

Pronunciation
Prō nŭn sē á shŭn

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Harriet M. Butler

BUILDING LANGUAGE

one sound at a time

Do you have sounds that are difficult for your students?
We will study how sounds relate to each other and give you
techniques to help your students speak more clearly.

Harriet M. Butler, ESL teacher at First Baptist Church,
Tallahassee, FL for 6 years. My background is as an oral
teacher of deaf children.

Janice C. Tudor, Special Assistant in the book design. ESL
teacher for 15 years at First Baptist Church in Tallahassee, FL.

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making this publication possible.

LIFE VERSE: Proverbs 3:5-6

5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
6 in all your ways acknowledge Him,
and He will make your paths straight.

Dedicated to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. To Him be all the glory.



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LIP & TONGUE EXERCISES

It is very important to learn to control your tongue. A hand mirror and a feather will help you see what you are saying.

LIP



1. Pucker your lips by pushing them forward and then as wide as you can like oō and ēē.
2. Open your mouth as wide as you can, then close your lips quickly!

TONGUE

1. Point your tongue, draw it in and close your lips.
2. Stretch your tongue up toward your nose! Draw your tongue in and close your lips.
3. Stretch your tongue down towards your chin. Draw it in and close your lips.
4. Widen your tongue against upper gums and then your lower gums.
5. Groove your tongue by raising both sides of it and blowing through the center

CONSONANT

chart

BREATH



VOICED



NASAL



CONSONANT

breath sounds



p

Lips together. Blow them open with a puff of air.



wh

Round lips as if to blow out a candle. Blow a gentle continuous stream of air!



f

Put top teeth on back of bottom lip and gently blow continuous air on your hand (NO VOICE!)



th

Place your tongue between your teeth, protruding just a little! Blow gently and feel air on your hand.

(ex. Thursday, Thumb)



t

Touch tongue to gum ridge behind upper teeth. Part lips and teeth slightly. Let your breath blow the tip of your tongue down. Feel the burst of air on your hand!



s

Drop the tip of your tongue behind the bottom front teeth. Gently blow like through a straw. Feel breath in center front of your teeth.



sh

is a breath sound. Push both lips forward. Lift the tip of the tongue and thicken the sides of tongue against the upper teeth.



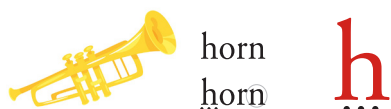
ch

Purse lips and fix tongue for a “t” sound. Release “t” with breath as tongue tip comes down



k

Move your tongue (thick) to the back of your throat. Tip of tongue is down to stop the airflow. Release air into the breath sound, k. Feel the air on your hand.



h

shape mouth for vowel that follows the “h” sounds. Blow before you say the vowel.

CONSONANT

voice sounds



bear
bĕer

b

is the same as p with voice!



wagon
wăgŭn

w

is the same as wh with voice!



valentine
vălŭntĭn

v

is the same as f with voice!



this

this
thĭs

th

is the same as th with voice!



duck
dŭk

d

is the same as t with voice!



zebra
zĕbru

z

is the same as s with voice!



jack in the box
jăkĭn thŭ bă(r)ks
gentle
jĕnřŭl

j

is the same as ch with voice!



goat
gōt

g

is the same as k with voice!

CONSONANT

nasal sounds



monkey
mún̄gkē

m

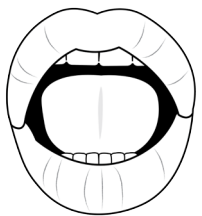
Lips together and hum through your nose. Feel the vibration on the side of your nose.



nest
nĕṣt

n

Tongue is flat against the roof of your mouth, forcing sound out of your nose. Feel the vibration on the side of your nose!



swing
s̄.wēng

ng

Raise the back of your tongue to block air and sound, so it comes out of your nose. Feel the vibration on the side of your nose.

MORE

consonants sounds



qu queen
kw^hēn

Round your lips to say oo¹. Say kw^h through your rounded lips.
NO VOICE!

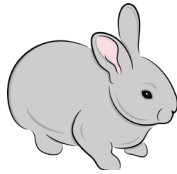


l leaf
lēf

Put flat tongue behind your upper teeth. Flap tongue down with voice. There are many combinations with "L":

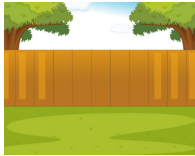
Bl-black, cl-clap, fl-flower
blăk. klăp. flō^uwer

pl-please, sl-sleep
plēz .s:-lēp.



r rabbit
răbⁱt

Shift tongue slightly back from position for L. The tip of the tongue curls up, the sides of tongue touch the upper teeth. The air comes along roof of the mouth and over the tip of the tongue. Use voice as you blow air OUT!



y yard
eeya(r)d

Say a very short "ee", then a (r) and (d) with voice.



-X box
ba(r)k^s

The name of the letter is ek^s.
You begin with short e and say k^s!

CONSONANTS

MOUTH

shapes

h

shape mouth for vowel that follows the “h” sounds. Blow before you say the vowel.

p

Lips together. Blow them open with a puff of air.

b

is the same p with voice!

w_h

Round lips as if to blow out a candle. Blow a gentle continuous stream of air!

w

is the same as w_h with voice!

f

Put top teeth on back of bottom lip and gently blow continuous air on your hand (NO VOICE!)

v

is the same as f with voice!

th

Place your tongue between your teeth, protruding just a little! Blow gently and feel air on your hand.
(ex. *Thursday, Thumb*)

th

is the same as th with voice!

t

Touch tongue to gum ridge behind upper teeth. Part lips and teeth slightly. Let your breath blow the tip of your tongue down. Feel the burst of air on your hand!

d

is the same as t with voice!

s

Drop the tip of your tongue behind the bottom front teeth. Gently blow like through a straw. Feel breath in center front of your teeth.

z

is the same as s with voice!

sh

is a breath sound. Push both lips forward. Lift the tip of the tongue and thicken the sides of tongue are against the upper teeth.

ch

Purse lips and fix tongue for a “t” sound. Release “t” with breath as tongue tip comes down

ch

is the same as ch with voice!

k

Move your tongue (thick) to the back of your throat. Tip of tongue is down to stop the airflow. Release air into the breath sound, k. Feel the air on your hand.

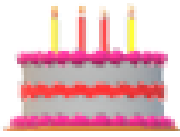
g

is the same as k with voice!

VOWEL

chart

Long



a-e

cake

kā:k



ee

bee

bē



i-e

ice

ī:s



o-e

boat

bō:t



u-e

mule

mē:ʌl

Short



-a-

cat

kăt



-e-

bed

běd



-i-

fish

fī:ʃ



-o-

hot

hō:t



-u-

duck

dŭk



aw

saw

saw



oo

moon

mō:n



ur

fur

fēr



a(r)

car

ka(r)er



oo

books

bō:kz



ow

cow

kou



oy

boy

boi

Long Vowels



a - e



ee



i - e



o - e



oo
ee oo

Short Vowels



ă



e



i



ö

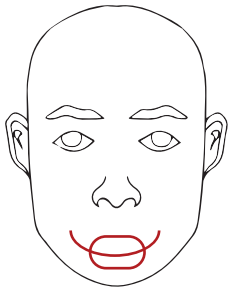


ü

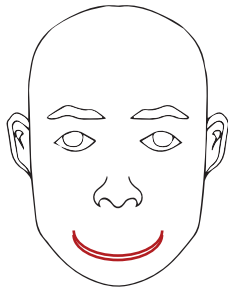
VOWELS AT A glance

Long vowel sounds

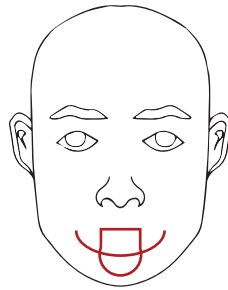
known as diphthongs because they move as you say them.



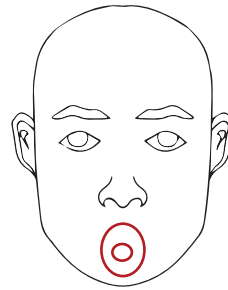
a-e
cake
k̄āk̄



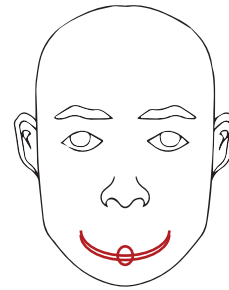
ee
bee
bē



i-e
ice
īs

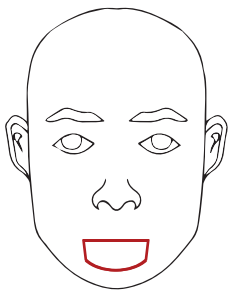


o-e
boat
bōt̄

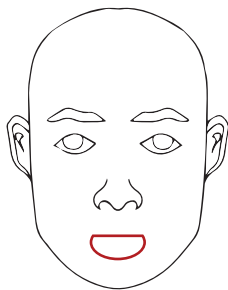


ee-u
mule
mēul

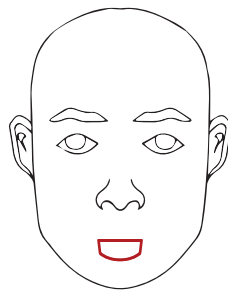
Short vowel sounds



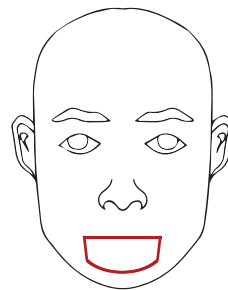
ă
hat
hăt̄



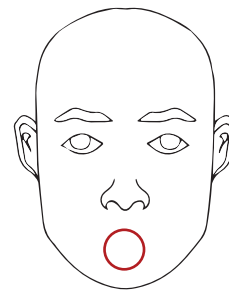
ě
bed
bĕd



ĭ
fish
fĭsh

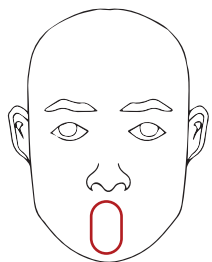


ۆ
hot
hۆt̄

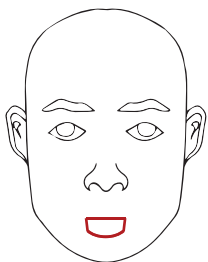


ŭ
duck
dŭk̄

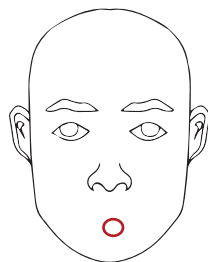
More vowel sounds



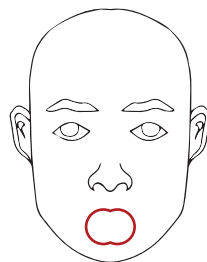
aw
10 saw



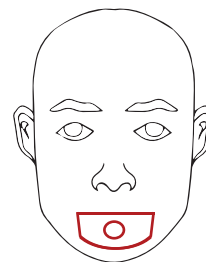
a(er)
car



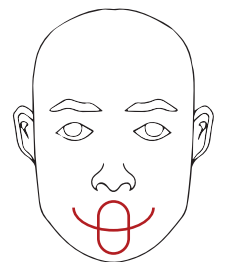
oo¹
moon



oo²
book



ou
cow
k̄



oi
boy

H

practice words

Shape mouth for the vowel that follows the “h” sound, then say it.

he

hē

horse

hɔrs

house

hous

her

hɛr

hello

həlō

him

hɪm

hat

hăt

hit

hit

hoe

hō

hi

hī

hay

hā

huge

hūj

Wh & W

practice words

wh

w

what
whut

we
wē

work
werk

when
whēn

wet
wēt

week
wēk

where
whēr

web
wēb

wife
wif

why
whī

window
wīndō

wall
wawl

white
whīt

winter
wīnter

sandwich
sānwīch

wheel
whēl

L

practice words

Initial

lady

lādi

lake

lāk

leaf

lēf

light

līt

loaf

lōf

loose

looṣ

lamp

lāmp

Medial

balloon

būloón

tulip

tóolip

polite

pūlit

family

fāmŭli

lily

lile

color

kúlěr

telephone

tělŭfōn

TH & TH

with voice practice words

Breath

th

thank you
thăng kŭ

think
thĩngk

Thursday
Therzdi

third
thĩrd

thirsty
thĩrsti

thumb
thŭm

thunder
thŭnder

Voice

th

this
thi:.

that
thăt.

these
thēz

those
thōz

mother
mŭther

father
făther

Y

practice words

yes
eēs̄.

year
eēr

yellow
éēlōe

yolk
eēōek̄

New York
no¹ eēork̄

onion
ŭñēeyŭñ

lawyer
lawēer

yesterday
eēšterdā

R

practice words

Initial

rabbit
rábit

red
rĕd

rang
rǎng

rake
rāk

rain
rān

river
rĭver

ring
rēng

rock
ra(r)k

Final

air
ǎer

hair
hǎer

chair
chǎer

door
dōer

ear
ēer

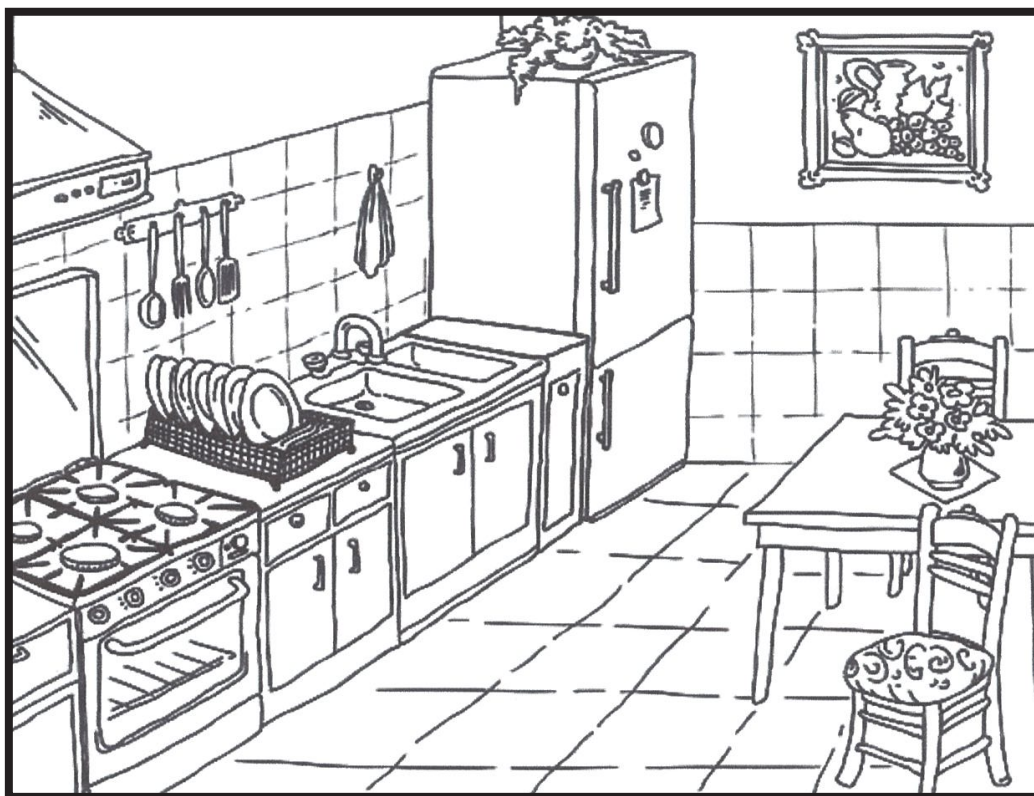
fire
fĭer

LESSON PLAN

Each class, spend 10-15 minutes on speech.

Two important points: Open your mouth and slow down!

Use hand mirrors and fluffy feathers. Learn how to hear syllables and accents.



VOCABULARY

How we write it.

sink

cabinet

refrigerator

stove

How we say it.



s.---ingk

käbnět.

rŭfrijŭrāter

s.---tōv

WHAT DO THE MARKINGS MEAN?

• • •	breath sound
/	accent
	syllables .sílǔbǔls.
	hold sound and release it into the next syllable kǎb_nět.
—	long vowel
∪	short vowel
¹ oo	like moon ¹
² oo	like book ²
(m) (n) (ng)	circle nasal sounds

This is how we write it: America

This is how we say it: ǔm_něrikǔ



References:

1. Better Speech and Better Reading
By Lucille D. Schoolfield, Published 1965
2. Teaching English Language Learners the Good News
By Kendale Moore, Published 2005



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF TALLAHASSEE