



Pros and Cons of the Online Practical Phonetics class: What I learned from Zoom

Exercise 1.

Underline the homographs in the following sentences. Read them out loud. If you would like help to see how they are pronounced correctly, use the QR code to watch a video.

1. The bandage was wound around the wound.
2. The farm was used to produce produce.
3. The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.
4. We must polish the Polish furniture.
5. He could lead if he got the lead out.
6. The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
7. Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.
8. A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.
9. When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
10. I did not object to the object.
11. The insurance was invalid for the invalid.
12. There was a row amongst the oarsmen about how to row.
13. They were too close to the door to close it.
14. The buck does funny things when the does are present.
15. A seamstress and a sewer fell into a sewer line.
16. To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.
17. The wind was too strong to wind the sail.
18. After a number of injections, my jaw got number.
19. Upon seeing the tear in the painting, I shed a tear.
20. I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.
21. How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?

Video: Introduction and Unit 1





Exercise 2.

The following QR code will grant you access to our Padlet board. Scan it in using your smartphone, add a new comment by clicking on the green + sign, open the pink hexagon with the three dotted lines and choose “Audiorekorder” from the menu. Pick one of the following two tasks and record yourself (you can work with a partner if you like). Make sure you are happy with the results. Now you can upload your recording to obtain feedback and comments.



URL: <https://padlet.com/patriciasneesby/phonetics-practice-54rtxi4txs5xi18n>

Task 1

Practice the pronunciation of the final plosives /k/ and /g/

- a. She used a tack to fasten her name tag to her desk.
- b. Lovely animals! I'd like to buy one. Can I choose a pig? By all means, go ahead, take your pick.
- c. We couldn't climb any higher because of a large crack in the crag.

Task 2

Practice /v/, /w/ and /f/ in the following dialogue:

Gosh, it's very stuffy in Walt's vaults. – Well, that's not my fault. – Where is Walt, anyway? – He went to check the air vent five minutes ago. – Again? He can never leave well alone, can he? – Oh stop whining, will you? Would you like another glass of this very fine wine? – Yes, please, I'd love one. – Why don't you try this vintage one? I think there are only twelve wines in the whole wide world worth sampling. – I suppose you have to have them delivered to your wine cellar. – Oh look, Vicky Willerby has just arrived. She's a VIP in the media world.

(Source: Eckert, H and W. Barry. *The Phonetics and Phonology of English Pronunciation*. Trier: WWT, 2002)