

Welcome to Broken English, the quick fix for your pronunciation. My name is Geoff. Today, we're looking at /ʃ/. 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 /ʃ/ sound, the sides of your tongue are horizontal, slightly against your top teeth. The front of your tongue goes down; air travels down the middle of your tongue and out between your top and bottom front teeth.

Let's start with some initial /ʃ/ sounds:

should shake sure shut ship

Now, some middle /ʃ/ sounds:

pressure worship passion flashes issue

Some final /ʃ/ sounds:

wash trash **dish** push crush

Next, some word pairs:

wash dishes/ crush trash/ should shake/ shoulder issues/ surely shallow

Now, for some comparisons, starting with the /ʃ/ of "shoes" and the /tʃ/ of "choose". Compare these:

shoes/choose share/chair wash/watch shore/chore cash/catch

Should you choose the shore, finish your chores and patch your shoes.

Next, let's compare the /ʃ/ of "shock" and the /s/ of "sock":

shock/sock shore/sore shin/sin lash/lass mesh/mess

Shins get sore from the seashore's sandy lashes.

Another point of confusion can be the /ʃ/ of "pressure" and the /ʒ/ of "pleasure":

pressure/pleasure leash/leisure mesh/measure cash/casual fish/fission

A casual dish of fish costs a pleasurable measure of cash.

Lastly, be careful with the /ʃ/ of "shut" and the /dʒ/ of "jut":

shut/jut shale/jail surely/jury ensure/injure shin/gin

Surely a pressured jury will judge the juvenile's issues.

Finally, some practice sentences:

Should she wash milkshakes down with sugar?

Shut the ship if any issue flashes.

Share a dish of fish with your crush.

The shore pushes sharks towards fishing ships.

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!

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