

Communication Skills

Class IX , Session 6: Pronunciation Basics (IT
#402)

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Introduction

- If we do not say (or pronounce) words correctly, others cannot understand what we are saying as in the example.
- In this lesson you will learn about the common 'sounds' used while speaking English.
- To communicate well when you speak, you need to know how to pronounce words correctly.

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Introduction



Importance of Pronunciation

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Phonetics

- Phonetics is the study of the sounds that we make when we speak.
- For example, the word **dog** is made of three sounds put together: d-o-g. Speak the word aloud as shown in Hindi to help you pronounce it correctly
ड + ौ + ग = डौग .
- The word **cat** is made of three other sounds: c-a-t. Speak the word aloud as shown in Hindi to help you pronounce it correctly क + ै + ट = कैट

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Phonetics

Different sounds of letter 'a'

Words	Pronunciation of the letter 'a'	Pronunciation in Hindi
cat, apple and back	ऐ	कैट, ऐपल, बैक
car, fast and park	आ	कार, फास्ट, पार्क
call, ball and saw	ऑ	कॉल, बॉल, सॉव्

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Types of sounds

Different Sounds in English

Vowels	Diphthongs (combination sound of two vowels)	Consonants
The English alphabet has five vowels (a, e, i, o and u) but 12 vowel sounds. This means most vowels can be pronounced in different ways. We make a vowel sound when we read a vowel in a word.	We make a diphthong sound when we combine two vowels. Diphthongs start as one vowel sound and go to another.	A consonant sound is any sound that is neither a vowel nor a diphthong sound.
For example, we pronounce the letter 'i' in the word 'bit' by using a vowel sound. In Hindi it is बिट	For example, the sound 'ou' in the word "house" is a diphthong or a combination. In Hindi, it is हाऊस	For example, we use consonant sounds to say the letters 'p' and 't' in the word Pot. In Hindi is पॉट
Say the word 'bit' aloud and listen to how you are saying the vowel sound.	Say the word 'house' aloud and listen to how you are saying the diphthong.	Say the word 'pot' aloud and listen to how you are saying the consonant sounds.

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Types of sounds

Examples of Different Sounds

Vowel Sounds			
long 'ee' (ी) sound	short 'i' (ि) sound	short 'u' (ु) sound	long 'oo' (ू) sound
Sleep स्लीप	Slip स्लिप	Book बुक	Boot बुट
Keep कीप	Dip नियर	Put पुट	Group ग्रूप
Feel फील	Fill फिल	Foot फुट	Two टू
Combination vowel (diphthong) sounds			
'ea' sound (ि+ा)	'ae' sound (े)	'oa' sound (ो)	'ou' sound (ा+ु)
Near नियर	Late लेट	Boat बोट	Mouth माउथ
Deer डियर	Cake केक	Loan लोन	Cow काउ
Hear हीयर	Game गेम	Most मोस्ट	Cloud क्लाउड
Consonant sounds			
'p प' sound	't ट' sound	'k क' sound	'l ल' sound
Pen पेन	Train ट्रेन	Book बुक	Look लुक
Report रिपोर्ट	Story स्टोरी	Cold कोल्ड	Place प्लेस
Stop स्टोप	Put पुट	Music म्यूसिक	School स्कूल

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- **A. Multiple choice questions**

Read the questions carefully and circle the letter (a), (b), (c) or (d) that best answers the question.

1. What is phonetics?
 - A. It is the study of how we write words in English.
 - B. It is the study of how people understand sentences.
 - C. It is the study of how many words the English language has.
 - D. It is the study of the sounds we make when we speak.
2. What are the different types of sounds used in English pronunciation?
 - A. Vowel sounds
 - B. Diphthong sounds
 - C. Consonant sounds
 - D. All of the above

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THANKING YOU

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