

Russian language backgrounds

19 common English pronunciation problems					
FIX PROBLEM	ENGLISH SOUND	-	COMMON ERROR	-	PRACTICE MATERIALS
Spread lips more and keep tongue high.	/i:/	"seat"	/ɪ/	"sit"	Minimal Pairs /ɪ/ or /i:/ practice
Move tongue to a lower front position.	/æ/	"man"	/e/	"men"	Minimal Pairs /e/ or /æ/ practice
Keep mouth round and tongue back.	/ɒ/	"not"	/əʊ/	"note"	Minimal Pairs /əʊ/ or /ɒ/ practice
Tongue low, back & fixed. Jaws together.	/ɔ:/	"bought"	/əʊ/	"boat"	Minimal Pairs /ɔ:/ or /əʊ/ practice
Fix tongue in central position. Long.	/ɜ:/	"bird"			Minimal Pairs /e/ or /ɜ:/ practice Minimal Pairs /ʌ/ or /ɜ:/ practice Minimal Pairs /ɔ:/ or /ɜ:/ practice
Unvoiced. Use more air. Trap it with lips.	/p/	"pit"	/b/	"bit"	
Unvoiced. Trap air with both lips.	/p/	"pill"	/f/	"fill"	
Voiced. Vibration. Trap air with lips.	/b/	"bill"	/p/	"pill"	
Tip of tongue behind top teeth.	/t/	"tie"	/d/	"die"	Minimal Pairs /t/ or /d/ practice
Tip of tongue behind top teeth.	/d/	"made"	/t/	"mate"	Minimal Pairs /t/ or /d/ practice
Voiceless. Friction. Tongue between teeth.	/θ/	"thin"	/s/	"sin"	Minimal Pairs /θ/ or /ð/ practice Minimal Pairs /θ/ or /t/ practice Minimal Pairs /θ/ or /d/ practice Minimal Pairs /θ/ or /s/ practice

19 common English pronunciation problems

FIX PROBLEM	ENGLISH SOUND	-	COMMON ERROR	-	PRACTICE MATERIALS
Voiced. Friction. Tongue between teeth.	/ð/	"they"	/d/	"day"	Minimal Pairs /ð/ or /d/ practice
Quickly push air from throat out of mouth.	/h/	"hot"		"ch" in "loch"	Minimal Pairs /h/ or silent "h" practice
Tongue touches alveolar ridge. Nasal.	/n/	"sun"			
Voiced stop: back of tongue to back roof.	/ŋ/	"thing"	/ŋk/	"think"	Minimal Pairs /ŋ/ or /ŋk/ practice
Back of tongue to back roof. Nasal.	/ŋk/	"think"	/ŋ/	"thing"	Minimal Pairs /ŋ/ or /ŋk/ practice
Tongue touches hard palate.	/l/	"light" (clear)	/r/	"right"	Minimal Pairs /l/ or /r/ practice
Contact. Brief "schwa" after release.	/ɫ/	"tall" (dark l)			
Start with lips tightly rounded. Unround & glide.	/w/	"west"	/v/	"vest"	Minimal Pairs /w/ or /v/ practice