

***Sounds: The Pronunciation App* lesson plans**

Introduction

These activities are all short. They are basic activities which enable you to incorporate pronunciation into any part of any lesson and as such can be interspersed throughout any lesson. Remember that pronunciation applies to all language levels, and this kind of pronunciation practice needs to start at the earliest level. And it needs to be maintained throughout all lessons whatever the content, as an integral party of the language, not merely reduced to a 'pronunciation slot.' Learning the correct pronunciation is a vital part of learning new vocabulary. It's also important to introduce pronunciation at the point of contact with any new language.

You can apply these activities to your specific lesson plans and coursebook topics by using these chart activities to the relevant vocabulary you have chosen.

Using *Sounds* for teacher self-development

Exercise 1 Practise individual sounds

1. Go to the Phonemic Chart and choose a sound that you would like to focus on. Tap the sound once and listen carefully.
2. Replay the sound in your inner ear, without tapping again. Recall how it sounds and think about how it is formed.
3. Next, say it aloud. Notice how your version is similar / different to the app model.
4. Explore up to ten sounds in this way, and notice how your inner ear develops the ability to 'hear' the sound again several more times after tapping the Phonemic Chart only once.
5. For the sounds which you need to develop, explore what happens if you move your tongue a little forward or back, or make your lips rounded or spread, or move your jaw a little up or down. For example to go from /i:/ (*keep*) to /æ/ (*cap*) you move your jaw and tongue down, so the mouth is more open.
6. Note which sounds you are comfortable with and which sounds you need to develop.

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Follow up

Repeat the procedure but use the sample words on the Phonemic Chart, by tapping and holding to listen to the word.

Exercise 2 Record yourself and compare

1. Go to the Word List and choose a sound that you would like to focus on.
2. Find the words which feature this sound, tap them and listen carefully.
3. When you are ready, use the record function to record yourself saying the words.
4. Listen and compare your pronunciation with the model.
5. What similarities and differences do you notice?

Exercise 3 Explore the *Practice* activities

1. Go to the *Practice* section and explore the different activities, centred around reading, writing and listening skills.
2. Do these for a short time, choosing to focus on individual phonemes or a variety.
3. While you are doing them, think about the challenges that these activities would present for your students.

Follow up

Move on to the *Quizzes* when you are ready for more challenging variations of the activities.

Exercise 4 Prepare a guided tour for your class

1. In the *More* section, go to the *More about phonetics* menu and select *More about Sounds*. Watch the guided tour of the chart.
2. Prepare a similar demonstration on the layout of the chart that you can give to your students.

Follow up

Use the Top Ten Tips for Teachers from the *More about phonetics* to consider more ways in which you can incorporate the tips in your own teaching.

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