

Welcome to Fluent American's language pack designed for Portuguese speakers! This is an album for Portuguese native speakers who want to work on an American accent. It has tracks that focus on sounds that general Portuguese speakers may struggle with if they have not studied American pronunciation before. Some sounds may be easy for you, others more difficult.

This album contains the following sounds for practice:

- consonant clusters
- voiced th sounds
- voiceless th sounds
- voiced and voiceless final sounds
- S sounds
- M sounds
- Y sounds
- dʒ sounds
- ng sounds
- r sounds
- I sounds
- a sounds
- ^ sounds
- Ū sounds
- u sounds
- oŪ sounds
- ɔ sounds
- æ sounds
- ε sounds
- eɪ sounds

How to study with this album:

- many students notice improvement after 2-3 weeks of focusing on one track
- listen to a track 2-3 times per day
 - most tracks are 5-10 minutes long, meaning you will need about 10-20 minutes
 - you do not need to study all at once; instead, try 5 minutes in the morning, 5 in the evening, etc.
 - when to study: driving to work, on the bus, taking a walk, eating...
- as you listen, try to repeat each word you hear
- if you are in a space where you need to be quiet, then imagine how you would move your mouth and tongue to say each word
- if you need more assistance, send a message to speakfluentamerican@gmail.com or our Facebook page (search: Fluent American Accent Reduction)

Transcript Table of Contents

2. consonant clusters
3. voiced th sounds
4. voiceless th sounds
5. voiced and voiceless final sounds
6. S sounds
7. M sounds
8. Y sounds
9. dʒ sounds
10. ŋg sounds
11. r sounds
12. I sounds
13. a sounds
14. ^ sounds
15. ʊ sounds
16. u sounds
17. oʊ sounds
18. ɔ sounds
19. æ sounds
20. ɛ sounds
21. eɪ sounds

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Welcome to Broken English, the quick fix for your pronunciation. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at consonant clusters. To really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

Consonant clusters in English are groups of consonants in which there are no vowels. Every consonant will be pronounced. Let's start with some examples:

instantly twelfth splash through breakfast hopefully apartments parked texts
extra enthrall vodka strength cards recognition
The twelfth of the extra cards instantly splashed on the tables.

There are also some common patterns to watch out for.

Firstly, x + stressed vowel = /gz/ sound:

examination exemption existential example exact exude exam
The exempt exam was exactly like the examples.

Next, x as a /ks/ sound:

extreme extra extract context expect
next accept success accident
test/text aspect/expect lass/lax fast/fax
I wasn't successful but I expected to pass the extra difficult entrance exam.

Also, pay attention to t with the letter s /ts/ sound:

it's states what's that's lasts doubts
his/hits biz/bits was/what's days/dates bows/boats highs/heights
What's with your doubts these are the heights he hits?

As well as d with the letter s /dz/ sound:

feeds raids lends friends bids rounds
fees/feeds rays/raids bans/bands bees/beads owes/odes
She feeds the cats and rides lawn mowers across the yards.

A last combinations that can be difficult are words that end with r+l or r+l+d:

whir/whirl/world cur/curl/curled fur/unfurl/unfurled per/pearl/pearled
The curly girl unfurled a whirlwind of pearls.

Alright, that's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!

Welcome to Broken English, the quick fix for your pronunciation. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at the voiced th sound, ð. To really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

To make the /ð/ sound, remember to put the front of your tongue a little between your teeth. You can also have the tip of your tongue touching your top tooth slightly, but in general your tongue is between your top and bottom teeth. You should feel a lot of air going through your mouth; do not stop the air. Lastly, make sure your throat is vibrating

Let's start with some practice words.

then that those rather bathe brother whether though soothe this these feather though

Next, some word pairs:

this that/ these those/ rather bathe/ this weather/ soothes teething/ either leather

Now, some comparisons. Let's start with ð and d sounds:

bathe/bade then/den rather/radder weather/wetter soothe/sued they/day

Now, for ð and z:

wither/wizard bathe/bays then/Zen seethe/seize clothing/closing

Lastly, some practice sentences:

These bays are closing due to the rather wetter weather.

Then use either leather to soothe the baby's teething.

The wizard was seething when his clothing was seized.

This is the zoo they bathed their brothers in.

Alright, that's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!

Welcome to Broken English, the quick fix for your pronunciation. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at the voiceless th sound, θ. To really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

To make the /θ/ sound, remember to put the front of your tongue a little between your teeth. You can also have the tip of your tongue touching your top tooth slightly, but in general your tongue is between your top and bottom teeth. You should feel a lot of air going through your mouth; do not stop the air.

Let's start with some practice words.

thin thick anything without wealth healthy death fourth sixtieth

Next, some word pairs:

thick thistles/ anything thin/ without wealth/ sixtieth birthday/ think thoughts/ thread through/ thumping thumbs

Now, some comparisons. Let's start with θ and t

thin/tin with/wit fourth/fort wealth/welt death/debt thick/tick

Now, for θ and s

thin/sin fourth/force thick/sick think/sink tenth/tense

Lastly, some practice sentences

I think the fourth sink was thin enough.

Anything will fit within a thicker tin.

His death was from a healthy tick with a sickness.

Thread through the thread with your thumb.

Alright, that's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!

Welcome to Broken English, the quick fix for your pronunciation. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at voiced and voiceless consonant endings for words. To really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

What is a voiceless sound? It is a sound where your throat does not vibrate. Consider these letters and sounds: k, f, p, s, t

For many people learning English, voiceless final sounds are simpler than the voiced version. But what are those voiced sounds? To make them, use the same mouth position, but vibrate your throat.

Some examples? Well, if k is voiceless, g is voiced. F is voiceless; v is voiced. P is voiceless, b is voiced. S – voiceless, z voiced. Finally, t is voiceless, d is voiced. Again: k/g, f/v, p/b, s/z, t/d.

Let's look at some examples with words:

k:	g:
sack peck brick lock luck	sag peg brig log lug
f:	v:
proof fan few calf cliff	prove van view calves clove
s:	z:
hiss this base	his these bays
p:	b:
pit mop lop pull	bit mob lob bull
t:	d:
hit mat mutt let	hid mad mud led

Let's look at some of those again with some minimal pairs:

sack/sag luck/lug proof/prove calf/calves hiss/his base/bays mop/mob
 lop/lob hit/hid mat/mad

Now, some practice sentences. The voiced sounds are bold, the voiceless are underlined:

That sack of bricks sags in these few bays.

I can prove a mob **lobbed** the locks off the bulls.

Mop the brig with this lug of logs I **hid**.

Who let in the pit bull I **led** outside?

Alright, that's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!

Welcome to Broken English on Fluent American, the quick fix for your pronunciation. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at the initial s sound, especially for Spanish and Portuguese speakers. To really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

The letter s is pronounced in Romance languages much like in English. However, there is at least one major difference. In English, the letter s can start a word; it can then be followed by a consonant or vowel. The important thing is to start the word with an /s/ sound, not a vowel.

For instance, practice these words—be careful not to pronounce an /e/ before each s:

school square Spanish scream stare study skate

Let's look at some practice sentences:

I study Spanish classes in school.

Stephen screams whenever he skates.

Skillets cook steaks and scallops skillfully.

She slowly slides down slick slides.

That's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!

Welcome to Broken English on Fluent American, the quick fix for your pronunciation. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at the m sound, especially for endings. To really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

The letter m is pronounced with both of your lips pressed together; your throat also needs to vibrate.

Let's look at some initial m sounds:

much many more mercy math

Now, some middle m sounds:

summer hammer dimple remark management

Lastly, we'll look at some final m sounds:

bottom ham autumn film cream

Let's look at some practice sentences:

A film in the summer is much merrier than an autumn film.

My mother remarked she has more ham and ice cream.

The bottom of the mug must seem dim.

Many monkeys make music with a drum.

That's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!

Welcome to Broken English, the quick fix for your pronunciation. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at y. To really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

To make the /y/ sound, the front of your tongue is up, but the exact tip of your tongue is by your bottom teeth. Many times in a word, a /y/ sound is pronounced between two vowels, such as in the word "diet".

Let's start with some initial y sounds:

yellow yacht yarn Yale yolk yen

Now, some middle y sounds:

mayor lawyer layer praying crayon diet.

Next, some word pairs:

yellow yarn/ lawyer's yacht/ yolk diet/ Yale's mayor/ use yen/ usually yells

Now, some comparisons the /dʒ/ of "major" and the /y/ of "mayor". Compare these:

mayor/major yet/jet yay/jay yolk/joke yack/jack yell/jell use/juice

The mayor's just using a major yellow yolk diet and juice.

Lastly, some practice sentences:

Yale's mayor yodels on his yellow yacht.

Lawyers usually yell about liability.

Use yen when you buy a Toyota.

Your yardsticks haven't yielded anything yet.

Alright, that's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!

Welcome to Broken English, the quick fix for your pronunciation. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at the dʒ sound. To really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

To make the / dʒ / sound, quickly touch the top of your mouth with the tip of your tongue, then release. Make sure your throat is vibrating.

Let's look at some initial dʒ sounds:

judge juice jail Japanese joke justice jeer job
The judges jailed jokesters in juicy jails.

Now, some middle dʒ sounds:

adjust injustice fidget budget major engine disjointed
Major budget adjustments led to the injustice.

Next, some final dʒ sounds:

fudge forge hedge badge nudge siege age
At what age can I forge my first fudge badge?

One point of confusion is the /dʒ/ of "pledge" and the /ʒ/ of "pleasure". Compare these words:

pledge/ pleasure Roger/garage lodge/collage fudge/fusion ledge/leisure
For his leisure, Roger measured the collages on the ledges of his garage.

Another can the /dʒ/ of "major" and the /y/ of "mayor". Compare these:

major/mayor jet/yet jay/yay jeer/year jack/yack jell/yell
A major mayor yelled at the jeering all year.

A last issue that can be common is the difference between the /dʒ/ of "budge" and the /z/ of "buzz". Compare these:

budge/buzz forge/fours siege/seize jean/zine rage/raise Joan/zone
The jean zine's budget was seized in a rage.

Lastly, some practice sentences:

Drinking juice in June is a job I enjoy.
Adjust the hedges if they nudge your jeans.
Don't joke about jail with the jovial juniors.
His badge was forged in the dangerous jungle.

Alright, that's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!

Welcome to Broken English, the quick fix for your pronunciation. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at the ŋ sound, like the "ng" in "song". To really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

To make the / ŋ / sound, the back of your tongue makes contact with the top of your mouth. If you can't tell if the back of your tongue is going up, consider these tips:

- when you make a "g" sound, like in the word "good", the back of your tongue starts to go up; for the / ŋ / sound, you want to push the back of your tongue up even higher
- some people make an "r" sound, like in the word "rough" by pushing the mid-back of their tongue up; the / ŋ / will be similar, but you need to lift your tongue a little bit more in the back
- when you make the /a/ sound, like in "stop" in American English, the back of your tongue goes down; this is the opposite of the / ŋ / sound

Let's start with some practice / ŋ / sounds.

ring sang wrong lung pang singing bringing clanging

Compare the / n / sound with / ŋ /.

sun/sung thin/thing pan/pang sin/sing pin/ping ton/tongue stun/stung

Now, some practice word pairs.

teaching swimming/ singing songs/ wrong thing/ stung tongue/ being annoying

Lastly, some practice sentences.

Teaching young children swimming isn't wrong.

Anything you bring is a blessing.

His wings and lungs are looking strong.

Who sings songs with a stung tongue?

Alright, that's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!

Welcome to Broken English, the quick fix for your pronunciation. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at the r as a consonant sound. To really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

To make the /r/ sound, one way is to have the front and back of your tongue up, around the height of your top tooth. The middle of your tongue will go down slightly, so your tongue will make a slight "u" shape. You may even feel the back of your tongue almost make contact with the top of your mouth.

A second way is to have the back of your tongue make contact with the top of your mouth. The front of your tongue stays down around your bottom teeth. You should feel the gum is a little rounder where it starts to meet your tooth.

Let's start with some initial r sounds.

rough rule right rope rang rip rust

Now, some middle r sounds.

jury marching partial cultural moreover worthy university

Next, some final r sounds.

par fair here never more poor

Remember that the r before a consonant is pronounced in American English.

modern learn heard hard fern horn first blurb

Some combinations that can be difficult are words that end with r+l or r+l+d:

whir/whirl/world cur/curl/curled fur/unfurl/unfurled per/pearl/pearled

Now, some practice word pairs:

first person/ never learn/ dirty shirt/ modern art/ rough rider/ born third/ par four/ river rapids

Lastly, some practice sentences:

The first person to answer never learns the right response.

The morning after the storm was the worst.

Formal restaurants rarely offer the right dessert.

Inform every teacher on the advisory board

Alright, that's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!

Welcome to Broken English, the quick fix for your pronunciation. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at the short I /I/ sound. To really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

To make the /I/ sound, your mouth does not need to be very open. The front of your tongue can be down. The middle of your tongue is raised. The back of your tongue is down. /I/. /I/.

To make this sound, you use the letter /i/ like in "miss", "bit", or "thin".

You can use make it with the letters "ui", like "quit", "quiz", or "build"

Finally, you can put a "y" between consonants, like "system" or "bicycle".

Let's say all of those words again: "miss", "bit", "thin", "quit", "quiz", "build", "system", "bicycle".

How about some word pairs: bit thin/ quick hit/ missed quiz/ this bicycle/ hit the gym

Here are some practice sentences. Again, try to repeat and sound like me.

I missed this quiz when my kids were sick.

His trip to Italy was finished in April.

Is the gym in this city pretty big?

seat/sit

meat/mit

seep/sip

deep/dip

feel/fill

Alright, that's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!

Welcome to Broken English, the quick fix for your pronunciation on Fluent American. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at the /a/ sound. Before we begin, some standard notes: to really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

To make the /a/ sound, your mouth needs to be very wide—this is one of the most open vowel sounds in English. Keep your tongue down. In the United States, this is the sound doctors ask you to make to check your throat.

There are two ways to write this sound.

The first is with an *O*. Be careful; this is very common in English. See, for example: “sob”, “mop”, “and box”.

The other way is with an *A*, like in the words “wasp”, “part”, and “father”.

Again, “sob”, “mop”, and “box”; “wasp”, “part”, and “father”.

Let's look at some sample word pairs:

father's watch/ hot pot/ stop watching/ not modern/ office job/ parking spot/ job offer/ doctor's office

The doctor's office I stopped at was locked.

There's a rock in my sock and water in my watch.

The pot on top of the box is hot.

An odd song was playing by my parking spot.

Alright, that's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!

Welcome to Broken English, the quick fix for your pronunciation on Fluent American. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at the /ʌ/ sound. Before we begin, some standard notes: to really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

To make the /ʌ/ sound, your mouth needs to be open. The tip of your tongue will be down by your bottom front tooth. The back of your tongue will be higher.

There are three ways to write this sound.

Firstly, you can use a *U*: "dump", "bust", and "sunk".

An *O*: "one", "month", and "wonder".

Or, you can use both an *O* and a *U*: "young", "enough", and "country".

Again, those words: "dump", "bust", "sunk", "one", "month", "wonder", "young", "enough", "country".

Here are a few word pairs with this sound:

one month/ young country/ loved son/ summer sun/ fun enough/ lump sum/ dumb luck

Now, some practice sentences:

One month in the young country is enough.

We loved the lump sum of money we won.

My son's cousin jumped up when he was done.

Someone dumped the rug from my trunk.

Alright, that's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!

Welcome to Broken English, the quick fix for your pronunciation on Fluent American. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at the /ʊ/ sound. Please note that this can be very different from the way you may have learned it. Before we begin, some standard notes: to really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

To make the /ʊ/ sound, your mouth does not need to be very open. You want your lips to be more long and horizontal; try smiling when you say these words if you are having trouble. The front of your tongue is down. The key is the back of your tongue; it must be high, but does not come to the top of your mouth..

There several ways to write this sound.

Firstly, you use two *o*'s, as in "neighborhood", "book", or "good".

"-ould" modal verbs also make this sound: "would", "could", "should".

Lastly, the letter *u* also produces it: "pull", "put", "cushion"

Let's say those words again: "neighborhood", "book", "good", "would", "could", "should", "pull", "put", "cushion".

Now, let's put them into word pairs:

good neighborhood/ look at the book/ should cook/ would have understood/ look for sugar/ pull the hook

Here are some practice sentences. Again, try to repeat and sound like me.

Look at the book my brother took.

The cook book says sugar would be good.

I pulled out a picture of the neighborhood from my childhood.

The cushion on the hook is full of wool.

Alright, that's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!

Welcome to Broken English, the quick fix for your pronunciation on Fluent American. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at the /u/ sound. Before we begin, some standard notes: to really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

To make the /u/ sound, your mouth does not need to be very open, but your lips do need to be round, like a circle. The back of your tongue is high. The front of your tongue is low, by your bottom tooth.

There several ways to write this sound.

Firstly, you use two *O*'s, as in "tooth", "boot", or "food".

A single *O* can also make it—"whose", "to", or "lose".

UE is common, like in the words "clue", "value", or "statue".

EW also works, as in "news", "flew", and "threw".

Finally, there's just a *U*, like "duke", "pollute", or "tube".

Time for some word pairs:

new clue/ news flew/ who pollutes/ duke's boot/ threw out food/ blue statue/ lose a tooth

Here are some practice sentences. Again, try to repeat and sound like me.

I threw the school's food into the room.

News flew when he threw the duke's boot.

Who found the true value on two rooms?

She drinks fruit juice with a soup spoon.

Alright, that's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!

Welcome to Broken English, the quick fix for your pronunciation on Fluent American. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at the /ou/ sound. Before we begin, some standard notes: to really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

To make the /ou/ sound, remember this is a diphthong, so your tongue will move. It will start low with your mouth open. The front of your tongue will be low, the back of your tongue a little higher. Then, close your mouth and make your lips a circle. Your tongue will now be near the top of your mouth. If it still seems difficult, push your lips out a little bit and make sure they are in a circle.

There are a few ways to write this sound.

Firstly, you can use an O: "so", "ghost", and "clothe".

An OW: "low", "blow", and "shown".

An OA: "coast", "loan", and "toad".

Lastly, you can use an OUGH: "though", "dough".

Again, those words: "so", "ghost", "clothe", "low", "blow", "shown", "coast", "loan", "toad", "though", "dough".

Here are a few word pairs with this sound:

go home/ low blow/ open window/ own loan/ cold dough/ slow toad/ row the boat

Now, some practice sentences:

The slow toad is trying to go home across the road.

Don't smoke if you don't open the window.

The ghost was clothed in a rose colored coat.

The row boat seems to go in slow motion.

Alright, that's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!

Welcome to Broken English, the quick fix for your pronunciation on Fluent American. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at the /ɔ/ sound. Before we begin, some standard notes: to really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

To make the /ɔ/ sound, your mouth needs to be open. Keep the tip of your tongue down; the back can be high, but do not touch the top of your mouth.

There are many ways to write this sound.

AW is the first way, like in "dawn", "paw", and "lawful".

AL will take away contact from the "L" sound: "talk", "already", and "wall".

AU is seen in words like "audience", "clause", and "August".

O does the job, too, as in "boss", "solve", and "often".

*OUGH*T and *AUGH*T also work: "sought", "daughter", and "thought".

Again: "dawn", "paw", "lawful", "talk", "already", "wall", "audience", "clause", "August", "boss", "solve", "often", "sought", "daughter", "thought"

Let's look at some sample word pairs:

daughter's boss/ small ball/ always talk/ gone off/ long walk/ thought wrong/ saw it all/ salty sauce

Here are some sentences to practice with:

Her daughter caught the ball I thought was gone.

The author received a long applause from the audience.

The dog we lost in August walked home by the fall.

I saw you watered the lawn and bought paint for the wall.

Alright, that's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!

Welcome to Broken English, the quick fix for your pronunciation on Fluent American. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at the /æ/ sound. Before we begin, some standard notes: to really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

To make the /æ/ sound, your mouth needs to be a little open. The tip of your tongue is down, so is the back of your tongue. The middle of your is a little high. There should be space between your tongue and the top of your mouth. Your lips will be a little straight. There is only one way to write this sound.

Use the letter *A*, as in these words: "past", "man", and "sat". Let's look at some sample word pairs:

fast answer/ past fashion/ black cat/ bad apple/ fat chance/ can't act/ at bat/ last package

Now, some example sentences:

The black cat was too fast to catch.

The last package was left at the back door.

There's a fat chance the man will get his backpack.

A bad apple gives fast answers in math class.

Alright, that's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!

Welcome to Broken English, the quick fix for your pronunciation on Fluent American. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at the / ϵ / sound. Before we begin, some standard notes: to really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

To make the / ϵ / sound, your mouth needs to be open. Your tongue will be in the middle of your mouth. The tip of your tongue is near the middle of your teeth. The back of your tongue is a little higher.

To write this sound, there are two main ways.

The first is to use the letter *E*, such as in "less", "best", and "enter".

The other is to use the letters *EA*, like for the words "measurement", "dead", or the past participle "read".

Again, "less", "best", "enter", "measurement", "dead", "read".

Let's look at some sample word pairs:

well fed/ get rest/ better led/ red pen/ best measurement/ heavy head/ never spent/ next general

Now, some example sentences:

The men who read the book said it was excellent.

To get better, stay well fed and rest in bed.

I never spent so much to get the best measurement.

She edited the essay in red pen.

Alright, that's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!

Welcome to Broken English, the quick fix for your pronunciation. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at the /eI/ sound, like in "take". To really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

To make the /eI/ sound, your mouth needs to be open. The front and middle of your tongue need to be up as high as you can with your mouth open. The back of your tongue is down.

To make this sound, you use

an "a + consonant + e": "bathe", "hate", "safe"

Or an "ai": "claim", "Spain", "bait"

Or sometimes just an "a": "alien", "April"

An "ay" as well: "ray", "clay", "Friday"

Or an "ey": "prey", "disobey", "osprey"

Lastly, an "eigh": "neighborhood", "eight", "neigh"

To review: "bathe", "hate", "safe", "claim", "Spain", "bait", "alien", "April", "ray", "clay", "Friday", "prey", "disobey", "osprey", "neighborhood", "eight", "neigh"

Next, some word pairs: hate bathing/ freight train/ April eighth/ rainy day/ safe neighborhood/ came late

Here are some practice sentences. Again, try to repeat and sound like me.

The freight train came eight hours late.

I hated how April eighth was a rainy day.

They may get away to Spain if someone pays.

The jail break dismayed the safe neighborhood.

Alright, that's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!