

## Standard British Dialect

**Placement** is forward in the mouth. Feel the placement between your front teeth and lips. Compare by counting 1-3 feeling the placement in the middle of the mouth, and then count 1-3 feeling the placement forward in the mouth. (If necessary bring your lips slightly forward to feel the greater sense of forward placement.) Say the following phrase, feeling the placement forward:

*The cat ran around the house.*

**Pitch** variety is greater. There is greater reliance on pitch change (as opposed to volume or lengthening) for stressing purposes. Verbs are more commonly stressed (as opposed to adjectives, pronouns, or adverbs). Repeat the above phrase, stressing "ran" by changing the pitch. Repeat the phrase picking another operative word and stressing it with pitch.

**Articulation** is precise and *effortless*. The following exercise will help with easy, but precise articulation, as well as forward placement.

### The Pencil:

- Place a pencil sideways between your teeth.
- Recite 2-3 lines of text, articulating fully against the pencil.
- Remove the pencil and repeat the same section of text, feeling the placement forward.

## The "R" Sound

### 1) All "Vowel R" sounds are dropped.

ʃe to ʒ

A "Vowel R" is any "r" sound which is followed by a consonant sound, as in "park", or nothing, as in "here". This "r" sound can be dropped from the word without affecting its comprehension, and can therefore be considered an "unneeded r". For instance, "bird" without the "r" sound is "buhd".

This is in contrast to a "Consonant R" sound which is followed by a vowel sound, as in "run" or "bread". The "consonant r" sound is not dropped, and can't be dropped without changing the meaning of the word, and can therefore be considered a "needed r". For instance, "tree" without the "r" becomes "tee".

Remember to disregard spelling and only think in terms of how the word sounds. For instance, the "e" on the end of "here" is not pronounced, making this word an example of a "Vowel R".

Words: gift, colonel, shift, father, brother, actor, year, here, fear, there, care, fair, pure, cure, floor, horse, snore, car, garden, farm, yard

Sentences: The colonel was writing a letter to the parson in the park. / Portia struck the car with a short bar. / Father took a tour of the farm and tried to cure the horse.

### 2) The "Linking R"

stɜr it to stɜr it

When an "r" sound is followed by a vowel sound in the next word (and there is no pause between the words), the consonant "r" sound is then pronounced and linked into the next word.

Phrases: stir it; pair of; adore it; far away; there is

Sentences: We were there year after year. / After all, father and mother only bought that pair of shoes yesterday. / Over there is where the cart toppled over itself.

### 3) The "Consonant R" sound between vowels:

sɔr I to sɔr I

When an "r" sound appears between two vowel sounds as in "sorry", it is considered a "consonant r" and is pronounced.

Words: so-rry, mi-rror, spi-rit, ho-rror, cha-acter, ma-rry, wo-rry, hea-ring, te-rrible

Sentences: I'm sorry that Larry thought the spirit was so horrible.

## VOWEL CHANGES

1) **dance = dAHnce** (ONLY for those words on the "ASK LIST") æ to a  
[For words on the "ask list", the sound "a" as in "cat" changes to the "ah" sound as in "father".]

Words: can't, dance, class, chance, last, after, bath, past, last, disadvantage

Sentences: After all, the class laughed, so they lost their last chance to take a bath. / That man can't dance with that ghastly ant. / That classy bat can't take a bath.

2) **all = AW l** (from "ah" to "aw" or "o") a to ɔ:  
For words that are represented by the spellings:  
**draw - pause - talk - ought - all - force**

[The "ah" sound as in "all" is pronounced with more lip rounding. This approaches the same lip rounding as an "o" sound as in "go".]

Words: call, walk, bought, law, daughter, saw, horse, fought, more, awkward, already

Sentences: Paul awkwardly called to talk about the enthralling brawl. / Laura's appalling lack of decorum was cause for gossip. / The wall had already fallen when you called.

3) **hAHt = hOt** a to ɒ  
For words that are represented primarily by the spellings "o" and "wa":  
**hot - water**

[The "ah" sound as in "father" is pronounced with more lip rounding, but less lip rounding than the above "aw" sound. This sound is also very short.]

Words: coffee, pot, hopped, sorry, water, what, horrible, forest, wasp, modify, wrong

Sentences: The hot copper coffee pot was in water. / The wasp was intoxicated with water and flew into the horrible forest. / What is wrong with honest John's office?

4) **city = citI** (from "citee" to "citI") i to I  
[The "y" endings as in "happy" change from an "ee" sound to an "I" sound as in "did".]

Words: lovely, really, cautiously, city, ability, birthday, Tuesday, sweetly, many

Sentences: Tuesday was a really lovely day. / Jenny had the ability to walk cautiously.

5) **nOO = nYOO** (when spelled "eu, ew, u, ue") u to ju  
[The Liquid U sound (as in "view") is frequently used instead of the pure "oo" sound in words where the spellings of "eu, ew, u, ue" are followed by the consonant sounds of "t, d, n, z, st, th", and optionally "s, l". The Liquid U never occurs after certain consonant blends with "l" and "r" such as "blew, prude, bloom, fruit", and never in words spelled with "o" or "oo", as in "do" or "doom".]

Words: student, duty, new, duplicity, institution, Stewart, introduced, costume, stupid, suit, lute, salute, enthusiasm, tune

Sentences: On Tuesday, it was the new student's duty to play the lute. / I was enthusiastic about this stupid costume until it whistled a new tune. / It's true you have a new blue suit.

6) **gOH = guhOH** (from "OH" to "uhOH") oʊ to əʊ  
[The diphthong of "oh" as in "go" frequently becomes a triphthong sounding more like "uh-o". The "oh" sound received a very short "uh" (schwa) sound before it.]

Words: don't, go, oh, no, told, omit, moment, alone, home, suppose, those

Sentences: Oh no, don't go home alone. / You don't suppose those slippers could have flown over there by themselves, do you? / So I told you, "don't omit the last moment!"

7) **sekreTEREE = sekreTRI**  
**seremOHNEE = seremUhnI** (ceremony)

teRI to TRI  
oʊni to əni

[The "ary-ery-ory" endings are shortened to "RI". For instance, the ending in "secretary" is pronounced "TRI". The "ony" (e.g., ceremony) receives a schwa ("uh") instead of an "o" sound.]

Sentences: My secretary has not been evolutionary for the last half century. / It is not necessary to go to the elementary conservatory. / The ceremony wasn't necessary.

**CONSONANT CHANGES:**

1) **pretty = preTI** (from "predee" to "preTI")

d to t

[A "t" sound between two vowel sounds is pronounced as a crisp "t", and not pronounced as a "d"]

Words: city, better, pretty, beauty, litter, sitting, ability, critter, bitter

Sentences: This pretty city has better butter. / Don't be bitter about that pretty critter sitting on the ladder. / Betty had ability to write beautiful letters.

<b>THE "ASK"</b>	caster	Flanders	master	<b>S</b>
<b>LIST</b>	castle	flask	mischance	salve
<b>A</b>	castor-oil	France	mooncalf	sample
abaft	chaff	Francis	<b>N</b>	shaft
advance	chance	freelance	nasty	shan't
advantage	chancelleries	<b>G</b>	nastier	slander
aft	Chancellor	gasp	<b>O</b>	slant
after	chant	gaspig	outcast	staff
aghast	clasp	ghastly	outclass	stanch
answer	class	giraffe	outlast	steadfast
ask	command	glance	overcast	supplant
aunt	craft	glass	<b>P</b>	surpass
autograph	<b>D</b>	graft	paragraph	<b>T</b>
avalanche	daft	grant	pass	task
avast	dance	graph	past	telecast
<b>B</b>	demand	grasp	pastor	telegraph
bask	disaster	grass	pasture	thereafter
basket	downcast	<b>H</b>	path	trance
bath	draft	half	perchance	trespass
behalf	draught	halve	plant	<b>V</b>
blanch	<b>E</b>	hasp	plaster	vantage
blast	enchant	<b>I</b>	prance	vast
branch	engraft	impassable	<b>Q</b>	<b>W</b>
brass	enhance	implant	quaff	waft
broadcast	epigraph	<b>L</b>	<b>R</b>	witchcraft
<b>C</b>	epitaph	lance	raft	
calf	everlasting	last	rascai	
calve	example	lath	rasp	
can't	<b>F</b>	laugh	raspberries	
cask	Falstaff	<b>M</b>	raspy	
cast	fast	mask	rather	
caste	fasten	masque	recast	
	flabbergast	mast	reprimand	

## COCKNEY DIALECT

Increased Nasal Resonance. Forward Placement.

Standard British Changes: "ask", list, dropped vowel r, liquid u, etc.

### YOWEL CHANGES:

1) Me = from MEE to Mu<sup>h</sup>EE

from i: to ɛ̃i:

[The sound "ee" receives the tiny sound of "uh" before the "ee" sound]

WORDS: teach, see, speak, tea, scenes, beat, need, tree, Japanese

SENTENCES: The bee did not like my leafy, steamy tea. / She beat the tree with a green key.

2) Who = from HOO to Hu<sup>h</sup>OO

from u: to ɔ̃u:

[The sound "oo" receives the tiny sound of "uh" before the "oo" sound]

WORDS: fool, boot, soup, prove, shoe, move, youth, glue, lose

SENTENCES: Coo, it's too cool to put the glue through. / Who gave the boot to the foolish youth?

3) Hay = from HAY to HIE

from eɪ to aɪ

[The sound of "ay" as in "pay" tends toward the "ie" sound as in "eye"]

WORDS: train, capable, paper, trace, rain, Shakespeare, mainly, Spain, able

SENTENCES: It's a great shame the paper got lost in the rain. / Go on! Daisy was elephant's trunk when she placed her face on the cain & able.

4) Town = from TOWN to TAuhn

from aʊ to ɛ̃əʊ

[The diphthong of "ow" becomes a combination of the "a" as in "cat" & the "uh".]

WORDS: down, now, bound, about, proud, flower, house, mouse, around

SENTENCES: There's an haunted house about town. / About now the mouse has got the flower.

5) So = from SOH to SAAOH

from oʊ to ɛ̃əʊ

[The diphthong of "oh" receives an "a" sound as in "cat" before the "oh" sound.]

WORDS: go, don't, stone, slow, old, over, home, show, told, throw

SENTENCES: Blast it! Don't throw the stone at Jove. / He told the old gentleman to hold the rope.

6) Why = from WIE to WOI

from aɪ to ɔɪ

[The sound of "ie" as in "eye" receives more lip rounding.]

WORDS: Sign, night, time, like, life, dry, crime, lie, Eliza, right

SENTENCES: We had a right fine time after the party. / It's a crime! Last night Eliza signed the pipe.

CONSONANT CHANGES:

1) Pal = from PAL to PAOH

from ɛ to oʊ

[In words ending in an "l" sound, it is replaced with an "oh" or "w" sound.]

WORDS: well, bill, health, still, conceal, feel, tell, sell, real, people, Jill

SENTENCES: Well, Bill still doesn't have his health. / It's hard to conceal how I feel about people.

2) Home = from HOHM to OHM

from h to Ø

[Any "h" sound is eliminated. The ending of the previous word can be linked into the next word.]

WORDS: hide, habit, Henry, prohibit, hardly, helping, handle, hazard

SENTENCES: What's so hideous about your home Henry? / He gave me a helping hand out of the hazard.

3) Doing = from DOOING to DOOIN

from ŋ to ɪn

[All "ng" sounds from "ing" endings become "in".]

WORDS: walking, shopping, feeling, running, talking, crawling

SENTENCES: He was talking and hitting and hurting. / Harry gave me a shilling for talking to the scab.

4) Little = from LITTUHL to LI'UHL

from tʰ to ʔ

[When a "t" sound appears between two vowel sounds it becomes glottalized.]

WORDS: bottle, lot of, glottis, pretty, literary, gentleman, citizen, kettle, Betty

SENTENCES: The tittle tattle paid off for pretty Betty. / You got a lot of nerve to close the glottis.

5) Thing = from THING to FINGK

from θ to f

Mother = from MUHTHER to MUHVER

from θ to v

[On occasion, the voiceless and voiced "th" sounds change to "f" or "v" respectively.]

WORDS: father, weather, thing, throwing, nothing, breathing

SENTENCES: Anything you say. / My father was breathing and throwing things on the floor.

6) Idea = from IDEA to IDEAR

from ə to ər

[Intrusive R occurs when a consonant [r] sound is inserted even though there is no "r" in the spelling. It can occur between words [law-r an order], within words [draw-ring], or at the end of a word ending in a schwa [Portia-r]. The intrusive r occurs after a schwa or after the diphthongs of r.]

PHRASES: America is, law and order, drawing, idea, Helena, China on

SENTENCES: The very idea, making a drawing of Portia in China. / Helena is the sofa in the clinic?