



American English Pronunciation: It's No Good Unless You're Understood (Complete program - 2nd Edition)

By Donna Hope

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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

"I thought I spoke English . . . until no one understood me." A bit exaggerated? Perhaps. But this statement reflects the experience common to nearly all international speakers of English, regardless of the level of language achieved. Pronunciation is the most variable aspect of English. And, throughout the world, it is the one aspect of English that has, until recently, been given little attention.

When you learn a second language, without learning its pronunciation, you tend to substitute your set of sounds for those in the second language. The particular sound substitutions you will make are logical and predictable. In this program, you will learn which errors you are making and exactly how to correct them.

Learning new pronunciation is a matter of developing or changing habit. And it is achievable, regardless of your age or how ingrained your pronunciation habits are. This program has been designed for you, the individual, regardless of your first language. It has proven effective for both individuals and for group classes.

This program has been based on work with students from many countries. And many students have completed this program. All of them have improved their pronunciation significantly. A number of them have been complimented on their American accent.

About the Author

Donna Hope, MMS/CCC-SLP is a speech-language pathologist and director of the American English School in Atlanta, Georgia USA. She has specialized in adult speech and language since 1974. Ms. Hope holds an MMS (Master of Medical Science) in Communication Disorders from Emory University School of Medicine and a BA in English from the University of Georgia. She has lectured internationally on accent reduction to speech-language pathologists, ESOL instructors and others.

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From Chapter One: "THROUGH THICK AND THIN" -- Voiceless "TH" at the beginning of a syllable.

I. MAKE THE SOUND Protrude your tongue. Touch your tongue lightly with the upper teeth. Blow. Be careful: 1) Keep your tongue flat. 2) Maintain an even, steady flow of air. If you do not have steady airflow, you are probably either biting your tongue or not protruding your tongue far enough. Your teeth should not touch your tongue during sound production. Check your position in a mirror. 3) The airflow needs to be sufficiently audible. 4) Don't change position during the sound. 5) Be careful how you end the sound. Don't move your tongue until you have stopped blowing. To check your production, maintain the airflow evenly for 5 seconds.

II. CAN YOU HEAR THE DIFFERENCE? "S" and "T" substitutions for "TH" are common. Can you hear the difference between: thin - sin, thaw-saw, thank - tank, thought - taught Now the speaker will say one of each of the following pairs of words. Decide whether it is the first or second word. thin - sin, thank - sank, theme - seem (seam), think - sink, thick - sick, thing -sing, thought - sought, thumb - some (sum), thigh - sigh, thank - tank, thorn - torn, thigh - tie (Thai), thug - tug, therm - term, thought - taught, thin - tin, thick - tick, theme - team (teem)

III. NOW IT'S YOUR TURN. WORDS-- thin, think, thick, thing, thank, thigh, theme, thief, thousand, thaw, thought, thug, thumb, thunder, thump, thud, therapy, theory, third, thirty, thirteen, thorough, Thursday, thirsty, thermal, three, through (threw), within, without, ethics, author, method, something, nothing, anything, everything EXCEPTIONS-- Although these words are spelled with "TH", they are pronounced with a "T": Thomas, Thompson, Theresa, Thailand, Thames, Esther, thyme, apartheid. The "TH" is omitted in: asthma. SENTENCES-- 1) Thank you. 2) I think so. 3) Cathy is too thin. 4) Today is Thursday. 5) I'm thirsty. 6) Thomas is a thief. 7) Arthur will be thirty on Thursday. 8) I thought I heard thunder. 9) A rose has thorns. 10) Say something. 11) Theresa goes to therapy on Thursday. 12) Anthony said nothing. 13) Arthur hurt his thumb. 14) Thanks very much. 15) Do you need anything? 16) I thought of something. 17) Thanks for everything. 18) I think we're leaving at 3:30. 19) I thought Cynthia taught something else. 20) Kathy did a thorough job. 21) Theresa is thirty-three years old.

SENTENCES WITH AN EXPLANATION-- 1) Carry coffee in your thermos (i.e., thermal bottle. The name brand, Thermos, has come to apply to all such bottles.). 2) His hair is thinning (i.e., He is losing his hair. He is going bald.). 3) Thanks anyway. (Say this to someone who has tried unsuccessfully to help you.). 4) Anthony has been my friend through thick and thin (i.e, in good times and in bad). 5) Theo is having second thoughts about his decision (i.e., doubts). 6) A new think tank has been formed to study urban problems (i.e., a research center for solving social or scientific problems). SENTENCES TO USE WITH YOUR FRIENDS-- 1) Cynthia is something else (i.e., quite an unusual person)! 2) Put on your thinking cap (i.e., take time to think something over). 3) Thomas isn't mainstream; he's a musician who does his own thing (i.e., He follows his own inclinations; he doesn't follow the crowd). 4) Howard Hughes had a thing about privacy (i.e., an obsession with). 5) He also had a thing about germs (i.e., phobia; fear). 6) You should think twice before accepting his job offer (i.e., reconsider; think again before acting). 7) Samantha was thumbing a ride (i.e., hitchhiking). 8) I heard you turned thumbs down on the offer (i.e., rejected). 9) I didn't know Cynthia was so thick-headed (i.e., stupid). 10) Anthony is under his therapist's thumb (i.e., under his influence or power). 11) The author is very thin-skinned (i.e., sensitive to criticism). 12) Martha is thick-skinned (i.e., insensitive to criticism).

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Donald Taylor:

People live in this new moment of lifestyle always try to and must have the extra time or they will get wide range of stress from both lifestyle and work. So , when we ask do people have extra time, we will say absolutely yes. People is human not a robot. Then we consult again, what kind of activity are you experiencing when the spare time coming to you of course your answer will probably unlimited right. Then do you ever try this one, reading textbooks. It can be your alternative within spending your spare time, the book you have read is usually American English Pronunciation: It's No Good Unless You're Understood (Complete program - 2nd Edition).

Anh Huckaby:

American English Pronunciation: It's No Good Unless You're Understood (Complete program - 2nd Edition) can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. Many of us recommend that straight away because this publication has good vocabulary that can increase your knowledge in words, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The article author giving his/her effort that will put every word into joy arrangement in writing American English Pronunciation: It's No Good Unless You're

Understood (Complete program - 2nd Edition) yet doesn't forget the main place, giving the reader the hottest in addition to based confirm resource info that maybe you can be one among it. This great information can drawn you into completely new stage of crucial pondering.

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