

Pronunciation Features of Hong Kong English (Cantonese speakers)

Vowels and Diphthongs
<p>1. Absence of contrasts between long and short vowels e.g. 'be<u>ad</u>' (/bi:d/) → 'bi<u>d</u>' (/bɪd/) or vice versa</p>
<p>2. Absence of contrast between /æ/ and /e/ e.g. 'ba<u>d</u>' (/bæd/) → 'be<u>d</u>' (/bed/) or vice versa</p>
<p>3. Shorting the diphthongs e.g. 'na<u>me</u>' (/neɪm/) → 'nem' (/nem/)</p>
<p>4. Absence of reduced vowel in unstressed syllables e.g. 'absorb' (/əbɔ:b/) → /'æbzɔ:b/</p>
Consonants
<p>5. Substituting /z/ for /ð/ e.g. 'this' (/ðɪs/) → 'zis' (/zɪs/)</p>
<p>6. Substituting /d/ for /ð/ e.g. 'those' (/ðəʊz/) → 'dose' /dəʊs/</p>
<p>7. Substituting /f/ for /θ/ e.g. 'thanks' (/θæŋks/) → 'fanks' (/fæŋks/)</p>
<p>8. Substituting /t/ for /θ/ e.g. 'thin' (/θɪn/) → 'tin' (/tɪn/)</p>
<p>9. Substituting /s/ for /θ/ e.g. 'think' (/θɪŋk/) → 'sink' (/sɪŋk/)</p>
<p>10. Absence of contrast between /l/ and /n/ e.g. 'light' (/laɪt/) → 'night' (/naɪt/) or vice versa</p>
<p>11. Absence of contrasts between voiced and voiceless sounds e.g. 'seal' (/si:l/) → 'zeal' (/zi:l/) or vice versa</p>
<p>12. Deletion of final /l/ e.g. fool (/fu:l/) → 'foo' (/fu:/)</p>
<p>13. L-vocalization L-vocalization refers to the realization of /l/ as vowels like /u/ when it is preceded by a back vowel. e.g. 'fool' (/fu:l/) → 'foo-o' (/fu:ɔ/)</p>
<p>14. Substituting /l/ for /r/ e.g. 'right' (/raɪt/) → 'light' (/laɪt/)</p>
<p>15. Substituting /w/ for /r/ e.g. 'rice' (/raɪs/) → 'wise' (/waɪs/)</p>
<p>16. Substituting /f/ for /v/ e.g. 'even' (/i:vn/) → 'efen' (/i:fn/)</p>
<p>17. Substituting /w/ for /v/ e.g. 'vine' (/vaɪn/) → 'wine' (/waɪn/),</p>
<p>18. /tr/ and /tw/ clusters are pronounced as /tʃw/ e.g. 'trim' (/trɪm/) → 'chwim' (/tʃwɪm/)</p>

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