

Pronunciation Features of Hong Kong English (Cantonese speakers)

Vowels and Diphthongs
<p>1. Absence of contrasts between long and short vowels e.g. 'be<u>ad</u>' (/bi:d/) → 'bi<u>d</u>' (/bɪd/) or vice versa</p>
<p>2. Absence of contrast between /æ/ and /e/ e.g. 'ba<u>d</u>' (/bæd/) → 'be<u>d</u>' (/bed/) or vice versa</p>
<p>3. Shorting the diphthongs e.g. 'na<u>me</u>' (/neɪm/) → 'nem' (/nem/)</p>
<p>4. Absence of reduced vowel in unstressed syllables e.g. 'absorb' (/əbɔ:b/) → /'æbzɔ:b/</p>
Consonants
<p>5. Substituting /z/ for /ð/ e.g. 'th<u>is</u>' (/ðɪs/) → 'z<u>is</u>' (/zɪs/)</p>
<p>6. Substituting /d/ for /ð/ e.g. 'th<u>ose</u>' (/ðəʊz/) → 'd<u>ose</u>' /dəʊs/</p>
<p>7. Substituting /f/ for /θ/ e.g. 'th<u>anks</u>' (/θæŋks/) → 'f<u>anks</u>' (/fæŋks/)</p>
<p>8. Substituting /t/ for /θ/ e.g. 'th<u>in</u>' (/θɪn/) → 't<u>in</u>' (/tɪn/)</p>
<p>9. Substituting /s/ for /θ/ e.g. 'th<u>ink</u>' (/θɪŋk/) → 's<u>ink</u>' (/sɪŋk/)</p>
<p>10. Absence of contrast between /l/ and /n/ e.g. 'l<u>ight</u>' (/laɪt/) → 'n<u>ight</u>' (/naɪt/) or vice versa</p>
<p>11. Absence of contrasts between voiced and voiceless sounds e.g. 's<u>eal</u>' (/si:l/) → 'z<u>eal</u>' (/zi:l/) or vice versa</p>
<p>12. Deletion of final /l/ e.g. fool (/fu:l/) → 'foo' (/fu:/)</p>
<p>13. L-vocalization L-vocalization refers to the realization of /l/ as vowels like /u/ when it is preceded by a back vowel. e.g. 'fo<u>ol</u>' (/fu:l/) → 'foo-o' (/fu:ɒ/)</p>
<p>14. Substituting /l/ for /r/ e.g. 'r<u>ight</u>' (/raɪt/) → 'l<u>ight</u>' (/laɪt/)</p>
<p>15. Substituting /w/ for /r/ e.g. 'r<u>ice</u>' (/raɪs/) → 'w<u>ise</u>' (/waɪs/)</p>
<p>16. Substituting /f/ for /v/ e.g. 'e<u>ven</u>' (/i:vn/) → 'e<u>fen</u>' (/i:fn/)</p>
<p>17. Substituting /w/ for /v/ e.g. 'v<u>ine</u>' (/vaɪn/) → 'w<u>ine</u>' (/waɪn/),</p>
<p>18. /tr/ and /tw/ clusters are pronounced as /tʃw/ e.g. 'tr<u>im</u>' (/trɪm/) → 'ch<u>wim</u>' (/tʃwɪm/)</p>

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