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

Episode #200

Difficult words to
Pronounce in English

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Hi, everybody! I am Georgiana, your English teacher and founder of SpeakEnglishPodcast.com. My mission is to help you speak English fluently.

Today, we will look at some English words that are very difficult to pronounce.

And with a point of view lesson, you will **improve your English grammar** without memorizing any boring rules.

Before getting started, visit my website SpeakEnglishPodcast.com and get the transcript for free.

Also, let me say that I'm really happy because this is episode number 200!!
It's been five years since I launched the first episode of the Speak English Now Podcast!!
Thank you so much for your support and sharing the podcast with your friends and families.

Ok, let's start.

1. Cavalry and calvary

People often confuse cavalry (armed forces on horseback) with calvary, an experience of extreme suffering, especially mental suffering.

We call **metathesis** the change of one or more sounds within a word. And yes. Metathesis is also a hard word to pronounce.

Anyway, let's practice the two words a little bit.
Listen and repeat after me:

[kav-uhl-ree]

Cavalry. Cavalry. Cavalry.

[kal-vuh-ree]

Calvary. Calvary. Calvary.

2. Comfortable and Vegetable

These two words are the most difficult for my students to pronounce. Most Spanish speakers pronounce comfortable, and vegetable as

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"comfort**ai**bal" or "veget**ai**bal" and I guess it's because both words end in "table."

So, let's practice the two words a little bit.
Listen and repeat:

[kuhm-fer-tuh-buhl,]

Comfortable. Comfortable. Comfortable.

[kuhmf-ter-buhl]

Comfortable. Comfortable. Comfortable.

[vej-tuh-buhl]

Vegetable. Vegetable. Vegetable.

[vej-i-tuh-buhl]

Vegetable. Vegetable. Vegetable.

3. Deteriorate

Another word that my students find difficult to pronounce is **deteriorate**.

Let's practice it for a bit.
Listen and repeat after me:

[dih-teer-ee-uh-reyt]

Deteriorate. Deteriorate. Deteriorate.

4. Explicit

Don't worry. Almost everyone sounds a little funny when they pronounce the word "**explicit**."

Let's practice it!

[ik-splis-it]

Explicit. Explicit. Explicit.

5. Exponentially

Yes, I understand you perfectly. Sometimes **exponentially** gets **exponentially** harder to say the more you try to say it. :)

Let's practice this word.
Listen and repeat after me:

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[ek-spoh-nen-shuh-lee]

Exponentially. Exponentially. Exponentially.

[ek-spuh-nen-shuh-lee]

Exponentially. Exponentially. Exponentially.

That's all for today; I hope you had a good time practicing these complex words. Next week we will practice more of these difficult words in English.

By the way, if you want to know how to **speak English** using the right techniques, visit SpeakEnglishPodcast.com and subscribe to my mailing list. **I will send you my five golden rules to speak English fluently. And it's completely free.**

Ok! Now it's time for you to learn grammar in context with a point of view story.

Point of View Story

(learn grammar in context)

I'll tell you a short story more than one time. Every time, I'll change a grammar point. I can change the tense or the person. This way, you'll notice the changes in context.

Let's listen to the story in the present tense in the first person.

Hi, I'm Tom, and I'm reflecting on my life in my office. I am delighted. I live a **comfortable** life. You could even say I am living in a fairy tale. I have a high salary few responsibilities, and it seems like nothing wrong ever happens to me.

When I talk to customers, I explain irrelevant details and sometimes even get too **explicit**. However, the relationship with customers never seems to **deteriorate**; it improves **exponentially**.

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And my colleagues are very envious of me.

Besides, I always give everyone advice on how to live, but I never act on any of it.

I think to myself. "Rules for thee (you), but not for me."

While I am pondering all this, a strange noise sounds...

Oh no, it's the alarm clock. It was all a dream. It turns out that I have a normal job, just like everyone else. I am not living in a fairy tale, but my life seems more like a **calvary**.

Let's listen to the story in the past tense in the third person singular.

Tom was in his office reflecting on his life. He was delighted. He lived a **comfortable** life. You could even say he was living in a fairy tale. He had a high salary few responsibilities, and it seemed like nothing wrong ever happened to him. When he talked to customers, he explained irrelevant details and sometimes even got too **explicit**. However, the relationship with customers never **deteriorated**; it improved **exponentially**.

And his colleagues were very envious of Tom.

Besides, he always gave everyone advice on how to live, but he never acted on any of it.

He thought to himself. "Rules for thee (you), but not for me."

While he was pondering all this, a strange noise sounded...

Oh no, it's the alarm clock.

It was all a dream. It turned out that Tom had a normal job, just like everyone else. He was not living in a fairy tale, but his life seemed more like a **calvary**.

Let's listen to the same story in the third person plural.

Tom and Alice were in their office reflecting on their lives. They were

delighted. They both lived a **comfortable** life. You could even say they were living in a fairy tale. They had a high salary, few responsibilities, and it seemed like nothing wrong ever happened to them. When they talked to customers, they explained irrelevant details and sometimes even got too **explicit**. However, the relationship with customers never **deteriorated**; it improved **exponentially**. And their colleagues were very envious of Tom and Alice.

Besides, they always gave everyone advice on how to live, but they never acted on any of it.

They thought to themselves. "Rules for thee (you), but not for me."

While they were pondering all this, a strange noise sounded...

Oh no, it's the alarm clock.

It was all a dream. It turned out that both Tom and Alice had a normal job, just like everyone else. They were not living in a fairy tale, but their lives seemed more like a **calvary**.

Ok, it's the end of this short lesson. As you can see, just by changing the point of view of the story, you can **learn grammar in context**.

It is one of the techniques that I use in my [premium courses](#).

I recommend you to you take a look at:
[SpeakEnglishPodcast.com/courses](https://speakenglishpodcast.com/courses)

Ok! We have reached the end of this episode.

Remember to listen to it several times. It will help you with your English.

Do you know how you can help me? You can share the podcast with your friends and family. Tell them to go to [SpeakEnglishPodcast.com](https://speakenglishpodcast.com) and get my free mini-course.

That would mean a lot to me. Thanks.

See you soon!

Bye! Bye!

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Georgiana

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