

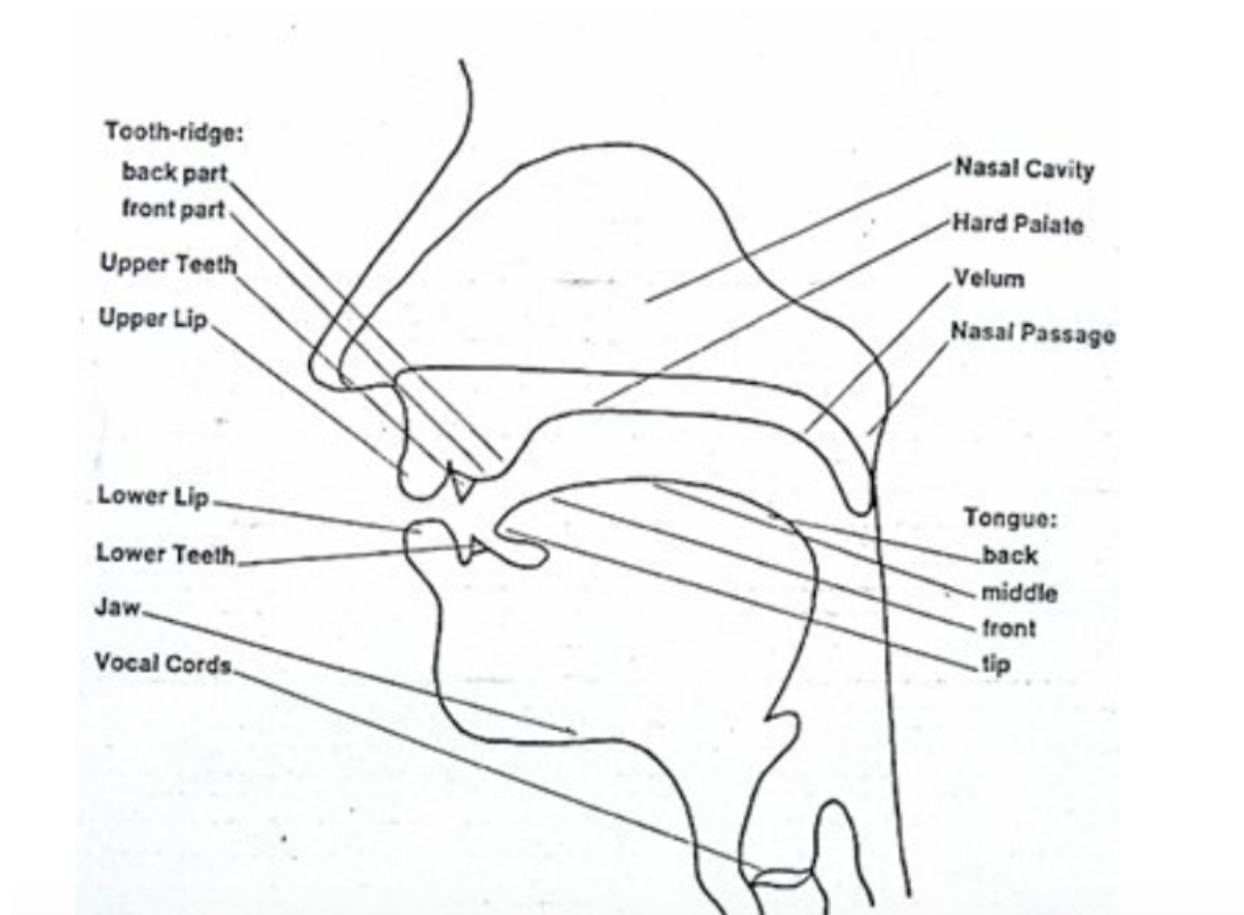
Dublin School of Drama & Communications

Pronunciation Class for Non Native English Speakers

ABOUT

The Dublin School of Drama & Communications uses vocal training and performance techniques to help improve pronunciation. Rather than relying on the repetition of sounds we teach pronunciation the same way we teach accents by explaining how the different sounds are made using the organs of articulation. As we get older it becomes impossible for us to hear sounds that we do not know how to make. Using the placement of the organs of articulation overcomes that problem.

ORGANS OF ARTICULATION



COMMUNICATION FAULTS

Communication faults are not specific to non native English Speakers but can lead to a difficulty in being understood. These include but are not limited to:

- Projection

- Opening of the mouth

Vowel Sounds

A vowel is the free flow of air through the mouth. There are 5 vowel signs in English Language A, E, I, O, U and these are broken down into over 22 different vowel sounds!

- Single Vowel Sounds
- Double Vowel Sounds
- Triple Vowel Sounds
- The Neutral Vowel
- Semi Vowels

VOWELS				DIPHTHONGS		
i:	ɪ	ʊ	u:	ɪə	eɪ	
SLEEP	SIT	BOOK	BOOT	EAR	FLAT	
e	ə	ɜ:	ɔ:	ʊə	ɔɪ	əʊ
BED	AFTER	BIRD	POST	FEWEL	BOY	NO
æ	ʌ	ɑ:	ɒ	eə	aɪ	aʊ
MAN	CUP	CAR	POT	HAR	BUY	COW

Example of Single Vowel Sound

H/D

The “I” sound in Hid is the single vowel sound.

The sound is broken down as follows:

Huh - *i* - Duh

Dictionary/phonetic Symbol

ɪ

Sound

i (ih)

Organ placement

Front of tongue & closed

Examples of words that use the "i" sound.

Letter that is replaced with <i>i</i> sound.	Word
A	Private
	Village

Example of a Double Vowel Sound

OY as in Coy /ɔɪ/

Letter that is replaced with oy sound.	Word
Oy	Boy
	Joy
	Toy
	Coy
	Oyster

Consonants

Consonants are formed by the complete and partial stoppage of air by 2 or more of the organs of articulation. They must be formed and articulated with precision and care as they give clearness, distinctness and a physical nature to speech.

Each consonant is defined by

- 1) Which organs of speech are used as the sound is made
- 2) Whether the breath is stopped fully (explosive) P or partially (sustained) F
- 3) Whether there is a vibration of vocal cords (Voiced) or no vibration (non voiced or aspirate).

PVM Chart: English			PLACE							
			LABIAL		CORONAL				DORSAL	
			Bilabial	Labiodental	Dental	Alveolar	Postalveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
OBSTRUENTS	MANNER	VOICELESS	p			t			k	ʔ
		VOICED	b			d			g	
	Fricative	VOICELESS		f	θ	s	ʃ			h
		VOICED		v	ð	z	ʒ			
	Affricate	VOICELESS					tʃ			
		VOICED					dʒ			
SONORANTS	Nasal		Voiced	m			n		ŋ	
	LIQUID	Lateral	Voiced				l			
		Rhotic	Voiced				ɹ			
	Glide		Voiced	w				j	w	

P

Dictionary/phonetic Symbol

/p/

Sound

Puh

Organ placement

Two lips come together
and it is unvoiced.

Please note P before a vowel has a slight H sound for example:

Pin is pronounced PuhHin

Pint is pronounced PuhHint

Slipper is pronounced Slipher

Th

To make the TH sound the tip of the tongue must be place between the teeth

This That These and Those That's the Way the TH Goes.

Word Stress

In the English language, word stress deals with the syllables involved in each word. Most English words will have one syllable said louder than the other syllables.

Today

Pronunciation

Heteronyms are words which are spelled identically but have different sounds and meanings. The different sounds can come from a different pronunciation or from a different word stress.

Present means a gift but **Present** means now.

Practical Implementation, Homework and Support

Each week you will be asked to pronounce the sounds in class and practice sentences and readings which have these sounds.

After class you will be emailed soundcloud links with recordings of what we have covered in class for you to practice. We recommend that you do at least 10 minutes practice a day.

We have a facebook group for our pronunciation students where we post tips and information. People can also ask questions about issues they are having.

LEVEL 2

The level 2 Pronunciation Course builds on the foundations of Level 1 and teaches conversational spoken English. We look at the elements that you need to sound like a fluent English speaker.

This includes:

- Word Stress
- Emphasis
- Pitch
- Inflection

Unlike other language speakers, English speakers do not stress all words equally in a phrase but rather stress the words that are important.

Similarly, pitch and inflection are used to give the recognisable musical sound of the English language.

A further complication is that when native speakers speak phrases, they don't always pronounce all the words in the way that they would be pronounced if spoken individually. In conversation we use connected speech which gives rise to variation in pronunciations. Connected speech is broken down into the following areas:

- Linking
- Intrusion
- Elision
- Assimilation
- Geminates

For example, in conversation “He Asked” would be connected together, with a ‘Y’ between the two words and would be pronounced “Heyasked” rather than “He -Asked”.

All of these techniques are put into practice through poems, scripts and conversations. We use Irish scripts such as from the film “Sing Street” so you can practice alone at home.

Finally we show you the differences between the correct English pronunciation and the Dublin accent. This is useful for people who would like to look at accent reduction.

Questions and Answers

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Cost: €150
\$185
AED 650

Private Classes are also available. Please email our office sales@speechdramadublin.com for more information.