

## CONSONANT SOUNDS TEST

**Instructions for American English Consonants Pronunciation (Articulation) Self-Assessment (Numbers 1 through 26):** Say each word. If you have difficulty with the consonant sound indicated in the sample word, "circle" the difficult word and put an "x" in the rectangular box for that sound. The "circled" words will determine if part of your problem comes when you have to say longer, multiple syllable words with the sound in it. Additionally, some common **PROBLEM SOUNDS** for a person from a **AFRICAN AMERICAN ENGLISH SPEAKING BACKGROUND** will be indicated for you by **NUMBERS IN PURPLE**.

			1 Syllable	2 Syllables	3 Syllables	4 Syllables	5 Syllables	5+ Syllables	
	h	<input type="checkbox"/>							
	wh	<input type="checkbox"/>							
1	w	<input type="checkbox"/>	want always	were away	Wednesday hardware store	women sandwiches	wallpaper Kawasaki	watermelon	
2	m	<input type="checkbox"/>	mom come camp	machine album lemon	management maximum hamburger	misconception petroleum Amarillo	magnification auditorium hippopotamus		
3	p	<input type="checkbox"/>	pie soap supper	pickels landscape compare	potatoes envelope computer	potentially stereotype disposable	penitentiary supermarket		
4	b	<input type="checkbox"/>	best crib	batter subscribe baby	boulevard prescribe subtotal	beautifully corn-on-the-cob ambulance	bacteria formidable		
5	f	<input type="checkbox"/>	fun chef	photo enough afford	factory waterproof emphasize	facility choreograph proficient	manufacture	cafeteria	
6	v	<input type="checkbox"/>	vote of invoice	vacuum improve covered	vegetables effective renovate	verocity subdivide development	vocabulary alternative individual	veterinarian unequivocally	
7	n	<input type="checkbox"/>	nice fan and	naughty button sentence	neighborhood afternoon banana	noticeable phenomenon undermined	necessarily multiplication information's	developmental	
8	t	<input type="checkbox"/>	type quit hotel	toilet jacket substitute	telephone chocolate vegetables	tomorrow certificate thermometer	television undeveloped refrigerator		
9	d	<input type="checkbox"/>	down red birthday	depressed salad sudden	department expected medicine	diagnosis lemonade redundant	disagreeable undecided ridiculous	disorganization understandably rudimentary	
10	k	<input type="checkbox"/>	could look parking	kitchen public doctor	company stomachache accident	customary massacre medication	cooperation optimistic discoloration		
11	g	<input type="checkbox"/>	got big figure	gallon colleague ago	guarantee catalog chewing gum	Gabriella travelogue magnificant	gastronomical egotistical		
12	(ing)	<input type="checkbox"/>	ring bringing	evening singing	fingernail				
13	th (o)	<input type="checkbox"/>	thanks with birthday	Thursday dishcloth bathroom	theater underneath authorize	thermometer Elizabeth arithmetic	authenticity		
14	TH ( )	<input type="checkbox"/>	this loathe mother	themselves rebathe within	therabout another	altogether			
15	sh	<input type="checkbox"/>	shoes brush machine	shipping fnish insure	chaperon accomplish inspection	Shenandoah mulberry bush education	abbreviation	disorganization	
16	(zh)	<input type="checkbox"/>	azure	measure	decision	supervision	usually		
17	ch	<input type="checkbox"/>	choose lunch matches	children approach teacher	chewing gum butterscotch furniture	charitable agriculture	infatuation		
18	j	<input type="checkbox"/>	juice page project	journal garage budget	janitor project management	jurisdiction encourage advantageous	generational exaggeration		
19	s	<input type="checkbox"/>	soup ice lesson	sandwich promise pencil	cereal poisonous passenger	ceremony unanimous impossible	superintendent miscellaneous electricity	systematically	
20	z	<input type="checkbox"/>	zip please losing	zero surprise reason	xylophone merchandise resume	zoology apologize supervisor	organization		
21	l	<input type="checkbox"/>	laugh little color	laundry thoughtful pillow	library casual policeman	legislature traditional fortunately	laboratory individual immediately	accidentally	
22	r (Beginning position)	<input type="checkbox"/>	red	rabbit	reasonable	remembering	ramifications		
23	Consonant to /er/	<input type="checkbox"/>	bird	loafers	dinner	father	follower		
24	Consonant to /er/	<input type="checkbox"/>	fisherman	teacher	tangerine	bigger	leatherworks		
24	/er/ to Consonant	<input type="checkbox"/>	urp	earn	earth	early	urge		
25	Vowel to /er/	<input type="checkbox"/>	haircut	earache	fireman	fourteen	horse	car	sewer
26	y	<input type="checkbox"/>	yes lawyer	yellow behavior	uniforms Cecilia	yesterday security	unanimous continually		

**AMERICAN ENGLISH VOWELS PRONUNCIATION SELF-ASSESSMENT**

Instructions for the American English Vowels Pronunciation (Articulation) Self-Assessment (Letters A through S): Say the words. If you have difficulty with the vowel sound indicated, in the sample words, put an "x" in the rectangular box for that sound. Additionally, some common **PROBLEM SOUNDS** for a person from an **AFRICAN AMERICAN ENGLISH SPEAKING BACKGROUND** will be indicated for you by **LETTERS IN PURPLE**. For more in-depth evaluation of Vowel Sounds, study the Vowel Sheets handout found in the handout sections of the Foreign Accent Modification Course or the American English Consonants Pronunciation Course from this website.)

**FRONT VOWELS**

A. eel, Eli, eat

B. itch, fit, bit

(Say the **RED** words from the American English Consonants Pronunciation (Articulation) Self-Assessment for other examples.)

C. ape, Ada, aid (Same as from Diphthongs)

D. elf, Ed, edge

E. apple, Ann, act

**BACK VOWELS**

F. oops, pool, fool

G. look, pull, full

(Say the **BLUE** words from the American English Consonants Pronunciation (Articulation) Self-Assessment for other examples.)

H. oh, no, sew (Same as from Diphthongs)

I. awful, auto, coffee

J. octopus, Ollie, hot

**MID VOWELS**

K. work, heard, bird, journal

L. scatter, teacher, fisherman, leader

M. uncle, up, cup, jump

(Say the **GREEN** words from the American English Consonants Pronunciation (Articulation) Self-Assessment for other examples.)

N. Anna

**DIPHTHONGS**

O. oil, boy, spoil

P. oh, no, sew (Same as from Back Vowels)

Q. ape, Ada, aid (Same as from Front Vowels)

R. I, spy, cry

**S.** outside, owl

Some Common **PROBLEM LANGUAGE ERRORS** for a person from an **AFRICAN AMERICAN ENGLISH SPEAKING BACKGROUND** will be indicated for you by **WORDS IN PURPLE**.

Speaking African American English in the United States is acceptable, unless you are in a general business setting. Then you need to learn how to do "dialect switching" to speak in a more Standard American English manner. Highlighted items are common areas for you to address.

Be sure that all FINAL POSITION Consonant sounds are put on the ends of words. In particular, the "l" sound needs to be prolonged, slightly, to be correct.

Be sure you do not INCORRECTLY say words as "consonant to er" combinations, instead of "vowel to er" combinations, such as the mispronounced "scerd" for the word "scared."

Be sure you do NOT INCORRECTLY say words as "consonant to vowel" combinations, instead of "vowel to er" combinations, such as "mow" for the word "more." Along the same line, do not eliminate sounds in words, such as saying "mou" instead of "mouth."

Watch that you do NOT delete the COPULA when it is the main VERB in a sentence: "John IS a boy" is CORRECT and "John a boy." is INCORRECT.

"Ain't" is NEVER a proper Standard American English word.

"APPOSITIVE PRONOUNS," where both a noun and a pronoun are referring to the same word, are NOT used in Standard American English, so instead of INCORRECTLY saying, "and the other PEOPLE THEY can't..." you should say "and the other PEOPLE can't..."

The word "done," should NOT be used in Standard American English to emphasize that an action has been completed. It is NOT proper Standard American English to say, "I DONE finished that job."

"DOUBLE MARKING," the using of multiple agreement "s" for regular nouns and verbs, should NOT be used in Standard American English, so instead of saying, "he tries to kill him" should be said as "he tries to kill him."

Learn the Standard American English rule to say "an" before any following noun which begins with a "VOWEL," and only say "a" if the following noun starts with a "CONSONANT" so that it is NOT correct to say "a apple" for "an apple," whereas "a cat" is correct.

In Standard American English it is NEVER correct to say the word "be" to indicate habitual actions or states, so that it is INCORRECT to say, "I be cold;" you should say, "I am cold."

MULTIPLE NEGATIVE WORDS should not be used in the same sentence, so it is INCORRECT to say "it is NOT raining NO more" and should be said as, "it is NOT raining any more."

"Hisself, theyself, theirselves" are NOT correct Standard American English words. You should use "himself and themselves."

In Standard American English there needs to be SINGULAR or PLURAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN the SUBJECT and VERB words in a sentence so that the INCORRECT "Our cat like to sit on the roof," should be "Our cat likes to sit on the roof."

Learn correct PRONOUN usage for Standard American English as they cannot be used interchangeably. It is INCORRECT to say, "her fell" instead of "she fell."

Learn to use the ARTICLES "a, an and the" as they should NOT be omitted in Standard American English. It is INCORRECT to say, "This bike is best present of all," instead of "This bike is THE best present of all."

Learn to use AUXILIARY VERBS: instead of saying, "He always shows up when it time to eat," it should be said as, "He always shows up when it IS time to eat." Learn to correctly use "will, can, do and have" AUXILIARY VERBS in Standard American English.

Correctly pronounce and use words ending with "-ing." Do NOT say "wantin'" for "wanting."

Learn to always use "-ed" on regular past tense verbs such as instead of incorrectly saying, "When she open her mouth..." you should correctly say, "When she opened her mouth..."

Do not substitute PRESENT tense irregular verbs for PAST tense irregular verbs, so instead of incorrectly saying, "She fall into the ocean," you should say, "She fell into the ocean."

Always learn to pronounce and use the "s" or "z" sounds in regular plural words, such as "chair" to "chairs."

Always learn to pronounce and use the "s" or "z" sounds in possessive pronouns, such as, "The manager'S assistant told us where to be."

Learn to use prepositions in Standard American English sentences, instead of incorrectly saying, "He sits and looks computer screens," you should say, "He sits and looks AT computers."

Learn to pronounce the "t" or "d" sounds for the proper usage of regular past tense verbs, instead of incorrectly saying, "The secretary miss them," you should say, "The secretary missed them."