



SpeakEnglishPodcast.com

The **Podcast** That Will Help You **Speak** English Fluently.
With No Grammar and No Textbooks!

Episode #044

The Seven Secrets of
English Pronunciation

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Hi, everyone!

I'm Georgiana, founder of SpeakEnglishPodcast.com. My mission is to help YOU to speak English fluently and confidently.

- In today's episode, I'll reveal to you the seven secrets of English **pronunciation**.
- Later you'll practice your **speaking** with a funny **mini-story**. The story is about a man who wants to speak English with a perfect accent.

Before you continue listening, make sure you read the text. Visit my website: SpeakEnglishPodcast.com and look for episode #044.

Ok, let's get started!

SECRET #1: LISTEN TO YOURSELF!

Listening to your own **pronunciation** errors when you speak English can be difficult, if not almost impossible, to attain. What you're usually doing is focusing on the conversation instead of the sounds you're making. So, try to **record yourself** using your PC or smartphone. Do this **only from time** to time to observe the areas that need improvement. Many people hate their own voice, and hearing themselves speak a foreign language for the first time will be difficult, but it's a **necessary step** to develop a sense of self-awareness for improvement.

SECRET #2: SLOW DOWN!

I've noticed over the years that many English students think that speaking fluently equals speaking quickly. That's an unfortunate misconception. **When you talk too fast**, you **reinforce bad habits** since you don't have time to think about what you want to say next. Besides, you project little confidence. **Talking slowly** will help you **relax** and feel **more confident**.

SECRET #3: LISTEN EVERY DAY

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Listen! Listen! Listen to my Speak English Podcast every day and try to imitate what you're hearing. Remember to focus on the pronunciation **after** you're totally **comfortable with the lesson**, which means that you've already listened to the episode and check out the transcript several times.

SECRET #4: DON'T BE AFRAID TO MAKE MISTAKES!

In many cases, **pronunciation problems persist** because most students are **afraid to make mistakes**. The great benefit of using my stories on a daily basis is that you're improving English without having to deal with embarrassing situations.

When you answer the questions, you **should always use a confident tone and speak out loud**. If you have already been using this technique, then you know **it's very similar to having a conversation with another person** but without becoming ashamed of your pronunciation and intonation.

SECRET #5: LISTEN TO THE MUSIC!

Using the right **pronunciation** isn't just about mastering individual sounds. You also need to master intonation and stress.

The musical element is essential for proper pronunciation. My advice is that you try out listening to a conversation as if it were a song. After listening, try to imagine that same conversation but without any **intonation**, without any melody. I'm sure that you'd realize that without the proper intonation, **the conversation would sound entirely artificial**, even robotic.

As you can see, pronouncing each word correctly just isn't enough. **If you wanna sound like a native speaker**, you'll need to pay very close attention to their intonation. And that's the main reason why I tell you whenever I get the chance to **LISTEN** as much as possible.

SECRET #6: ROLE MODELS

It's always helpful to find a role model to **imitate their pronunciation.**

You can watch TV and movies or listen to a podcast. The important thing is that you choose someone who has your kind of voice and style of communication.

By the way, the act of imitating someone talking is called SHADOWING.

SECRET #7: READ OUT LOUD EVERY DAY (SHADOWING)

Now I'll talk about a great way to improve your English **pronunciation** and **intonation**. It's called the **shadowing technique.**

The essence of the technique is quite straightforward. **While** you're **listening**, you try to **say what you understand.** Usually, you select an audio lesson that's not difficult. At first, it seems quite complicated, because you have to concentrate on what you hear and say it at practically the same time.

With a little practice, it gets easier. This technique is powerful because it **forces** you to **concentrate a lot on pronunciation and intonation**, in addition to meaning.

You can try using my podcast to test this method. Try to **listen and repeat what I say at the same time.** By the way, **don't pause the audio** at any time. Make sure you say everything you hear in real-time.

Sometimes it can be fun, and I recommend this exercise if you want to improve your English **pronunciation** and **intonation.** Anyway, I don't advise you to always "shadow," but just practice it from time to time, as it can be a bit tiring.

Remember the natural steps when you practice with my podcast episodes. First, listen to the episode without reading.

You can listen to it as many times as you wish. After that, you can listen and read the transcript at the same time. Remember that you can get the text for each episode on my website.

As I mentioned earlier, you shouldn't spend too much time using this technique because it can become somewhat exhausting.

Now it's time to practice your speaking with a new mini-story.

Mini-Story

(Practice your Speaking)

I've created a mini-story so that you can practice your speaking. It's about Carlos who wants to speak English with a perfect accent.

Let's see how the mini-story 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 you a story using questions and answers.

Let's get started!

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Carlos was eager to speak English with a perfect accent.

Did Carlos want a perfect career?

No. No. Not a perfect career. Carlos was eager to speak English with a perfect accent.

What did Carlos want? To speak English with a terrible accent?

Carlos wanted to speak English with a perfect accent. Not with a terrible one.

Who was eager to speak with a perfect accent? His dog?

No. No. Not his dog. Dogs can't speak. Carlos was eager to speak with a perfect accent.

He met a famous accent reduction guru who lived on a high mountain.

Who did Carlos meet? A famous actress?

No. No. Not a famous actress. Carlos met a famous accent reduction guru.

What kind of guru did Carlos meet?

An accent reduction guru. Carlos met an accent reduction guru.

Where did the guru live? At the beach or on a high mountain?

Not at the beach. The guru lived on a high mountain.

Who lived on a high mountain?

The accent reduction guru. He lived on a high mountain.

When they met, the guru immediately ordered him to do the chores while listening to English.

What did the guru order? To relax and worry about nothing?

Not to relax. The guru immediately ordered him to do the chores.

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**When did the guru order Carlos to do the chores?
Before or after they met?**

Not before they met. The guru ordered Carlos to do the chores after they met.

Would Carlos do the chores or listen to English?

Carlos would do the chores and listen to English as well.

Did he listen to English or German?

Not German. He listened to English.

After 30 days, the guru told Carlos that he had to leave right away.

Did the guru tell Carlos to leave after 30 days or before that?

After 30 days, the guru told Carlos to leave after 30 days.

Who had to leave, the guru, Carlos, or the guru's wife?

Carlos. Carlos had to leave.

Did Carlos have to leave in one hour or in one day?

Not in one hour nor in one day. Carlos had to leave right away.

At that moment, Carlos exploded, yelling in English with a remarkable accent.

Did Carlos get angry?

Yes. Carlos got angry. He exploded.

Who yelled?

Carlos. Carlos exploded and yelled in English.

Whom did Carlos yell at?

Carlos yelled at the guru in English.

How was his accent? Was it remarkable or terrible?

Not terrible. His accent was remarkable.

The guru said: "See? Your accent has already improved! The secret is always passion!"

Had Carlos's accent worsened?

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No. No. Carlos's accent had improved.

Who told Carlos that his accent had already improved?

The guru. The guru said that his accent had already improved.

What improved Carlos's accent?

Passion. His passion improved his accent.

Great! 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.

Improve your speaking and grammar with my
Fluency course, only by listening! Thousands of
students have already obtained excellent results
using my method.

Will you join me? Take action right now!

Go to SpeakEnglishPodcast.com/fluency

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

Bye! Bye!



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