

LANGUAGE LAB INTERN



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1

https://corpus.eduhk.hk/english_pronunciation/

Introduction





Introduction

Hi there! I'm Professor Rick. I'm a phonetician at *Moriarty Language Lab*. Nowadays, there are more and more people in China start learning English. But some of them may have some troubles with their pronunciation. Let's watch a video about the "Chinglish" first.

- Just watch the first two minutes of the [video](#).





Introduction

In order to help Chinese learners of English with their pronunciation problems, I'm currently building a website and I may need an intern to help. Would you like to be a member of our lab?

Please get prepared!



2

**Distinguish between /e/
and /æ/ phoneme**





Distinguish between /e/ and /æ/ phoneme

Well, I'm doing comparisons between English and Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese) vowels and I found that /æ/ and /e/ phoneme confuse a lot of Chinese learners of English. I'm gonna set a page to remind the learners. Could you help this part?





Distinguish between /e/ and /æ/ phoneme

First, you are suggested to watch a [video](#) to ensure you understand how to distinguish between /e/ and /æ/ phoneme. While you are watching the video, you may be asked to answer some questions.



3

Analysis of the recordings



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Analysis of the recordings

I collected some recordings from few Chinese learners and developed a corpus. Could you help me to analyze the materials?





Analysis of the recordings

First, I would like to introduce you [the Online English Pronunciation Learning Corpus](https://corpus.ed.ac.uk/online-english-pronunciation/). You can access to abundant recordings in this corpus by searching targeted features.





Analysis of the recordings

We will analyse two recordings of the passage *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*. Before we starting, please identify all the /e/ and /æ/ phonemes in the passage.

- [The worksheet](#)





Analysis of the recordings

Listen to two recordings of the passage recorded by ML1 and HK1 and spot all the mispronunciations of /e/ and /æ/ phonemes. When you finish, check with other interns.

- [The worksheet](#)



4

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Recording task





Recording task

*Here's a [video](#) for your reference.

Before the task, let's try tongue twisters of /e/ and /æ/!

- ☒ Set a mat on the sand and get a tan.
- ☒ Mend ten black pairs of pants for seven men in a trance.
- ☒ Cashed his check, rented a tent he could mend and camped on a patch of grass all weekend.





Recording task

I believe you have a deep understanding of /e/ and /æ/ phoneme now. In my website, I would like to have some listening materials for the learners' practice. Could you record the following materials for learners' reference?





Recording task

1. Minimal Pairs:

bed & bad, men & man, end & and, beg & bag,
head & had, hem & ham, pen & pan, said & sad, set
& sat, bend & band, dead & dad, lend & land.





Recording task

2. The Boy Who Cried Wolf

Please refer to the previous passage.





Recording task

Please use **Audacity** to do the recording, name the recording as “Recording task_Student name” (for example: Recording task_Chan Tai Man) and upload it to our [shared folder](#).



5

Evaluation



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Evaluation

Thank you for being our intern! How's that feeling?
Let's do an **evaluation** to see how well you have done!

Your work will be checked in 2 ways:

1. Self-evaluation
2. Professor's evaluation





Evaluation

Self-evaluation

Please evaluate yourself in a [google form](#) and come up how many score you have.





Evaluation

Professor's evaluation

Teacher will give you a grade as according to the following areas:

Analysis the recordings (3 points each, 9 points total)	Recording task (3 points each, 9 points total)
Completion	
Accuracy	
Overall quality	

You will get **3** points for **Excellent**; **2** points for **Satisfactory**; and **1** Point for **Needs Improvement**. Find your grade in our **class blog**.



Evaluation

Grading Scale

(Your grade will be the combination of points from the **self-evaluation** and the **professor's evaluation**)

16-18 Points	A Super Job
13-15 Points	Good Work
9-12 Points	Could Use Some Improvement
less than 9	Try working the WebQuest again or ask the teacher for suggestions

6

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Conclusion





Conclusion

Now that you have completed this WebQuest and **you should be able to:**

- ☒ Distinguish between /e/ and /æ/ phoneme
- ☒ List the difference between these two phonemes
- ☒ Pronounce these two phones correctly

I hope you have enjoyed this learning process!



Conclusion



Here are some questions for you to think about:

1. What was something you didn't know about /e/ and /æ/ phoneme before?
2. What's the reason behind the mispronunciation?
3. How to avoid the mispronunciation between /e/ and /æ/ phoneme? Any tips?

**Here's the end of the WebQuest.
Thanks for all of your hard work!**