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## **Episode #035**

Words in English you are  
mispronouncing

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Hi, everyone!

I'm Georgiana, founder of [SpeakEnglishPodcast.com](http://SpeakEnglishPodcast.com). My mission is to help YOU to speak English fluently and confidently.

Today

- I'll focus on the pronunciation of some words which my students often mispronounce.
- Later, you'll practice these words with "questions and answers" mini-story.

As you can see, you can learn English in a fun and effective way, only by listening! Please help me to spread the word by sharing it with your friends and family or by writing a review on iTunes. That means a lot to me. Thanks.

Great! Let's get started!

As I just said, I've decided to share with you some of the words which my students often mispronounce.

I'll start by telling you the correct pronunciation, and then I'll use this word in a sentence.

I don't know if you've ever noticed, but when you say a word individually, the pronunciation may sound a little different from when it's in a sentence.

Also, before you continue listening, make sure you check out the transcript. Visit my website: [SpeakEnglishPodcast.com](http://SpeakEnglishPodcast.com) and look for episode #35.

### ➡Audio

We pronounce this word like this: aw-dee-oh

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I've noticed that Spanish speakers pronounce it just the way it's spelled but, that's incorrect. Again, this is the right way to pronounce it: aw-dee-oh

Example:

"Every week there's a new Speak English Now Podcast **audio** lesson."

### ➡ **Busy**

This word isn't particularly difficult to pronounce, but I guess that some people tend to get confused by the way it's written.

We pronounce this word: **Busy** biz-ee

Example:

"I was in the mood to go swimming this afternoon, but I had a really **busy** day."

### ➡ **Chocolate**

In the US, people pronounce it like this: chaw-kuh-lit, and in British, it's only two syllables: chawk-lit

Example:

"James enjoys drinking his coffee with a dark **chocolate** tablet."

### ➡ **Comfortable**

It's pronounced kuhmf-tuh-buh in American English and kuhm-fer-tuh-buh in British English.

Example:

"My armchair isn't **comfortable** enough. I'll need to buy a new one."

### ➡ **Should, Would, Could**

**Make sure you don't pronounce the L in these three words.**

Examples:

"Ann **should** visit her grandparents more often."

"It **would** be awesome if you came with us to the beach."

"You **could** admit that you're completely wrong."

### ➡ **Mountain**

I've noticed that most students find this word very complicated to pronounce. And it gets even more

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challenging depending on the accent you choose to use.

In British English, it's pronounced maun-tin, and in American English, it's pronounced moun-tn. (you drop the **l** in the second syllable.)

Example:

"I didn't know this **mountain** was so tall!"

### ➡Curtain

Both **mountain** and **curtain** kur-tn can be confusing. My students tend to pronounce **-ain** at the end of the word.

Example:

"My aunt and uncle had a beautiful red **curtain** in their living room."

### ➡Vegetable

This is one of the most difficult ones for my students. I've even listened to some students pronounce it as "vegetable".

If you have many difficulties pronouncing the word **vegetable**, don't worry about it. Instead of trying so hard to say vej-tuh-buh, just replace it with the word **veggie** instead.

Examples:

"I should cook more **vegetables**."

"Eat your **veggies**! My mom used to tell me when I was little."

### ➡Exercise

This is another word that I hear people mispronounce. You should pronounce it like this: ek-ser-sahyz

Example:

"Tom loves **exercising** in nature."

### ➡Walk and Talk

Just like the words: could, would and should, **talk** and **walk** are pronounced correctly without the consonant L. We say: Talk and Walk tawk and wawk and not TALK and WALK. Remember to drop the L.

Example:

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"My friends and I enjoy **walking** every Sunday and **talking** about our week."

I hope you're enjoying yourself. Let's continue with a story with questions and answers!

## Mini-Story

(Practice your Speaking)

I've prepared a mini-story using all the expressions that I've mentioned in the first part of the episode.

Let's see how it works:

- I'll give you some information. (A phrase or two).
- I'll ask simple questions.
- After each question, there will be some seconds of silence: it's your turn to answer the question!  
Just try to give an easy and short answer, not a complex one.
- After you answer, I'll give you a correct answer.

This process will continue, and little by little, I'll be telling a story using questions and answers.

Let's get started!

**Alice was a busy businesswoman who loved to eat tons of chocolate every day.**

**Was Alice a businesswoman, or was she Cat-woman?**

Alice was a businesswoman, not Cat-woman. Cat-woman is a fictional character.

**Was she busy, or did she have a lot of free time?**

She didn't have a lot of free time. She was a **busy** businesswoman.

**Did she hate eating chocolate, or did she love eating chocolate?**

She loved eating chocolate. She didn't hate eating **chocolate** at all.

**How much chocolate would she eat?**

Tons of chocolate. She **would** eat tons of **chocolate**.

**When did she eat tons of chocolate? Once a year?**

No. No. Not once a year. She ate tons of **chocolate** every day.

**Who ate tons of chocolate every day? Alice or her cat?**

Not her cat. It was Alice who ate tons of **chocolate** every day.

**One day she listened to an audio about the benefits of exercising.**

**What did Alice listen to? Did she listen to a video or audio?**

Not a video. She listened to an **audio**.

**What kind of audio did she listen to? Was it about the benefits of dancing?**

No. No. Not about the benefits of dancing. The **audio** was about the benefits of **exercising**.

**When did Alice listen to the audio?**

One day. She listened to the **audio** about the benefits of **exercising** one day.

**Who listened to the audio? Did Alice listen to the audio?**

Yes. Alice listened to the **audio**.

**She decided she should change because she wasn't comfortable with her health anymore.**

**What did she do?**

She decided she should change.

**What did she decide? That she should stay the same or that she should change?**

She decided she should change. Not stay the same.

**Why did she decide to change? Was it because she was comfortable with her health?**

No. No. She decided to change because she wasn't **comfortable** with her health anymore.

**Was she uncomfortable with her family or with her health?**

With her health. Not with her family. She wasn't **comfortable** with her health anymore.

**She drew the curtain of her window and saw people walking and talking near the mountain.**

**Did she draw the curtain of her mother's window?**

Not her mother's window. She drew the **curtain** of her window.

**What did she see? People or animals?**

People. She saw people **walking** and **talking**.

**Were the people walking or jogging?**

Walking. They were **walking**. They weren't jogging.

**Where were the people walking and talking? Near the beach?**

No. No. Not near the beach. They were **walking** and **talking** near the **mountain**.

**From that day on, she decided to start exercising and only eat fruits and vegetables.**

**When did she decide to start exercising?**

From that day on. She decided to start **exercising** from that day on.

**Did Alice start exercising or watch TV?**

She didn't start watching TV. Alice decided to start **exercising**.

**Would she only eat fruits and vegetables?**

Yes. She decided to eat only fruits and vegetables.

**Did she only eat veggies and fruits from that day on?**

Yes. She only ate **veggies** and fruits from that day on.

Awesome! It's the end of this short story. I hope that you've enjoyed it!

Can you see how many questions you can answer? It's like talking to another person in English. Now imagine a whole story told this way. It's incredible how much you can learn using this method.

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I'll be back with a new episode next week.

Bye! Bye!



*Georgiana*

founder of [SpeakEnglishPodcast.com](https://SpeakEnglishPodcast.com)

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