OWLS Global: helping you to

Boost your *Personal* Communication Skills

specialists in

Confident Competent Communication

Personal Pronunciation Services

Stage 1

Personal Pronunciation Diagnostic Checkup

Invest
* 1 hour &
* $18

We analyse for clear **competencies** and for key **challenges**

Qualified, experienced professionals

Get a Second Opinion!

Submit your ***Personal*** **Diagnostic Recording** for our **Clinical Analysis**

Know *your* strengths

Know *how* to improve

https://www.owlsglobal.com/pronunciation

Why invest in a Diagnostic Checkup?

Ease of Understanding

You've worked ***hard*** on your English - for *years*!

You fully *understand* what *you* are saying ... but ...

... do you know **why** *some* listeners *struggle* to understand what you mean?

Benefits of Clear Pronunciation

With clear pronunciation, you can:

*** *focus* on *meaning* - making it easy for your listeners to understand you
** *inspire confidence* with strong first impressions
* *understand* others more easily

What We Offer

You can't diagnose yourself.

We offer:
* quick, detailed analysis
* qualified, experienced professional educators
* written report
* recorded video feedback

How can you *benefit* from *your own* Diagnostic Checkup?

1 - Register & Prepare

You can:
1. ***choose*** your own '*Submission Due Date*'
2. ***download*** '*Recording Your Diagnostic Reading*'
3. ***begin*** practicing immediately

2 - Record & Submit

Next:
1. ***select*** only one '*Diagnostic Short Text*'
2. ***practice*** a few times
3. ***record*** an audio track
4. ***submit*** your recording

Submit *any* time you're ready. You needn't wait until the submission due date.

We will *try* to return 'early' submissions within 48 hours.

3 - Read & Reflect

When your *Personal Pronunciation Diagnostic Report* feedback arrives:

* ***read*** your *Report*
* ***review*** your *Video Feedback*
* ***resolve*** to regularly
  * *consolidate* conscious new habits
  * *use* the *Suggested Resources*

You may also benefit from our full 4-week ***Personal*** **Pronunciation Clinic** programme
https://www.owlsglobal.com/pronunciation/personal-pronunciation-clinic-programme/

OWLS Global
Other Worlds Learning Services

www.owlsglobal.com

Personal Pronunciation – Diagnostic CheckUp

How can we help you to speak English clearly?

Get Acquainted: *Short Diagnostic Recording*

Let's analyse your present English-speaking skills. Then you can decide if a short *personal* pronunciation programme would offer you permanent benefits.

You begin by *recording* yourself, greeting us and reading a short text to us.

You can use any one of the four texts on pages 6 to 9.

You can also download this instruction document here: https://www.owlsglobal.com/og_pronunciation_diagnosticcheckupinstructions/

Your benefits will include:

- *personal feedback* delivered to you both in writing and by video report,
- *suggestions* of one or two key areas of focus for your own pronunciation enhancement, and
- *increased confidence* as you experience easier, more effective communication.

If appropriate, you may want to work with us on a ***Personal*** *Pronunciation Clinic* programme.

What's in this for you?

You will

- *benefit* from an objective, experienced 'second opinion'.
- *learn how* to *effectively* help yourself
- *be ready* to begin our 4-week intensive Personal Pronunciation Clinic programme:

Enroll for a CheckUp here: https://www.owlsglobal.com/pronunciation/stage1enroll/

Quick and Easy Guide to Getting Started

Get started in 3 Easy Steps

1. Step 1: Register & Prepare
2. Step 2: Record & Submit
3. Step 3: Read & Reflect

Step 1: **Register** for your *Personal* Pronunciation Diagnosis

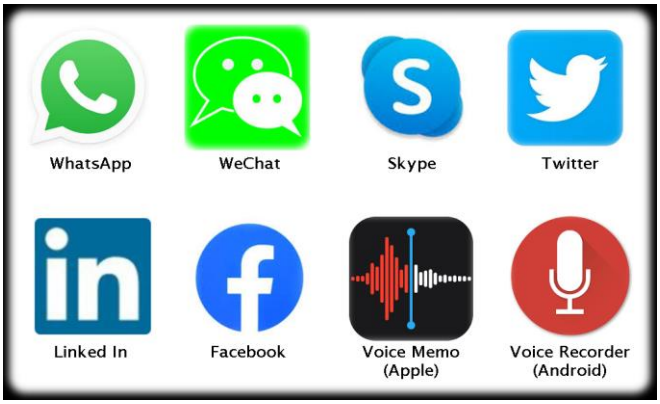
- Enroll at https://www.owlsglobal.com/pronunciation/stage1enroll/
- Select only ***one*** of the four *Diagnostic Short Text* sheets
    - A – '*Smartphone Challenge*'
    - B – '*Mahatma Gandhi on Education*'
    - C – '*High School Years*'
    - D – '*The Rainbow Passage*'
- Practice for a while.
  Follow the speaking prompts on your *Diagnostic Short Text* sheets
    - Introducing yourself
    - Reading to us
    - Telling us a little more about yourself
- Decide ***how*** you will record and send your *Diagnostic Recording*.
    - Which of these are you comfortable with?
        - Email?
        - *WhatsApp, WeChat, Messenger, Skype, Linked In, Twitter*?
    - Email is easiest for us.
      Note: *We prefer to return our written and video feedback to you via email.*
      However, we can return links to your feedback by any of these social media.

Step 2: **Record** Your *Personal* Pronunciation Sample

How can you **record** your personal pronunciation sample for us?

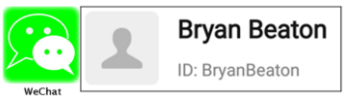
It's easy!

You can use any one of these:



You can send recorded messages

directly from :



Or, you can use the *voice recorder* on your smartphone,

and then *attach* the sound file to

- a *Twitter* message

- an *email*: owt@otherworld.com.hk

- ***or*** any *WhatsApp*, *WeChat*, *LinkedIn*, *Facebook*, or *Skype* message.

It's *that* easy!

Choose *one* of the short sample texts on the following pages …

… decide how to introduce yourself

… practice the text for a minute or two … and then

… send in your *personal* pronunciation sample for our analysis.

We will confirm receipt of your recording within 24 hours.

Diagnostic Short Text 'A' - *'Smartphone' Challenge*

Each of these four short texts are crafted to contain all 44 sounds used in English. As a result, they may sound somewhat artificial in places.

Choose one of these texts, focus on making that text sound meaningful … and then send us your voice recording. [Please stay within the *maximum* **5 minute** limit]

Introduce yourself

Hello, my name is ….

I grew up in <city / state / country> …

I am now <doing what (studying / working / visiting)?> in <where?>….

I really enjoy ….

Read to us

'Smartphone' Challenge

Who's in charge? Do you control your 'smartphone', or does your phone control you?

- Do you reach for your phone as soon as you wake up each morning?
- Do you interrupt conversations with family or friends to look at your phone?

If you are aware of a problem here, how can you find help? Set aside a time to think about suggestions available on the internet, or to find someone to talk to about this.

Here are a few general suggestions:

- Decide on times when you *do* use your phone and when you *do not*.
  - Can you charge your phone outside your bedroom overnight?
  - Can you put your phone away during mealtimes or evening events?
- Distinguish between times (such as at work?) when your phone is an essential tool, and other times when phone-use destroys things you treasure. Dare to begin a 'smartphone time' diet.

If you find you are *really* struggling to regain control, reach out. Get help. Family, friends or professional counsellors are there to help you return to the types of relationship you really desire.

Tell us more about yourself, your study plans, your interests ….

Say 'goodbye'.

Diagnostic Short Text 'B' - *Mahatma Gandhi on Education*

Each of these four short texts are crafted to contain all 44 sounds used in English. As a result, they may sound somewhat artificial in places.

Choose one of these texts, focus on making that text sound meaningful … and then send us your voice recording. [Please stay within the *maximum* **5 minute** limit]

Introduce yourself

Hello, my name is ….

I grew up in <city / state / country> …

I am now <doing what (studying / working / visiting)?> in <where?>….

I really enjoy ….

Read to us

Mahatma Gandhi on Education

Mahatma Gandhi said, "*Real education consists in drawing the best out of yourself.*"

Drawing 'the best' out of ourselves is not an *overnight* or a *one-time* event. We must be prepared

- to look at our mistakes,
- to learn from others,
- to reflect on experiences and
- to courageously *try again* where we have failed.

Mahatma Gandhi also enjoined us to, "*Be the change you want to see.*"

Creating change takes awareness. It takes focus and it takes effort. Don't be annoyed. Education takes time. You'll get there.

With his words, and with his example, he measured out a path that we can follow.

Tell us more about yourself, your study plans, your interests ….

Say 'goodbye'.

Diagnostic Short Text 'C' - *High School Years*

Each of these four short texts are crafted to contain all 44 sounds used in English. As a result, they may sound somewhat artificial in places.

Choose one of these texts, focus on making that text sound meaningful … and then send us your voice recording. [Please stay within the *maximum* **5 minute** limit]

Introduce yourself

Hello, my name is ….

I grew up in <city / state / country> …

I am now <doing what (studying / working / visiting)?> in <where?>….

I really enjoy ….

Read to us

High School Years

If you're just beginning high school, stop and think about the new opportunities available to you.

What choices can you make so that you get the most out of your high school experience?

* What new activities can you learn from?
* What can you learn from a bunch of new friends?
* How much time should you spend there in studies?
  ... at leisure? ... with friends? ... alone?

Trial and error are vital to effective learning. How courageous are you? Are you willing to make mistakes? Will you analyse both your 'successes' and 'failures' … your pleasures and your pains?

What values will guide you socially, emotionally and academically during these years?

Ten years from now, what parts of your high school experience do you think will matter most to you?

Tell us more about yourself, your study plans, your interests ….

Say 'goodbye'.

Diagnostic Short Text 'D' - *The Rainbow Passage*

Each of these four short texts are crafted to contain all 44 sounds used in English. As a result, they may sound somewhat artificial in places.

Choose one of these texts, focus on making that text sound meaningful … and then send us your voice recording. [Please stay within the *maximum* **5 minute** limit]

Introduce yourself

Hello, my name is ….

I grew up in <city / state / country> …

I am now <doing what (studying / working / visiting)?> in <where?>….

I really enjoy ….

Read to us

The Rainbow Passage

When the sunlight strikes raindrops in the air, they act as a prism and form a rainbow.

The rainbow is a division of white light into many beautiful colors. These take the shape of a long round arch, with its path high above, and its two ends apparently beyond the horizon.

There is, according to legend, a boiling pot of gold at one end. People look, but no one ever finds it. When a man looks for something beyond his reach, his friends say he is looking for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

Throughout the centuries people have explained the rainbow in various ways. Some have accepted it as a miracle without physical explanation. To the Hebrews it was a token that there would be no more universal floods. The Greeks used to imagine that it was a sign from the gods to foretell war or heavy rain. The Norsemen considered the rainbow as a bridge over which the gods passed from earth to their home in the sky. Others have tried to explain the phenomenon physically. Aristotle thought that the rainbow was caused by reflection of the sun's rays by the rain.

Since then, physicists have found that it is not reflection, but refraction by the raindrops which causes the rainbows. The differences in rainbows depend considerably upon the size of the drops, and the width of the colored band increases as the size of the drops increases.

Tell us more about yourself, your study plans, your interests ….

Say 'goodbye'.

Step 3: **Read** Your *Personal* Pronunciation Sample *Feedback*

Read and reflect on each comment.

What do you think?

- Which comments and suggestions agree with what you believe?
- Which comments or suggestions
    - surprise you? Do these seem *correct* or *incorrect*?
    - seem most useful?

Review the suggested resources.

- Which resource(s) might be most useful to you right now in further improving your pronunciation?
- Which resource(s) might be useful to you in future?

Resolve to make changes

- What new habits can help you to consolidate permanent changes in the way you speak English?
- How can you help yourself?

Would a four-week *Personal* Pronunciation Clinic programme help you?

Here (*on page 10*) is an overview of the ***Personal* Pronunciation Clinic** programme

You may also be interested in OWLS Global's 4-week *Personal Pronunciation Clinic* Programme

***Personal* Pronunciation Clinic – Programme Overview**

***Personal* Pronunciation Clinic** - BASIC Programme

What are we aiming for?

We aim for '*intelligibility*'. You don't need to sound 'British' or to sound 'American'.

You need to speak so that people can *easily understand* you.

We listen for *competencies* and *challenges* when we analyse your speech.

We can work with you on:

- specific English sounds (*phonemes*)
- syllables and word-level elements
- thought-groups, sentence stress, intonation and stress-timing
- any particular mother tongue or personal tendencies which may interfere with your listeners' understanding

What will we do in your *Personal* Pronunciation Clinic BASIC Programme?

We will:

1. ***conduct*** a **Personal Diagnostic Interview** with you about the speaking challenges you face.
   This will take 20 to 25 minutes – by voice or video link. You will receive immediate informal feedback and advice, followed by more detailed specific written feedback.
2. ***customise*** two **Personal Practice Activities** designed to help you to achieve permanent progress.
   - We will send you a *personalized* written activity.
   - You will *complete* the activity and *return* a sound file.
   - We will respond with a short video offering personal feedback.
     a. ***Personal Practice Activity 1***
        Personal Instructions ➡ Your Response ➡ ***Our Video Feedback***
     b. ***Personal Practice Activity 2***
        Personal Instructions ➡ Your Response ➡ ***Our Video Feedback***
3. conclude with a live 20-minute ***Personal* Pronunciation Tutorial** discussion.
   This will include
   a. a written ***Personal* Pronunciation Clinic** Programme Summary
   b. a list of *specific* personal suggestions for your future use.
   c. a reference list of *general* additional resources.

Check out our PLUS Programme, too

You can learn more here:

www.owlsglobal.com/pronunciation/personal-pronunciation-clinic-programme/

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