

Dutch

This is a guide for you as a Dutch speaker as you go through the Pronunciation Pro Course.

To get the most out of your membership, follow the Pronunciation Pro Course module by module and add any necessary bonus lessons.

Lessons that may be omitted from the 12-module course for Dutch speakers include:

- Module 3: Initial, Medial, & Final /N/, and Medial & Final /L/
- However, please still review the Initial /L/ and Word Stress lessons from Module 3

COMMON ERRORS

Below you will find some common error sounds and patterns specifically for Dutch speakers. These common errors can help you better understand your own speech patterns and areas to focus on as you improve your English pronunciation and fluency.

You might not have issues with all of these sounds. If you would like a more customized assessment of your speech, please contact us for a Full Accent Assessment from our certified American Trainers.

VOWELS

TARGET SOUNDS	COMMON ERRORS	MODULE/BONUS LESSON
/er/ (word)	Pronounced with lips too protruded & rounded	Module 4 – R-vowels
/i/ (sit)	Confused with /ee/ (we) or /e/ (yes)	Module 6
/u/ (cup)	Confused with /o/ (hot), or may sound more like /er/ (word)	Module 7
/a/ (hat)	Confused with /e/ (yes)	Module 7
/o/ (hot)	Confused with /O/ (go)	Module 7
/oy/ (boy)	Second sound of this diphthong may be too long	Bonus Lesson - /oy/
/ooh/ (put, book)	Confused with /oo/ (too)	Bonus Lesson - /oo/ & /ooh/

CONSONANTS

TARGET SOUND	COMMON ERROR	MODULE/BONUS LESSON
/b/, /d/, /g/, /v/, /z/, /dg/	May be pronounced as their voiceless counterpart (/p/, /t/, /k/, /f/, /s/, /ch/, respectively) in final word position	Module 1 – Final Voiced Consonants



/th/ (think)	May be pronounced as /t/ or /s/	Module 2 - Voiceless /th/
/TH/ (this)	May be pronounced as /d/ or /z/	Module 2 - Voiced /TH/
/l/ (look)	The initial /l/ may be pronounced as a dark /l/ (ball)	Module 3 – Initial /l/
/r/ (rare)	Either pronounced too far back (guttural), or is tapped or trilled/rolled	Module 4 - R, R-blends, R-vowels
“ing” (ring)	Pronounced with an extra /k/ sound (“ing-k”), or as /n/	Bonus Lesson – “ing”
/w/ (wet)	Confused with /v/ (very)	Bonus Lessons - /w/, /v/ & /w/
/zh/ (vision)	Confused with /sh/ (shoe)	Bonus Lesson - /zh/
/sh/ (shoe)	May be pronounced as /s/ in final word position	Bonus Lesson - /sh/
/ch/ (chip)	Might be pronounced as /sh/	Bonus Lesson - /ch/

STRESS, INTONATION, RHYTHM

Dutch speakers may have a tendency toward flat or monotone speech that lacks intonation.
(Module 5 – Intonation)

