



## Learning British Accent Through Short Videos: A Case Study of English Department Student

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### Abstrak

This research explores the integration of British accents in the education of bilingual children focusing on the acquisition of foreign languages, particularly emphasizing pronunciation. The study investigates the challenges and strategies related to learning the British accent, while considering the broader context of accent diversity. Through interviews conducted at Muhammadiyah University of Banjarmasin, the responses from students regarding their experiences with British accents were examined. The research reveals that despite the dominance of American accents in the region, there is interest and effort among students to learn British accents. The study also identifies various methods, such as videos and interactions with individuals who use British accents, employed by learners to improve their pronunciation. However, the challenges are substantial, including curriculum limitations, lack of training for educators, and issues related to assessment and infrastructure. While British accents are deemed attractive due to their clear and round pronunciation, the level of difficulty is subjective and influenced by individual interest and intention. In conclusion, mastering pronunciation, specifically British accents, is crucial for effective communication in English, requiring dedicated efforts and appropriate learning resources.

**Kata Kunci:** accent diversity, communication skills, curriculum challenges, learning strategies, training for educators

### Introduction

Language is one thing that is done to communicate (Prayitno, et al., 2019; Prayitno, et al., 2019; Waljinah et al., 2019). There are many different languages in this world. In Indonesia

itself there are various kinds of regional languages used. The two languages used in Indonesia are Indonesian and English (Yansyah et al., 2021, 2023). However, the language used in everyday speech is Indonesian. Learning a language is not



easy. Each language in different countries has its own rules (Revista Românească pentru September, 2020Educație Multidimensională). Usually some countries have their own rules for what men and women say. However, there are some countries that do not have such regulations. In English, every word spoken can change the rest of the words as well. Meanwhile, words that look very different are sometimes pronounced the exact same way, such as "I" and "Eye".

Pronunciation is not about removing the accent. It is about making English sound clear and distinct, so there is no confusion about what other people are saying or hearing. In addition, there are 2 reasons why pronunciation is important in learning English, (1) can help people so that the pronunciation of every word used can be heard clearly and well (2) it will definitely make self-confidence increase along with fluent English pronunciation being learned. Therefore, pronunciation is very influential in English, because the pronunciation that is spoken must be clearly heard so that those who listen to it can also understand the meaning or intent of the words mentioned.

Pronunciation is the way the sound of a language is pronounced. Words can be pronounced in many different ways, and depend on many factors, such as: where they grew up where they live their ethnicity their social class their education their speech impairment. Launch Encyclopædia Britannica, pronunciation is the form in which the elementary

symbols of language, the segmental phonemes or speech sounds, appear and are arranged in patterns of pitch, loudness, and duration. Meanwhile, according, pronunciation is the act or result of producing the sounds of speech, including articulation, stress, and intonation, often with reference to some standard of correctness or acceptability.

Vocabulary can be learned through various media (Zakiah et al., 2023). Thus, in addition to increasing vocabulary in the language, it is good to learn how to convey words that are spoken properly and correctly, because in the pronunciation of mispronunciations can also change the meaning of the word. The following is an example of English pronunciation with symbols:: (e.g., after /æftʔr, thread /θrʔd, bamboo /bæmbu). There are several elements in pronunciation that you need to know. If you want to pronounce a word or sentence well, then you must know the best way to pronounce the word. There are several pronunciation elements that you need to know such as vowels, consonants, popsounds, final sounds, syllables and stresses. Here's what it means : (1). Vowels, (2). Consonants, (3). Popsounds, (4). Final Sounds

We have already described some of the key differences in the answers above, but there are many other features that set the two dialects apart. Let is dive deeper into some of these differences. It is difficult to make clear distinctions between U.S. and U.K. accents when there is such a wide variety of accents within both the U.S. and the U.K. A



Texan and a New Yorker are both Americans, but have very different accents. The same goes for British accents in London, Manchester and Glasgow. However, some very general distinctions can be made. Americans usually pronounce every "r" in a word, while the British tend to only pronounce the "r" when it is the first letter of a word.

British English (BrE) is, according to Oxford Dictionaries, "English as used in Great Britain, as distinct from that used elsewhere". More narrowly, it can refer specifically to the English language in England, or, more broadly, to the collective dialects of English throughout the British Isles taken as a single umbrella variety, for instance additionally incorporating Scottish English, Welsh English, and Northern Irish English. Tom McArthur in the Oxford Guide to World English acknowledges that British English shares "all the ambiguities and tensions [with] the word 'British' and as a result can be used and interpreted in two ways, more broadly or more narrowly, within a range of blurring and ambiguity".

Variations exist in formal (both written and spoken) English in the United Kingdom. For example, the adjective *wee* is almost exclusively used in parts of Scotland, North East England, Northern Ireland, Ireland, and occasionally Yorkshire, whereas the adjective *little* is predominant elsewhere. Nevertheless, there is a meaningful degree of uniformity in written English within the United Kingdom and this could be described by the term British

English. The forms of spoken English, however, vary considerably more than in most other areas of the world where English is spoken and so a uniform concept of British English is more difficult to apply to the spoken language.

Pronunciation learners will face several problems and difficulties. Those problems might come from learners' mother tongue or the components in pronunciation that they learn. Thus, the learners need to apply certain ways to solve them. For example, the use of drills to practice the language and a dictionary to find difficult words (Mufidah et al., 2022). In pronunciation learning, this was called as pronunciation learning strategies (Afzal, 2019). This study was qualitative research which investigates pronunciation learning strategies used by 23 English Education learners in English Department of State University of Surabaya. Moreover, the factors and the ways the strategies help the learner to learn pronunciation were also under-investigated. The data were gained through the combination of an open-ended and close-ended questionnaire, observation and interview section. The result of this study figures out that learners applied almost all of the direct strategies included in Memory, Cognitive, and Compensation strategies. Furthermore, learners applied all of these strategies because of several factors. Learning goal, lecturer is teaching techniques, learning style, type of task, and the topic of material are the factors which influence the learners to use the strategies. In addition, based on



the result, it is revealed that the strategies applied by the learners really help the learners while learning pronunciation.

The first step you can do is learn phonetic symbols or phonetics and also stressing. You can learn both through the English dictionary, friends. In every English word in the dictionary, it will be followed by the phonetics behind it. Through this phonetics you have an idea of what a word should look like correctly. Then stressing, you also have to learn to emphasize English words. Different words, different ways to pronounce them. The next tip to improve pronunciation is to learn through listening (WidiyantiA. (2019, November 30). Not only listening to English songs, you can also learn listening from English podcasts. You can also use learning videos (looking for the best references) or English films to practice listening (Dewi & Arifani, 2023). Through video, you can not only practice listening but at the same time you can observe how to pronounce a word through lip movements. Continuing the tips in point two, when listening to podcasts or watching English videos, you can simultaneously apply the "imitation" and "shadowing" techniques.

Imitation or imitation, with this technique you can be invited to imitate every word or sentence you hear from the listening exercise material. Imitating here can be done by listening slowly, then you can pause the practice material for a moment and then imitate what you have heard. Repeat again until you get the right pronunciation. Shadowing or

shadows, the difference with imitation is that in the shadowing technique there is no time lag between the listener and the speaker (in practice materials). That is, imitating directly at almost the same time to check the similarity of the sound issued with the speaker in the practice material. In the case that the author is discussing at this time is about a student on a campus who has an accent in his English pronunciation, namely a British accent. Here the author informs that this student teaches pronounce through short videos of all existing applications. Therefore, the writer wants to examine why the student can have a better British accent among his classmates. Maybe by doing this research, the writer can find out a suitable way to develop pronunciation in a language so that it sounds clearer and easier for listeners to hear.

In this paragraph, we will discuss how to learn pronunciation through short video media, before entering the learning method section here the author will explain a little about pronunciation (Olivera Ortiz, 2022). There are 4 tips you can do to learn pronunciation, the first one slowly, indeed with fast pronunciation it will look like someone who is learning English, but actually it is the wrong way to start learning pronunciation and the right way is to do the pronunciation slowly but clearly, the second listen to yourself, thing This can be done by recording the pronunciation and listening to find out which part of the pronunciation is still unclear or incorrect in its pronunciation, thirdly,



speaking in English also certainly has its own intonation and emphasis on each word. For example: when saying present. When we put pressure at the beginning, PREsent means "at this moment", "gift" or "present". Meanwhile, if the emphasis is given at the end, preSENT means more to "present", and the last one is practicing pronunciation with other people, this method is very good because by talking to other people it will know which parts are still lacking and can also listen to the correct pronunciation.

But in this paragraph the author emphasizes how to learn pronunciation through short videos (Alqahtani, M. (2019)), this method is also good for beginners who are starting to practice pronunciation. by listening to short videos listeners can find out how to pronounce the right words and know the meaning of each word spoken. This short video can also be watched via the internet and any website because there are so many pronunciation lessons that can be learned with various videos with different concepts. Short videos are very influential because they are very easy to apply in various places and at any time it does not deny that someone is learning pronunciation.

English has become a widely spoken universal language, serving as the primary means of communication for a large portion of the world's population (Guntur et al., 2023). This English accent phenomenon occurred in one of the campuses, with various lessons being carried out on the pronunciation of this

British accent starting to appear. one of the students from the English department is very good at british accents (Sharma et al., 2022), as it is known that very few English speakers use this accent because it is quite difficult. First, the British themselves have their own accent in speaking. Because they are divided into several regions such as, Wales, Scotland, Ireland, and England itself. In addition, British accents often do not include certain letters, such as h, r, and ths. People who speak with this accent often combine several words into one without spaces. Coupled with a distinctive intonation up and down. While the American accent is pronounced with a flat expression and more spaces. The second reason is that English is not the mother tongue for immigrants who come to America. The origin of the American accent was created because at that time the government set the same standards in the English curriculum. This was done because many newcomers to America still use Italian, German, Dutch, Russian, Greek, Chinese, Spanish, Norwegian and other languages. So it is only natural that people in any part of the world tend to understand American accents better than British accents.

While education in England is influenced by certain social classes. Differences in social strata are also seen in the spoken dialect. The nobility and the commoners clearly used different dialects. Another reason is the spread of various entertainment media which are dominated by America. Through





movies, music, or television programs, Americans popularize their accent. It is very logical that the British accent is more difficult for most people to catch.

### **Method**

The British classify Gemma's accent as Received Pronunciation—one of the few accents spoken in Great Britain. It is an accent commonly spoken by the people of southern England, such as in London, Oxford, Cambridge. Gemma fans are not wrong if they call the accent elegant or luxurious because it was originally spoken by the middle and upper classes, including members of the United Kingdom. The perception that arises about Gemma's accent can be caused by various things. The simplest reason is the assumption that the British accent is attractive. This assumption is mostly held by American women when they hear British men speak. In 2018, the Washington Post interviewed a number of academics and practitioners of psychology to find out why. One of the speakers is psychotherapist Guy Winch. The author of *Emotional First Aid: Healing Rejection, Guilt, Failure, and Other Everyday Hurts* (2014) argues that for Americans, British accents are not common and people tend to admire things that seem unusual.

### **Result and Discussion**

Bilingual children have more opportunities to acquire foreign languages, especially in their pronunciation (Yansyah et al., 2022). Some of the responses in the interview with the British accent itself are that the

accent is different in its pronunciation because there are a number of words in American accents that are not used, many words are changed in the way they are read, besides that this British accent is difficult to learn because of these things. that earlier from how to introduce a British accent, it is also only recognized at a glance because the majority at the Muhammadiyah University of Banjarmasin also only use American and British accents themselves only as an introduction that in pronunciation there are 2 different accents, but not much is used because British accents are only used in Europe. Students can also learn how to learn the British accent through videos on YouTube or Instagram with the pronunciation of the British accent itself or according to it, for the level of difficulty of the British accent itself, it is judged by how much he does British learning than America, besides that the living environment is also very influential in learning the accent itself too.

The method of assessing whether or not a British accent is also not judged by how fast he reads or not, but by how clear his pronunciation is in the mention of the British accent itself. The difficulty of British is subjectively depending on the individual, but at the Muhammadiyah University of Banjarmasin only the majority use American accents because they are judged to be easier than British accents. according to the interviews themselves, not a few said that the British accent was a difficult accent, they only knew part of



the British accent, the students also said that in fact they only knew the British accent and didn't really know how the British accent was pronounced, the participants also said that besides Using video and voice recorders they can also learn British accents from simply knowing and talking to people who use British accents. it is also very clear to say that in order to learn British accents, participants must be very deep into learning about British accents, but this is very rarely done because there are only a few dominant British accent users in Asia.

However, there were also several students at the Muhammadiyah University of Banjarmasin who used or studied British accents by going through short videos and remembering how to pronounce them and repeating them. Participants also said that in class they could not add to learning about British accents because there were many American accent users, the participant also said that he likes or is interested in the British accent because of its clear and round pronunciation compared to the American accent. participants also told them that the way to find out whether or not they could use a British accent was by speaking in an American accent so it was like compromising the 2 accents, participants also said that a British accent was also a cool accent in terms of speech and intonation. Whereas the other participants gave different responses because they did not understand how to learn the British accent, so according to the other participants, the British accent

was an accent that was as difficult to learn as the American accent.

The British accent itself is a very dominant accent used in Europe, while the American accent is more dominantly used in Asia but not a few people also use British accents in Asia, some people learn because they have their own interests which are the reasons people learn British accents, such as way of pronunciation that is round and clear to hear for some people who have a personal interest in British accents. There are many ways that people can learn British accents, for example watching videos that teach about British accents or the dialogue of someone who uses a British accent, but the most basic is the environmental factor of the person when around him using a British accent it is likely that the person will accustomed to using a British accent.

But as everyone knows that most people use an American accent because most people feel that an American accent is an accent that is easy to understand and pronounce, so everyone has their own thoughts according to their environment showing or dominantly using absenteeism. Actually it all depends on the individual himself wanting to learn a British or American accent because without any intention from himself then he will not be able to learn an accent whether it is British or American. British accent is an accent whose level of difficulty is the same as American accent depending on which environment the dominant accent uses, but British accents are very widely used because according to the environment



there British accents are very easy to learn and according to what the author said his speech was round and clear make it attractive.

When we want to learn Pronunciation we can use videos, songs and friends who learn pronunciation. British Accent is British English, which is the standard dialect of English spoken in the United Kingdom. It is also spoken in countries that were colonies of the British Empire, especially the Commonwealth of Nations. British is a very good accent to use for people who want speech that is round and pleasant to hear, British is also very famous because it differs in a very clear way of pronouncing it from the American accent. Here also the author gives an opinion about this British accent that it is a difficult accent because only people have a deep interest because this also involves intention and will.

### Conclusion

As the reader knows, pronunciation is a fundamental thing in English or includes things that are important because it is very necessary in communicating, pronunciation is also divided into 2 accents, namely British accents and American accents, and all of this can be learned when the dominant environment uses one of them. The accent, and the interests that support or provide a clear intention in learning. and learning pronunciation can be done with various media such as video, audio or by practicing with friends who have expertise in pronunciation.

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