

*The Importance and Relevance of Voice and Accent in English Communication*  
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## **The Importance and Relevance of Voice and Accent in English Communication**

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### **Abstract**

*Language is a primary means of communication which is supposed to be understood by all. Pupils with good English articulation are likely to be understood even if they make mistakes in other areas, whereas pupils with bad pronunciation will not be understood, even if their grammar is perfect. Correct accent is a basis for effective communication in English. English Language has developed a large number of regional dialects and that's why Non- Native speakers are confused while learning correct accent in English. The problem can be solved if they work hard on losing accents of their respective regional languages and learn accurate English Accent. When we talk to people in the real life, our accent is the first thing they notice during a conversation. A good pronunciation makes a speaker full of confidence to communicate the native accent of English. Alertness on pronunciation brings about an amazing output with better listening conception.*

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## **Introduction**

English pronunciation or accent are well understood and enjoyed with some error in different areas. The beginners with improper articulation are not grasped even it is grammatically perfect. Though such beginners are intelligent and expressive even then they avoid English speaking and they face employment difficulties and lack of opportunities. The world is global village consisting of different sect, language, colour, caste, creed and atmospheric differences but we unite with each other with help of language. Today English language is used in different conference, seminars, workshop and international meetings but if our articulation is not clear universally then we shall not be able express our feelings, notions by way of speaking so the beginners with the poor accent may be judge as illiterate, incompetent, not conversant with the modern knowledge and technology .Therefore it's more important and difficult aspect of English language which need complete help from the teacher concerned.

Accent or pronunciation is the result of the production of sound which has some meaning, which makes language segment of sound such as phrasing, rhythm , timing etc. the quality of voice is judged how the voice or accent is projected, attention to gesture and expression related to a language we speak

**“Pronunciation is a set of habits of producing sounds. The habit of producing sound is acquired by repeating it over again and again and by being corrected when it is pronounced wrongly. Learning to pronounce a second language means building up new pronunciation habits and overcoming the basis of the first language”** (cook, 1996)

Accent is an important thing which people notice and remarks when we talk in English. Accent is an integrated and important part of contrary foreign language because it affects the competence and performance to the substantial extent. People are always interested in English like native speakers but the accent is a big problem for the fresher's . It is expected to speak English grammatically correct but many people couldn't understand grammar structures and they find difficult in pronouncing words .Good accent create self- confidence before the audience while improper pronunciation not only confuse audience but the speaker also feels demotivated.

“When the non- native speakers' vocabulary and grammar are excellent, if their pronunciation falls below a certain threshold ; they are unable to communicate effectively and efficiently.”<sup>1</sup>(Wong 1987)

So proper accent means that a speaker should pronounce words in such a way that listeners understand without making any efforts because wrong accent can cause a breakdown in communication and requires more efforts to understand the

message. for e.g. words the sound of words like “see” and “she” may confuse the listeners.

The different dialect that result in the pronunciation of English speaking of American and European is slightly different because American speaking the vowel sound as half while the Europeans differs in their accent. English typical rather funny language because ‘no’ and ‘Know’, ‘hour’ and ‘our’ have same sounds. For the effective speaking of English we must utter a correct accent, training thereby language is first spoken than written. Language is mainly composed of the sounds with a permanent meanings of its own. English is not a phonetic language because there is no relation between the letter and sound. In English one letter just doesn’t represent one sound hence become obstacle for the learner.

Many scholars neglect the English pronunciation because their teaching techniques for the teachers to teach who teach English but doesn’t tell about the accent. In some countries English is taught through their mother language for e.g. Russia and China which doesn’t make the student think about the punctuation and grammatical error ‘s’. Spoken English is also flavor up to some extent their mother accent and the students couldn’t speak English frequently. The best method to teach English in such cases through the techniques of Oxford curriculum. The English should be taught through direct method and teaching phonetics from lower classes. This hurdle may be overcome by assisting the teachers to teach language in correct accent

In India English is taught as second language at all levels of education. For teaching English all universities colleges etc. have specific English department for teaching of English Language. English is accepted as a medium of education either technical, medical, legal or educational departments, even then in these departments unfortunately the students are not serious about the exposure of English, as a communicative language for the learning strategy the awareness and the basic knowledge between the learning strategies and pronunciation is needed.

English pronunciation is neglected today in language classroom due to lack of English Pronunciation teaching strategies or techniques available for the teachers because teachers are neither have motivation nor basic training in methodology of teaching language and this create serious pedagogical problems.

Language is a primary means of communication which is supposed to understood by all. The main source of understanding the teaching pronunciation is crucial. If a man cannot speak or utter the correct word or expression then they are not able to communicate their ideas and feelings properly which will create a lot of difficulties. It is irritated for other people if they have to keep asking to repeat, but

they still cannot figure out what the person is speaking . Consequently, if it takes a lot of pains to understand their English, people will sidestep communicating with them. In contrast, they will enjoy talking to them when they have a pleasant accent that is easy for them hear and understand .

A good pronunciation makes a speaker full of confidence to communicate the native accent of English. Awareness on pronunciation brings about an extraordinary output with better listening comprehension.

The preparatory program for the English Language teachers should have the priority while learning English pronunciation-

1- To learn the basic sound Sounding and drilling should be there.

2-Articulation of different sounds should be shown with the help of mouth diagrams.

3-To learn the correct articulation of words audio and visual material should be provided to the students.

4- Language teachers for correct accent and sounds should use digital dictionaries.

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