

## Lesson 3. Learning to pronounce

For Spanish speakers pronunciation is one of the hardest parts of learning English.

The problem begins in the early stages of the learning process. Too many young students start learning English the wrong way by only studying grammar and reading, without paying any attention to listening and speaking.

By the time they finish school, they have lost the ability to reproduce the sounds of the English language correctly.

So how can you correct this problem?

By doing the following:

### 1. Pay attention and practise pronouncing the difficult sounds

If you don't know what you are doing wrong, how are you going to correct it?

You must pay attention to all the sounds that mess up your pronunciation.

Please, do not think you are not affected by it. I even make these mistakes if I don't pay close enough attention.

Here is a list of some of the sounds that are difficult for Spanish speakers to pronounce. Try saying them aloud many times.

Sound	Examples	What to do
"s" at the beginning of a word	School Spain Spanish Special	Do not pronounce an "e" before the "s". It's not "eskul". It's "sskul".
"z"	Is Was Does Flowers	If I didn't mention this sound, you'd be totally unaware of its existence because it doesn't exist in Spanish. It is the buzz sound made by bees.

		<p>Something like this: zzzzz</p> <p>Although it's not as important as other sounds, if you start making this sound, your English will sound much better.</p>
"v"	<p>Very Vest Van Various</p>	<p>The sound is not "b", but rather "v". To make this sound you must bite your lower lip.</p>
able	<p>Vegetable Available Reasonable Comfortable</p>	<p>The sound is not "able" as in "table" but something more similar to "abó" where the "l" goes at the end.</p>
"ed"	<p>Loved Played Worked Wanted</p>	<p>The "e" that comes before the "d" is not pronounced. If you omit this sound at the end of word then you'll get three kinds of sounds: "d" as in Loved /lovd/; "id" as in Wanted /wantid/; and "t" as in Worked /wuórk/</p>
"ous"	<p>Nervous Various Serious Malicious</p>	<p>To learn this sound first say: "for us". /for as/ then- nervas, verias, sirias, malishas.</p>
"y"	<p>Yes Young Yesterday Yawn</p>	<p>This is sound is not "y" is like the Spanish "i". You should say "ies", "iang", "iesterdei", "ion".</p>

"i"	Is It His Sip	I would say this sound is in between a Spanish "I" and "e". Remember that it is NOT the Spanish "I".
"h"	How House Here Hair	This sound is not the Spanish "J". It is instead a very soft sound that you make when you breathe on your glasses and wipe them clean.
"sh"	Show She Shop Shame	Many Spanish speakers pronounce this sound as "ch" because this sound doesn't exist in Spanish. The most similar sound is "ch". However, this sound is much long and softer as when you are trying to make someone shut up and you say: "ssshhhh". Compare = "chop" <i>Cortar en rebanadas</i> and "shop" tienda.
"wu"	Would Wood	This sound is not equivalent to the Spanish "gu". It's much softer and to do it right you should try to put the lips as if you were going to give someone a kiss.
"a"/	Son Money Sun Nun	I call this sound "la a del tonto". In English, it's pronounced like "uh". It doesn't exist in Spanish and its phonemic symbol is

		this“^” . It’s the “a” pronounced with your mouth a bit more open but not as much as when you say the Spanish “a”.
ə	Difficult// <sup>1</sup> dɪfɪkəlt/ A Around Present	This is the “schwa” sound. Its phonemic symbol is like an inverted ə Actually, is very similar to the “a del tonto”represented by ^. In English they say “uh”.  In fact, some dictionaries make no distinction between these two sounds. As it is the most common English sound, we’ll talk more about it later.
“ae”	Man Rat Sad Pad	As this sound doesn’t exist in Spanish, the Spanish speaker pronounces it like a Spanish “a”. In reality it’s a sound between the “a” and the Spanish “e”.
m	Some Come Mum Tom	As in Spanish there are no words that end in “m” except for the name “Miriam” (I think), the “m” at the end of the words is normally pronounced as an “n”. To pronounce it, try to

		close your lips at the end of the word.
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## 2. Pay attention and practice connected speech

When we speak, we tend to link one word to the other. This is particularly true with certain structures.

For example, when “it” goes after a verb, we always link the two words together.

Examples:

- Do it- sounds something like /dúit/. The sound “du” links to “it”.
- Get it- sounds something like /gédit/. The sound “get” links to “it”.
- Read it- sounds something like /rídit/. The sound “rid” links to “it”

Connected speech also occurs when a word ends in a consonant sound and the following word also starts with the same, or a similar, consonant sound. In this case, we pronounce only one consonant trying to lengthen the sound.

- Good day- /Gudei/
- Best time- /Bestaim/
- I got tired- /Ai gataird/

## 3. Learn to speak with the right sounds and intonation

You are never going to improve your accent if you continue to speak English as if it were Spanish.

Apart from trying to correct the mistakes I’ve just mentioned, you should try to completely change your way of speaking.

Normally, when you succeed in doing this, your mouth will hurt. This pain is an indication that you are using some muscles in your mouth that you never used before; so it’s good news.

Here are some examples of what you can do in order to speak with the right sounds and intonation:

### a) Emphasise consonants



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In Spanish, every consonant goes with a vowel. In English, this is not always true. There are many words where vowels simply disappear.

Examples. Words ending in -ed (such as regular verbs)-

- Loved is not “lovEd”, but “lovd”.
- Worked is not “workEd, but “workt”.

When I say emphasise “consonants”, I mean “try to stress their sound”.

Let’s hear some examples:

- Dog- DDDogg- “D” and “g” are important. “O” isn’t
- Because- Bíkoss-notice the final “e” is not pronounced
- Before- Bífor – notice again that the final “e” is not pronounced.
- Sit- SSiT- “s” and “t” are very important. The “i” instead is very short.

## **b) Pay attention to the “schwa” sounds**

I bet most of you have never heard of the “schwa” sound.

The paradox is that the “schwa” sound is the most common sound in the English language.

This sound appears when many vowels are together in an unstressed word or syllable in a phrase.

It is a very relaxed and short sound. The phonemic symbol for “schwa” is ə

It sounds like “ə”.

But let’s first try to get some basic concepts clear.

### **What are stressed words?**

When we want to emphasise certain words in a phrase, we stress them. This means that we pronounce these words more carefully saying their sound in a very distinctive way. These stressed words are normally nouns, main verbs, adjectives, or adverbs.

### **What are unstressed words?**

These are words that don't have too much importance in a phrase so we pronounce them faster and in a more relaxed way. Unstressed words are normally auxiliary verbs, pronouns, articles, linkers and prepositions.

Example of a sentence pronounced trying not to use "schwa".

- This--- present--- is--- for--- my--- sister. /díss present iss for mai sister /

As you heard, I tried to pronounce every single syllable stressing the vowels. As a result the sentence sounded very slow and unnatural.

Let's hear now the same sentence pronounced with "schwa".

- This present is for my sister / ðɪs prɪˈzɛnt s fə maɪ ˈsɪstə / **Note:** phonetic pronunciation is British. One clear difference between American and British accent is that the latter drops the sound of the "r", so, for example, the word "sister", becomes something like "sistah".

This is the way people normally speak. As you can hear, the words are said so fast that some "vowels" almost disappear.

The reduced sound of the vowels is the "schwa". It's very clear in the word "for". We don't normally say: "fɔr"- We say: "fəɹ"

### **What should you do with the schwa sound?**

Schwa usage varies greatly between dialects. In fact, Australians pronounce schwas in places where British and American speakers won't.

So my advice is that you just try to be aware of its existence when you listen to English.

What does this mean in practice?

It means that you should know that when native speakers speak English they very often don't pronounce the vowels very clearly.

As you become more used to the "schwa" sound, you can start trying to imitate it.

Remember every now and then to look for the phonemic symbol ə in syllables and phrases.



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Here you have a link <https://tophonetics.com/> to a site that will help you check the phonetics of phrases.

And if you want to know more about the “schwa”, I recommend reading this article. <http://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/teaching-schwa>

### **c) Try to speak with a softer tone**

Some Spanish accents, especially from Castillia and the north of Spain are very strong. They might occasionally sound like Arabic or Greek with a rolling “r” and strong stress. Especially in these cases, you will need to speak with a much softer tone in order to get the right sounds and intonation in English.

For example: What’s your name?

Sounds something like: wuáts iór néim?

All the sounds are soft and the “y” of “your” is pronounced like a Spanish “I”.

If I pronounce this question with a strong Spanish accent instead, I’ll say:

-Guats yor neim?

As can you can hear, all the words sound much harder.

### **d) Try to give to English the intonation a native English speaker gives to Spanish**

This tip sounds like a joke, but I promise it will work if you start doing it.

Let’s see what I mean.

A native English speaker pronounces “Yo soy Pedro,” something like this: ío sóoi pé dro---

The sounds of some consonants are explosive.

If you think about it, you’ll see that to have the right intonation in English you need to do exactly the same; emphasise the consonants, which are in many cases explosive.

When I say “explosive” I mean that you have to release air through the mouth, which is something you never do in Spanish.





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Examples:

-put-  
-tea  
-talk  
-sit

### What accent should you try to imitate?

I always say that you should try to imitate the accent you feel the most comfortable with: British, Irish, American, Australian or any other dialect.

If you have been living in any English speaking country, you'll have a tendency to imitate the accent of the country you have lived in. That's perfectly okay.

Take into account that in this course the audiobook "The Picture of Dorian Gray" is read with a British English. But many of the links to recordings that we have included here are in American or Australian accents. There is a mixture of accents that I consider beneficial because if you live in Europe, you'll have to get used to many different ways of speaking.

If you live in Latin America, you'll hear American English most of the time. However, it's not a bad idea to learn the differences between the different accents because you'll improve your listening skills.

I personally speak with a particular accent, which tends to sound more like American English, but I call it European accent. It's actually a combination of several accents.

Remember that the important thing is NOT that you speak like a native – which is normally only possible to do if you start learning English at a very young age.

The important thing here is that you reduce your Spanish accent when you speak English.

If your Spanish accent is less strong, you will feel better as native speakers will understand you better.

Another important result of improving your accent will be that people will immediately think that you speak better English than you actually do, and this, in turn, will motivate you to continue learning.



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That's why it is so important for you to improve your accent.

### Exercises to improve your pronunciation

Remembering all the rules I have mentioned above can be quite challenging.

In fact, most people forget them immediately and continue to speak English with the Spanish sounds.

### Is there an easier way to improve your pronunciation?

Yes, of course there is.

This is the way all the native English speakers used when they started to learn their language: listening and speaking in English the whole day.

But how will we do it?

We will listen and repeat the sentences of our audiobook.

I will now show you how.

We will use chapter one as an example.

The idea is that you try to memorise these sentences by repeating them aloud as many times as necessary. In this process, you should use the phonetic alphabet and the approximate pronunciation, which I have included in the course material as a tool to help you.

I encourage you to start practising right now.

[Chapter one. Audio. The Picture of Dorian Gray \(adapted\)](#)

[DORIAN GRAY CHAPTER ONE.docx Bilingual text.](#)

### Chapter 1 "The Picture of Dorian Gray"

Sentence	Phonetics	Approximate Pronunciation
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Chapter 1	ˈtʃæptə wʌn	Chápter wuán
‘The soul in the picture’	ðə səʊl ɪn ðə ˈpɪktʃə	Dé sóul ín dé píksher
<i>There is only one thing in the world</i>	ðə z ˈəʊnli wʌn ˈθɪŋ ɪn ðə wɜːld	Dér íss óunli wuán zíng ín de wuórlð
<i>worse than being talked about</i>	wɜːs ðən ˈbiːɪŋ ˈtɔːkt ə ˈbaʊt	Wuórs dán bíng tókt ábaut
<i>and that is not being talked about.”</i>	ənd ðæt ɪz nɒt ˈbiːɪŋ ˈtɔːkt ə ˈbaʊt	Ánd dát íss nótt bíng tókt ábaut
The studio was filled with the intense smell of roses,	ðə ˈstjuːdɪəʊ wəz fɪld wɪð ðɪ ɪn ˈtens smel əv ˈrəʊzɪz	Dé sstúdíu wuás fíld wuíz dí íntens ssmél of róussess
and when the gentle summer wind	ənd wen ðə ˈdʒentlɪ ˈsʌmə wɪnd	Án wuén dé yéntel sámer wínd
moved through the trees in the garden	muːvd θruː ðə triːz ɪn ðə ˈgɑːdn	Múvd zró dé trís ín dé gárden
the strong essence of lilac entered the room	ðə strɒŋ ˈesns əv ˈlaɪlək ˈentəd ðə ruːm	Dé stróŋg ésens óf láilak énterð dé rúm
In the corner,	ɪn ðə ˈkɔːnə	Ín dé kórner
spread out over a divan	spred aʊt ˈəʊvər ə dɪ ˈvæn	Spréd áut óver a dívan
and smoking one cigarette after another,	ənd ˈsməʊkɪŋ wʌn ˌsɪɡə ˈret ˈɑːftər ə ˈnʌðə	Án ssmóuking wuán sigáret áfter ánader
Lord Henry Wotton contemplated the new honey-coloured flowers.	lɔːd ˈhenri wɒtən ˈkɒntəmpleɪtɪd ðə njuː ˈhʌni ˈkɒləd ˈflaʊəz	Lord hénri wuóton kóntempleítid dé níu háni kólord fláuwerss
In the middle of the room,	ɪn ðə ˈmɪdl̩ əv ðə ruːm	Ín dé mídel óf dé rúm
on an easel,	ɒn ən ˈiːzl̩	Ón án íssel
was the life-size portrait of a young man of extraordinary beauty,	wəz ðə ˈlaɪf saɪz ˈpɔːtrɪt əv ə jʌŋ mæn əv ɪk ˈstrɔːdn̩ rɪ ˈbjʊːtɪ	Wuás dé láíf sáiss pórtreitt óf á íang mán óf eks ˈtraordinri bíuti
and standing in front of it,	ənd ˈstændɪŋ ɪn frʌnt əv ɪt	Án sstánding ín frónt ófit
a little further away,	ə ˈlɪtl̩ ˈfɜːðər ə ˈweɪ	Á lítel fénder owuéei
the painter Basil Hallward was sitting,	ðə ˈpeɪntə ˈbæzl̩ ˈhɒlwərd wəz ˈsɪtɪŋ	Dé péinter béissl hálward wuássl síting
admiring the painting.	əd ˈmaɪərɪŋ ðə ˈpeɪntɪŋ	Ádmairing dé péinting
This is your best work, Basil	ðɪs ɪz jə best ˈwɜːk   ˈbæzl̩	Dís íss íór bést wuórk bássl
It’s the best you’ve done’,	ɪts ðə best juv dʌn	Íts dé bes íúv dón
Lord Henry told the painter.	lɔːd ˈhenri təʊld ðə ˈpeɪntə	Lórd hénri tóld dé péinter
Next year you must send it to the Grosvenor Exhibition.	nekst ˈjɪə ju məst send ɪt tə ðə ˈgrɒsvənər ˌeksɪ ˈbɪʃn̩	Néks íer íú múst séndít tú dé grósvenor éxhíbishion
I don’t think so,	ˈaɪ dəʊnt ˈθɪŋk ˈsəʊ	Áíd dóunt zínk sóu
replied the painter.	rɪ ˈplaɪd ðə ˈpeɪntə	Ríplaid dé péinter
I will never send this anywhere.	ˈaɪ wɪl ˈnevə send ðɪs ˈeniweə	Ái wuíl néver sénd dís éniwuer

Lord Henry raised his eyebrows	lɔːd ˈhenri reɪzd ˈaɪbrəʊz	Lórd henri réissd hís ráissd áibrauss
and looked with astonishment through the blue smoke of the opium cigarette.	ənd lʊkt wɪð ə ˈstɒnɪʃmənt   θ ruː ðə bluː sməʊk əv ði ˈəʊpiəm ˌsɪgəˈret	Ánd lúkt wuíz ástonishment Zrú dé blú ssmóuk of dí ópiem sigáret
And why ever not, my dear friend?	ənd waɪ ˈevə nɒt   maɪ diə ˈfrend	Ánd wuái éver nót máí dírf frénd?
Painters are such strange people.	ˈpeɪntəz ə sʌtʃ streɪndʒ ˈpiːpl̩	
They seek fame	ˈðeɪ siːk feɪm	Déi sík féim
and then don't want it.	ənd ðen dɔʊnt wɒnt ɪt	Ánd dén dóun wuántit
It's absurd.	ɪts əbˈsɜːd	Íts ábserd
It's crazy because there is only one thing in the world	ɪts ˈkreɪzi bi ˈkɒz ðə z ˈəʊnli wʌn ˈθ ɪŋ ɪn ðə wɜːld	Íts kréissi bíkoss dér íss ónli wuán zíng ín dé wuórlđ
worse than being talked about,	wɜːs ðən ˈbiːɪŋ ˈtɔːkt ə ˈbaʊt	Wuórs dán bíng tókt ábaut
and that is not being talked about.	ənd ðət s nɒt ˈbiːɪŋ ˈtɔːkt ə ˈbaʊt	Ánd dát íss nót bíng tókt ábaut
I know you're going to laugh	ˈaɪ nəʊ jə ˈgəʊɪŋ tə lɑːf	Ái nóu íur góing tú láf
replied the painter	rɪ ˈplaɪd ðə ˈpeɪntə	Ríplaid dé péinter
but really	bət ˈriːli	Bát ríli
I can't exhibit the painting	ˈaɪ kɑːnt ɪg ˈzɪbɪt ðə ˈpeɪntɪŋ	Ái kánt igssíbit dé péinting
there's too much of myself in it	ðeəz tuː ˈmʌtʃ əv maɪ ˈself ɪn ɪt	Dérsst tú mách óf maɪ'self ínit
Lord Henry laughed	lɔːd ˈhenri lɑːft	Lórd hénri láft
I don't mind you laughing!	ˈaɪ dɔʊnt maɪnd ju ˈlɑːfɪŋ	Áid dóunt máind iu láfing
said Basil	ˈsed ˈbæzl̩	Séd bássl
But it is nothing like you	bət ɪt s ˈnʌθ ɪŋ ˈlaɪk ju	Bát ír íss názing láik iu
You are an intelligent man	ju ər ən ɪnˈtelɪdʒənt mæn	iu ár án intélichent mán
but intelligence has nothing to do with beauty	bət ɪnˈtelɪdʒəns hæz ˈnʌθ ɪŋ tə də wɪð ˈbjʊːti	Bát íntelichens háss názing tú dú wuíz bíuti
I am sure that your mysterious young friend never thinks	ˈaɪ əm ʃʊə ðət jə mi ˈstɪərɪəs jʌŋ ˈfrend ˈnevə ˈθ ɪŋks	Ái am shér dát íor místirias íang frénd néver zínks
He is a beautiful, brainless creature	hi z ə ˈbjʊːtəfl̩   ˈbreɪnləs ˈkriːtʃə	Hí íss á bíutiful bréinles krísher
You are nothing like each other	ju ə ˈnʌθ ɪŋ ˈlaɪk iːtʃ ˈlðə	Iú ár názing láik ích áder
You don't understand me	ju dɔʊnt ˌʌndə ˈstænd miː	Iú dóunt ánderstandmí
replied the painter	rɪ ˈplaɪd ðə ˈpeɪntə	Ríplaid dé péinter
I already know that Dorian Gray	ˈaɪ ɔːl ˈredi nəʊ ðət ˈdɔːɪən greɪ	Ái ólredi nóu dát dórian gréy
and I are nothing alike	ənd ˈaɪ ə ˈnʌθ ɪŋ ə ˈlaɪk	Ánd ái ár názing álaik
Dorian Gray?	ˈdɔːɪən greɪ	Dórian gréy?

Is that his name?	ɪz ðæt ɪz 'neɪm	Íss dát híss néim?
Asked Lord Henry	'ɑːskt lɔːd 'henri	Áskt lórd hénri
Yes, that's his name	jes   ðæts ɪz 'neɪm	Íes, dátss híss néim
I didn't want you to know	'aɪ 'dɪdnt wɒnt ju tə nəʊ	Ái didn't wuánt tú nóu
Why not?	waɪ nɒt	Wuáit nótt?
Because when I like someone a lot	bɪ 'kɒz wen 'aɪ 'laɪk 'sʌmwʌn ə lɒt	Bíkoss wuén ái láin sámwuan álot
I don't tell their name	'aɪ dəʊnt tel ðeə 'neɪm	Ái dóunt tél dér néim
For me it's betrayal	fə miː its bɪ 'treɪəl	Fór mí íts bétreial
I love secrecy	'aɪ lʌv 'siːkrəsi	Ái lóv síkresi
When I leave this city	wen 'aɪ liːv ðɪs 'sɪti	Wuén ái liiv dís síti
I don't tell anyone where I am going	'aɪ dəʊnt tel 'eniwʌn weər 'aɪ əm 'gəʊɪŋ	Ái dóunt tél éniwuan wuér ái ám góing
It is a bad habit	ɪt s ə bæd 'hæbɪt	Ít íss á bád hábit
I know	'aɪ nəʊ	Ái nóu
but in that way	bət ɪn ðæt 'weɪ	Bát ín dát wuéi
life is like a novel	laɪf s 'laɪk ə 'nɒvl̩	Láif láik á nóvel
You must think I am mad	ju mʌst 'θɪŋk 'aɪ əm mæd	Iu mást zínk ái ám mád
No, my dear Basil	nəʊ   maɪ dɪə 'bæzl̩	Nóu, mái dér béissl
said Lord Henry	'sed lɔːd 'henri	Séd lórd hénri
Remember that I am married	rɪ'membə ðæt 'aɪ əm 'mæɪɪd	Rimember dát ái ám méried
and the only delight to be had in a marriage	ənd ðɪ 'əʊnli dɪ 'laɪt tə bi hæd ɪn ə 'mæɪɪdʒ	Ánd dé óunli diláit tú bí had ín á mérich
is that the partners cheat regularly.	ɪz ðæt ðə 'pɑːtnəz tʃiːt 'regjʊləli	Íss dát dé pártnerss chít régularli
I never know where my wife is	'aɪ 'nevə nəʊ weə maɪ waɪf ɪz	Ái néve nóu wuér mái wuáif íss
and my wife never knows what I am doing	ənd maɪ waɪf 'nevə nəʊz 'wɒt 'aɪ əm 'duːɪŋ	Ánd mái wuáif néver nóuss wuát ái ám dúing
I don't like you speaking like that	'aɪ dəʊnt 'laɪk ju 'spiːkɪŋ 'laɪk ðæt	Ái dóunt láik iú spíking láik dát
replied Basil Hallward	rɪ'plaɪd 'bæzl̩, 'hɒlwərd	Ríplaid bássl hálwuard
as he walked towards the door that led to the garden.	əz hi 'wɔːkt tə 'wɔːdz ðə dɔː   ðæt led tə ðə 'gɑːdn̩	Áss hi wóukt tórdss dé dóor dát léd tú dé gárden
I believe that you are a good husband.	'aɪ bɪ 'liːv ðæt ju ə ɡʊd 'hʌzbənd	Ái bíliv dát iú ár a gúd hássband
You are a great person	ju ə ə 'greɪt 'pɜːsn̩	Iu ár gréit pérsón
Your shamelessness is just a front	jə 'ʃeɪmləsnes ɪz dʒʌst ə frʌnt	Ior shéimlesness íss chás a frónt
The two men walked together towards the garden	ðə tuː men 'wɔːkt tə 'geðə tə 'wɔːdz ðə 'gɑːdn̩	Dé tú mén wuokt túgeder tordss dé gárden
and sat on a bench	ənd sæt ɒn ə bentʃ	Ánd sát ón a bénch
under the shade of the trees	'ʌndə ðə ʃeɪd əv ðə triːz	Ánder dé shéid óf dé tríss
Moments later	'məʊmənts 'leɪtə	Móments léiter

Lord Henry looked at his watch.	lɔːd ˈhenri lʊkt ət ɪz wɒtʃ	Lórd hénri lukt át híss wuáitch
I must go, Basil	ˈaɪ məst ɡəʊ   ˈbæzəl	Ái mást góu béissl
he said quietly	hi ˈsed ˈkwaɪətli	Hí séd kuáietli
but before I go I would like to know	bət bɪ ˈfɔːr ˈaɪ ɡəʊ ˈaɪ wʊd ˈlaɪk tə nəʊ	Bát bífor ái góu ái wúd láik tú nóu
why you don't want to exhibit the picture of Dorian Gray	wɑɪ ju dəʊnt wɒnt tu ɪɡˈzɪbɪt ðə ˈpɪktʃər əv ˈdɔːɪən greɪ	Wuáit iu dóunt wuánt tú eggssíbit dé píkshef óf dórian gréi
I repeat	ˈaɪ rɪˈpiːt	Ái ripít
it scares me to show	ɪt skeəz miː tə ʃəʊ	Its sskérss mit tú shóu
the secret of my soul through a picture	ðə ˈsiːkrɪt əv maɪ səʊl θ ruː ə ˈpɪktʃə	Dé síkret óf máí sóul zru á píkshef
And what is it?	ənd ˈwɒt s ɪt	Ánd wuát íss it?
I'm going to tell you	aɪm ˈɡəʊɪŋ tə tel ju	Áim góing tú tél iu
I'm listening to you, Basil	aɪm ˈlɪsn̩ ɪŋ tə ju   ˈbæzəl	Aim lístening tú iu béissl
This is the story	ðɪs ɪz ðə ˈstɔːri	Dís íss dé sstori
said the painter	ˈsed ðə ˈpeɪntə	Séd dé péinter
Two months ago	tuː mʌnθ s ə ˈɡəʊ	Tú mónz ágou
I went to a meeting	ˈaɪ ˈwent tu ə ˈmiːtɪŋ	Ái wuént tú á míting
at Lady Brandon's house	ət ˈleɪdi ˈbrændənz ˈhaʊs	Át léidi brándonss háus
I was in the drawing room talking to various old ladies	ˈaɪ wəz ɪn ðə XXXXX ˈtɔːkɪŋ tə ˈveərɪəs əʊld ˈleɪdɪz	Ái wuáss ín dé droing room tóking tú várias óuld léidiss
when I felt someone looking at me	wen ˈaɪ felt ˈsʌmwʌn ˈlʊkɪŋ ət miː	Wuén ái félt sámwuan lúking át mí
I turned and saw	ˈaɪ tɜːnd ənd ˈsəʊ	Ía térnd ánd só
for the first time, Dorian Gray	fə ðə ˈfɜːst ˈtaɪm   ˈdɔːɪən greɪ	Fór dé férst tám, dórian gréi
Our eyes met and I was scared	ˈaʊər aɪz met ənd ˈaɪ wəz skeəd	Áuer áiss mét mét ánd ái wuáss skérd
I knew instantly that he was fascinating.	ˈaɪ njuː ˈɪnstəntli ðət hi wəz ˈfæsɪneɪtɪŋ	Ái núu ínstlanli dát hí wuáss fásineiting
I felt that something terrible was going to happen to me.	ˈaɪ félt ðət ˈsʌmθ ɪŋ ˈterəbl̩ wəz ˈɡəʊɪŋ tə ˈhæpən tə miː	Ái félt dár sámzing térbol wuás góing tú hápen tú mí
I froze and wanted to leave the room.	ˈaɪ frəʊz ənd ˈwɒntɪd tə liːv ðə ruːm	Ái fróuss ánd wuántid tú lív dé rúm
I ran towards the door,	ˈaɪ ræn tə ˈwɔːdz ðə dɔː	Áir rán tórdss dé dóor
but Lady Brandon wouldn't leave me.	bət ˈleɪdi ˈbrændən ˈwʊdnt liːv miː	Bát léidi brándon wúdn't lív mí
Suddenly I found myself face to face with Dorian Gray	sʌdn̩ ˌli ˈaɪ faʊnd maɪ ˈself feɪs tə feɪs wɪð ˈdɔːɪən greɪ	Sádenli ái fáund máiself féis tú féis wuíz dórian gréi
We were almost touching	wɪ wər ˈɔːlməʊst ˈtʌtʃɪŋ	Wuí wuéf ólmoust táching
We made eye contact.	wɪ ˈmeɪd aɪ ˈkɒntækt	Wuí méid ái kóntakt
Then I asked Lady Brandon to introduce us	ðen ˈaɪ ˈɑːskt ˈleɪdi ˈbrændən tu ɪntrə ˈdjuːs əz	Dén ái askt léidi bránndon tú intróduss ass

And what did Lady Brandon say	ənd ˈwʊt dɪd ˈleɪdi ˈbrændən ˈseɪ	Ánd wuát díd léidi brándon séi
of this marvellous young man?	əv ðɪs ˈmɑːvləs jʌŋ mæn	Óf dís márvelas íang mán
She said that he was charming	ʃi ˈsed ðæt hi wəz ˈtʃɑːmɪŋ	Shí séd dát hí wuás chárming
She said that she was a close friend of his mother	ʃi ˈsed ðæt ʃi wəz ə kləʊz frend əv ɪz ˈmʌðə	Shí séd dát shí wuás a klóuss frénd óf híss máder
and that she had forgotten what he did.	ənd ðæt ʃi həd fə ˈgɒtn, ˈwʊt hi dɪd	Ánd dát shí hád forgáten wuát hí díd
Dorian Gray and I both laughed	ˈdɔːɪən greɪ ənd ˈaɪ bəʊ θ lɑːft	Dórian gréi ánd ái bóuz láft
and suddenly we became friends	ənd sʌdn, li wi bi ˈkeɪm frendz	Ánd sádenli wuí bíkeim fréndss
It's a good start	ɪts ə gʊd stɑːt	Its á gúd stárt
said Lord Henry	ˈsed lɔːd ˈhenri	Séd lórd hénri
Basil turned his head.	ˈbæzl, tɜːnd ɪz hed	Bássel térnd híss héd
You don't understand what friendship is, Harry	ju dəʊnt ˌʌndə ˈstænd ˈwʊt ˈfrendʃɪp ɪz   ˈhæri	Iú dóunt ánderstand wuát fréndship íss, hári
nor what is enmity	nɔː ˈwʊt s ˈenmɪti	Nór wuát ís énmiti
You love everybody	ju lʌv ˈevrɪ ˌbɒdi	Iu lóv evribodi
which is the same as not loving anybody	wɪtʃ ɪz ðə seɪm əz nɒt ˈlʌvɪŋ ˈenɪbɒdi	Wuich íss dé séim áss nót lóving énibodi
That's not fair!	ðæts nɒt feə	Dáts nór fér
said Lord Henry	ˈsed lɔːd ˈhenri	Séd lórd hénri
I know the difference between people.	ˈaɪ nəʊ ðə ˈdɪfrəns bi ˈtwiːn ˈpiːpl.	Ái nóu dé díferens bitúin pípol
I choose my best friends by their good looks	ˈaɪ tʃuːz maɪ best frendz baɪ ðeə gʊd lʊks	Ái chús mái bést fréndss báí déir lúks
my colleagues by their personality	maɪ ˈkɒliːgz baɪ ðeə ˌpɜːsə ˈnæliːti	Mái kolígss báid dér persónaliti
and my enemies by their intelligence	ənd maɪ ˈenəmɪz baɪ ðeər ɪn ˈtelɪdʒəns	Ánd máí énemiss báí dér intélíshens
I don't have stupid enemies.	ɪ ˈaɪ dəʊnt həv ˈstjuːpɪd ˈenəmɪz	Ái dóunt háv sstúpíd énemis
Let's speak about Dorian Gray	lets spiːk ə ˈbaʊt ˈdɔːɪən greɪ	Léts sspík ábout dórian gréi
Do you see him often?	də ju ˈsiː ɪm ˈɒfn,	Dú iú sí im ófen?
I see him every day	ˈaɪ ˈsiː ɪm ˈevri deɪ	Ái sí im évri déi
I must see him every day.	ˈaɪ məst ˈsiː ɪm ˈevri deɪ	Ái mást sí im évri déi
I wouldn't be happy if I didn't see him.	ˈaɪ ˈwʊdnt bi ˈhæpi ɪf ˈaɪ ˈdɪdnt ˈsiː ɪm	Ái wúdnt bí hápi íf ái dídnt sí im
Amazing!	ə ˈmeɪzɪŋ	Améíssing
I must meet Dorian Gray!	ˈaɪ məst miːt ˈdɔːɪən greɪ	Ái mást mít dórian gréi!
Then Basil Hallward got up	ðen ˈbæzl, ˈhɒlwərd ˈgɒt ʌp	Dén béíssl hólward gát áp
and walked around the garden.	ənd ˈwɔːkt ə ˈraʊnd ðə ˈgɑːdn,	Ánd wuókt áraund dé gárdén

A few moments later he returned.	ə fjuː ˈmɒmənt ˈleɪtə hi rɪ ˈtʊːnd	Á fiú móments léiter hí ritérnd
He is my work	hi z maɪ xxx x	Híss máí wuórk
said the painter seriously.	ˈsed ðə ˈpeɪntə ˈsɪəriəsli	Séd dé péinter síriasli
I know that my work	ˈaɪ nəʊ ðæt maɪ ˈwɜːk	Ái nóu dát máí wuórk
since I met Dorian Gray	sɪns ˈaɪ met ˈdɔːiən greɪ	Síns áí mét dórian gréi
is the best I have ever done	ɪz ðə best ˈaɪ həv ˈevə dʌn	Íss dé bést áí háv éver dón
The simple presence of this young man	ðə ˈsɪmpl ˈprezns əv ðɪs jʌŋ mæn	Dé símpel présens óf dís íang mán
he is little over 20 years old	hi z ˈlɪtl ˈəʊvə ˈtwenti ˈjɪz əʊld	Híss lítel óver tuénti íers óuld
makes one see things in another light	ˈmeɪks wʌn ˈsiː ˈθ ɪŋz ɪn ə ˈnʌðə laɪt	Méíks wuán sí zíngs ín anáder láit
I think in a different way.	ˈaɪ ˈθ ɪŋk ɪn ə ˈdɪfrənt ˈweɪ	Ái zínk ín á díferent wuéi
Tell me	tel miː	Tél mí
does Dorian Gray affect you so much?’	dəz ˈdɔːiən greɪ ə ˈfekt ju ˈsəʊ ˈmʌtʃ	Dáss dórian gréi áfekt iu só mách?
Yes, he replied after a silence	jes   hi rɪ ˈplaɪd ˈɑːftər ə ˈsaɪləns	Íes, hí ríplaid áfter á sáilens
I know he likes me.	ˈaɪ nəʊ hi ˈlaɪks miː	Ái nóu hí láíks mí
He is charming with me	hi z ˈtʃɑːmɪŋ wɪð miː	Híss chárming wíz mí
and we talk for days, in the studio,	ənd wi ˈtɔːk fə deɪz   ɪn ðə ˈstjuːdɪəʊ	Ánd wuí tók fór déis, ín dé sstúdio
although at times it seems that he enjoys hurting me.	ɔːl ˈðəʊ ət ˈtaɪmz ɪt ˈsiːmz ðæt hi ɪn ˈdʒɔɪz ˈhɜːtɪŋ miː	Áldou át táims ít síms dát hí enchóis hértíng mí
I think I have given my soul	ˈaɪ ˈθ ɪŋk ˈaɪ həv gɪvn maɪ səʊl	Ái zínk áí háv gíven máí sóul
to a person who doesn’t appreciate it enough	tu ə ˈpɜːsn huː ˈdʌznt ə ˈpriːʃieɪt ɪt ɪ ˈnʌf	Tú a pérsón hú dásent aprísheitit enáf
My dear friend.	maɪ dɪə ˈfrend	Máid dír frénd
Now I remember...	nəʊ ˈaɪ rɪ ˈmembə	Náu áí rímember
Remember what, Harry?	rɪ ˈmembə ˈwɒt   ˈhæri	Rímember wuát, hári
Where I heard the name Dorian Gray!’	weər ˈaɪ hɜːd ðə ˈneɪm ˈdɔːiən greɪ !	Wuér áí hérd dé néim dórian gréi
Where? asked the painter, a little angry.	weər? ˈɑːskt ðə ˈpeɪntə   ə ˈlɪtl ˈæŋgri	Wuér? Áskt dé péinter, á lítl ángri
Don’t look at me like that, Basil.	dəʊnt lʊk ət miː ˈlaɪk ðæt   ˈbæzl	Dóunt lúk át mí láik dát, béissl
It was at my aunt Agatha’s house	ɪt wəz ət maɪ ɑːnt ˈægə θ əɪz ˈhaʊs	Ít wuáss át máí óunt ágazass háus



She told me that she had met a marvellous young man called Dorian Gray	ʃi təʊld miː ðæt ʃi həd met ə ˈmɑːvləs jʌŋ mæn kɔːld ˈdɔːiən greɪ	Shí tóuld mí dát shí had mét a márvelas íang mán kóld dórían gréi
She didn't tell me that he was beautiful.	ʃi ˈdɪdnt tel miː ðæt hi wəz ˈbjʊːtəfl̩	Shí dídnt tél dát hí wuás bíutífol
She told me that he was very serious and was good-natured	ʃi təʊld miː ðæt hi wəz ˈveri ˈsɪəriəs ənd wəz gʊd ˈneɪtʃəd	Shí tóuld mí dát hí wuás véri sírias án wuás gúd neitsher
I imagined a person with glasses, spots and enormous feet.	ˈaɪ ɪ ˈmædʒɪnd ə ˈpɜːsn̩, wɪð ˈglɑːsɪz   spɒts ənd ɪ ˈnɔːməs fiːt	Ái ímashind á pérson wuíss glásess, spóts ánd énormas fiit
I don't want you to meet him said Basil	ˈaɪ dəʊnt wɒnt ju tə miːt ɪm ˈsed ˈbæzl̩	Áid dóunt wuánt iú tú mít hím séd béisl
You don't want me to meet him?	ju dəʊnt wɒnt miː tə miːt ɪm	Iu dóunt wuánt mí to mitim?
No.	nəʊ	Nóu
Mister Dorian Gray is in the studio, sir	ˈmɪstə ˈdɔːiən greɪ z ɪn ðə ˈstjuːdɪəʊ   sɜː	Míster dórían gréi íss ín dé sstudio, sér
said the butler, coming into the garden.	ˈsed ðə ˈbʌtlə   ˈklɑːmɪŋ ɪntə ðə ˈgɑːdn̩	Séd dé bátlet, káming intú dé gárden
Well, now you will have to introduce him to me	wel   nəʊ ju wɪl hæv tu ɪntrəˈdjuːs ɪm tə miː	Wuél, náú iú wufl háv tú íntrodus hím tú mí
Basil looked at Lord Henry.	ˈbæzl̩ ˈhɒlwərd lʊkt ət lɔːd ˈhenri	Béissl hálwuard lúkt át lórd hénri
Dorian Gray is my dear friend, he said.	ˈdɔːiən greɪ z maɪ dɪə ˈfrend   hi ˈsed	Dórían gréi íss máí dír frénd, hí séd
He has a pure and simple nature.	hi həz ə pjʊər ənd ˈsɪmpl̩, ˈneɪtʃə	Hí hás á píur ánd símpel néisher
You would be a bad influence.	ju wʊd bi ə bæd ɪnfluəns	Íu wúd bí a bád ífluens
The world is big and there are many interesting people.	ðə wɜːld z bɪg ənd ðær ɑː ˈmeni ɪntrəstɪŋ ˈpiːpl̩	Dé wuórlð íss bíg ánd dér ár méni íntresting pípol
Don't take him away from me.	dəʊnt teɪk ɪm əˈweɪ frəm miː 	Dóun téikim ówuei fróm mí
My life as an artist depends on him.	maɪ laɪf əz ən ˈɑːtɪst dɪˈpendz ɒn ɪm	Mái láif áss án ártist dípendss ónim
Please take it into account. I confide in you.	pliːz teɪk ɪt ɪntə əˈkaʊnt   ˈaɪ kənˈfaɪd ɪn ju	Plíss téikit íntu ákáunt ái kónfaid ín iú
Don't talk rubbish' replied Lord Henry	dəʊnt ˈtɔːk ˈrʌbɪʃ rɪˈplaɪd lɔːd ˈhenri	Dóun tók rábish ríplaid lórd henri
who took Hallward by the arm	huː tʊk ˈhɒlwərd baɪ ði ɑːm	Hú túk hálwuard báí dí árm
and led him into the house.	ənd xxx ɪm ɪntə ðə ˈhaʊs	Ánd led íntu dé háus

## Quiz Lesson 3

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### 1) What are some of the sounds that are difficult for Spanish speakers?

- a) The schwa sound.
- b) v, f, t, c, s, d
- c) y, i, v, w, sh, able
- d) They are all difficult

### 2) What is connected speech?

- a) The linking of words in a sentence
- b) When you connect one paragraph with another
- c) When the meaning of a text has a special impact in the reader
- d) There is no such a term in English

### 3) Try to speak with the right sounds

- a) It's not possible if you are not native
- b) Means emphasizing consonants, using the schwa sound, speaking with a softer tone, trying to give English the intonation a native English speaker gives to Spanish
- c) Memorising a list of sounds like the one an the beginning of this lesson
- d) Imitating the accent the native speakers have
- c) You repeat them so often that they won't sound unfamiliar any longer
- d) You make a sentence yours

### 4) What accent should you imitate?

- a) British
- b) American



- 
- c) The accent your more familiar with
  - d) You can't imitate accents when you speak English as a second language

**5) What is the schwa sound?**

- a) A German sound
- b) The most common sound in the English language
- c) It doesn't exist
- d) It appears in long sentences

[Answers here](#)

Go to lesson 4