

Welcome to Broken English on Fluent American, the quick fix for your pronunciation. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at the p. To really study pronunciation, please repeat the sounds with me as you listen. I even suggest recording yourself so you can see how you sound, if you are able. Alright, let's get started.

To make the /p/ sound, press your lips together. There is no throat vibration; it is a voiceless sound.

Let's start with some initial p sounds.

pest push pawn port pool pit pain

Now, some middle p sounds.

approach apple important helpful hoping respond

Finally, some final p sounds.

lamp mop weep rope worship antelope

Some languages have confusion between the letter p and the letter b. Remember, your mouth position is similar for both. For the "p", there is no vibration. However, the "b" is a voiced sound; your throat needs to vibrate.

pie/buy pit/bit pan/ban rope/robe cap/cab mop/mob

I bite a piece of blueberry pie and mop the bit I dropped.

Sometimes, there is confusion between the "p" and the letter "f".

past/fast pew/few poor/for whip/whiff lap/laugh cap/calf

A few priests laughed when I passed the four pews.

Let's go through some practice p word pairs.

pretty penny/ push past/ peach pie/ important response/ priests worship/ rope pull

Finally, some practice sentences with p sounds.

Parrots prefer peach and apple pies.

Put the pot on top of the plastic pan.

Pocketing a Polish lamp costs a pretty penny.

I paced painfully waiting for the important response.

Alright, that's it for today! Again, record yourself. See if you can pronounce the words like me, and we'll practice again next time. Thanks for listening!