the plural marker ‘**s**’ attached to it is pronounced /**s**/.

Rule-2: Plural Marker (-s)

☐ Caps /s/

☐ Bats /s/

☐ Laughs /s/

☐ Books /s/

☐ Maths /s/

☐ Tips /s/

Rule-2: Plural Marker (-s)

Rule:2

If the word ends in one of the voiced sounds-(/b/, /d/, /g/, /ð/, /v/, /n/, /m/, /l/, /r/) or any vowel sounds (which are also voiced) then the plural marker ‘s’ attached to it is pronounced /z/.

Rule-2: Plural Marker (-s)

□ Tubs /z/

□ Rooms /z/

□ Bags /z/

□ Wells /z/

□ Swords /z/

□ Dogs /z/

Rule-3 : Plural Marker (-es)

Rule:3

If the word ends with a sibilant, (voiceless /s/, /ʃ/, /tʃ/ and their voiced counterparts /z/, /ʒ/, /dʒ/ then the plural marker ‘s’ attached to it pronounced /**IZ**/.

Rule-3 : Plural Marker (-es)

❑ Badges /IZ/

❑ Boxes /IZ/

❑ Wishes /IZ/

❑ Faces /IZ/

❑ Buses /IZ/

❑ Watches /IZ/

The same rules apply to the pronunciation of **present tense, third person singular verb-s(es) and the possessive ('s).**

Drinkks /S/

Shares /Z/

Billl's /Z/

Catt's /S/

Jamee's /Z/

Past Tense Marker (-ed) Rule

If a verb ends in a voiceless sound expect **/t/** i.e., if it ends in (/p/, /k/, /f/, /s/, /θ/, /ʃ/ or /tʃ/) –ed is pronounced **/t/**.

■ Picked /t/

■ Coughed /t/

■ Washed /t/

■ Latched /t/

■ Briefed /t/

Past Tense Marker (-ed) Rule

If a verb ends in a voiced sound i.e. (/b/, /g/, /v/, /z/, /ð/, /r/, /l/, /m/, /ʒ/ or /dʒ/) expect **/d/** –ed is pronounced **/d/**.

Dined /d/

Boiled /d/

Mobed /d/

Bathed /d/

Coined /d/

Past Tense Marker (-Id) Rule

If a verb ends in either **/t/** or **/d/** then **—ed** is pronounced **/Id/**.

Fundded / Id /

Fittted / Id /

Repeated / Id /

Guarded / Id /

Some More Rules of Pronunciation

- ▶ The sounds /**v**/ and /**w**/ are pronounced in the by many people.

But they are not the same. Look at these **Minimal Pairs**

Examples:

Vie/**W**hy

Vent/**W**ent

Vest/**W**est

Vile/**W**hile

Veal/**W**eal, **W**heel

Continued.....

- ▶ When the word ends with **–age**, the ending is pronounced /ɪdʒ/ and not /eɪdʒ/.

Examples:

Courage

Messageage

Village

Marriage

Vintage

Wastage

Luggage

Bondage

Cottage

Baggage

Advantage

Manage

Rule of Pronunciation /r/

- ▶ When **/r/** occurs before a **consonant**, it is not pronounced.

Examples:

Cartr

Martr

Parkr

Artr

Shortr

Markr

Partr

Skirtr

Chartr

Rule of Pronunciation /r/

- ▶ When /r/ occurs before a **Vowel**, it is pronounced.

Examples:

Curage

Cherry

Nurse

Carry

Curry

Curse

Berry

Purse

Merry

Search

Rule of Pronunciation /r/

- ▶ When **/r/** occurs at the end of the word, it is not pronounced.

Examples:

Carr

Tigerr

Barr

Silverr

Chairr

Flowerr

Clearr

Teacherr

Rule of Pronunciation /r/

- ▶ But if a word ends in /r/ and the next word begins with a vowel sound /r/ is pronounced.

Examples:

A carand bike

Note: This is applicable to **British English**. In **American English** /r/ is pronounced in all the contexts.