

PRONUNCIATION REVIEW

English Vowels

Luke vs. Look

- The “u” in Luke is probably the “u” sound you know and love. 우 , 屋 , ウ (but with the lips very rounded)
- ... but the “oo” sound in “look” but it is shorter and is made with the mouth more open, the lips less round, and the tongue more relaxed. Kind of like ㄹ in Korean. (But not quite)
- How much wood would a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood?

Ankle vs. Uncle

- The sound ~ang in English is always pronounced like /~eyng/, never /~ahng./ Like 앵 or エング、NOT 앙 or アング!
- The rule also carries over for sounds like ~ank and ~anc. Ankle and Franco!
- Canadians will also pronounce ag like eyg, but most Americans won't. So “beg” and “bag” sound very similar in Canada but different in the USA.

Fun, Fan, and Fawn.

- The uh sound in “fun” is pronounced with the tongue in the middle of your mouth with your mouth half open. (Sounds like someone getting kicked in the stomach.)
- The “a” sound in “fan” is pronounced with the tongue very low in the mouth, and the mouth half open.
- The “aw” sound in “fawn” is pronounced with the mouth wide open. Like you’re yawning.

Hit vs. Heat

- The “ea” in heat is usually easy for ESL learners to pronounce. Almost exactly like 0| , — , and 1.
- ...but the “i” sound in “hit” is pronounced with the tongue in the same position, but more relaxed and droopy.

Gee Mark, how do I make my vowels sound as good as yours?

- When talking to native English speakers and you are unsure of the pronunciation of a word, repeat it with a rising intonation (like a question.) Most people will automatically repeat the word for you.

- ie: ESL student: “I had a lot of fan. Fan?”

Canadian friend: “Oh, fun. You had a lot of fun.”

You can also ask your Canadian friends to repeat the word with the correct pronunciation when you mispronounce something.

Beach vs BITCH

- Beach = sand and water... By the ocean
 - ▣ pronounced longer
- Bitch = Female dog = ... Mean people
 - ▣ Not a nice term. Do not use to your teacher.
 - ▣ Pronounced shorter

SHIT vs Sit vs Sheet

- Sit = you sit down 안자 すわて 坐
 - Would you like a seat?
- Sheet = a sheet of paper
 - Measure for a flat object
- Shit.... = Poop.
 - Swear: do not use it too casually.
 - Number 2 ..
 - When you need to go to the washroom

- Bold = STRONG THICK
 - ▣ THIS IS BOLD ←

- Bald = no hair



Mark
50 years
← later

PRONUNCIATION vs Pronounce

- FUN vs FAN vs FAWN
- HIT vs HEAT
- Uncle vs Ankle
- Luke vs look
- Shit vs sit vs sheet vs seat
- Ball vs bowl vs bawl
- Beach vs bitch
- Bold vs bald