

Indian Languages

This is a guide for you as an Indian 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 Indian speakers include:

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

COMMON ERRORS

Below you will find some common error sounds and patterns specifically for Indian 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

- In general, vowels are pronounced too short by Indian speakers. (**Modules 5-7**)

TARGET SOUND	COMMON ERROR	MODULE/BONUS LESSON
R-vowels- /er/ (word), /ar/ (start), /Or/ (short), etc.	May be reduced to just a vowel sound.	Module 4 -R-Vowels
/A/ (day)	Confused with /e/ (yes)	Module 5
/O/ (go)	May be confused with /o/ (hot)	Module 5
/o/ (hot)	May be confused with /u/ (cup)	Module 7
/a/ (hat)	Confused with /e/ yes	Module 7
/oy/ (boy)	Confused with /I/ (fine)	Bonus Lessons - /oy/
/ow/ (house)	May be missing the first vowel sound in this diphthong	Bonus Lessons - /ow/



CONSONANTS

- An extra vowel sound may be added after final consonants – **(Module 1 – Final Voiced Consonants)**
- Groups of consonants are challenging, especially at the beginning of words **(Bonus Lesson – S-Blends)**

TARGET SOUND	COMMON ERROR	MODULE/BONUS LESSON
/th (think)	Usually pronounced /t/	Module 2 - Voiceless /th/
/TH/ (this)	Usually pronounced /d/	Module 2 - Voiced /TH/
/z/ (zoo)	Sounds more like /s/, especially in final word position; may be pronounced /dg/ (joke) or /dz/	Module 2 - Final /s/ or Plural /s/, Bonus Lesson - /s/ or /z/
/l/	Difficulty with final /l/ (“Dark L”)	Module 3 - Final /L/
/r/ (rare)	Tapped or trilled/rolled	Module 4- R, R-blends, R-vowels
/p/, /t/, /k/	Not aspirated at the beginning of words, making them sound like their voiced counterparts (/b/, /d/, /g/, respectively)	Bonus Lesson - /p/, /t/, /k/
/w/ (wet)	May sound more like /v/	Bonus Lesson - /w/, /v/ & /w/
/v/ (very)	May sound more like /w/	Bonus Lesson - /w/, /v/ & /w/
/zh/ (television)	Confused with /sh/ (shoe), /z/ (zoo), or /y/ (yes)	Bonus Lesson /zh/
/sh/ (shoe)	May be confused with /s/ (sun)	Bonus Lesson - /sh/
“ing” (ring)	Pronounced with an extra /g/ sound /ng-g/, especially between vowels	Bonus Lesson - “ing”
/t/ and /d/	Pronounced with the tongue tip curled back	Bonus Lesson - Retroflexed /t/ & /d/
/f/	May be pronounced as /p/	Bonus Lesson - /f/

STRESS, INTONATION, RHYTHM

- Word stress is predictable in Indian languages. **(Module 3 - Word Stress)**
- Stress generally sounds too even, without variations. **(Module 4 - Sentence Stress)**
- Indian speakers may sound sing-song or use a lilting intonation, with too many high or rising tones. **(Module 5 – Intonation)**

