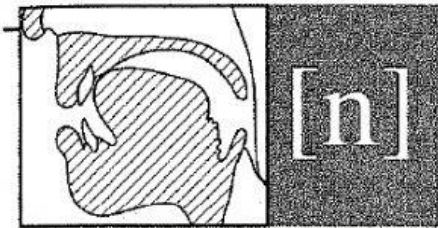




## Consonant sound /n/ as in "no"



**Tongue:** Firmly pressed against gum ridge behind upper front teeth

**Airstream:** Continuous through the nose

**Vocal cords:** Vibrating

### [n] At the Beginning of Words

no                  nail  
 new                neck  
 net                 need  
 know              night  
 knee

### [n] In the Middle of Words

any                dinner  
 many             tennis  
 money            runner  
 window          candle  
 banana

### [n] At the End of Words

in                  fine  
 on                 begin  
 can                again  
 when              tin  
 then

#### hint

The letter *n* is almost always pronounced [n]. Exception: When *n* follows *m* in the same syllable, it is usually NOT pronounced; it is silent.

column          solemn          hymn

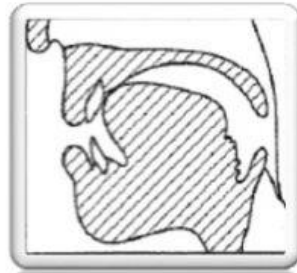
#### hint

When an unstressed syllable begins with [t] or [d] and ends with [n], the [n] is frequently pronounced as "syllabic [n]." It is formed by keeping the tongue tip on the upper gum ridge without moving it from the position of the preceding [t] or [d].

sadden          kitten          curtain          beaten          rotten



**Instructions:** Practice pronunciation of the [ n ] sound with the top 30 most common words.



- |         |           |              |
|---------|-----------|--------------|
| 1. and  | 11. when  | 21. even     |
| 2. in   | 12. an    | 22. any      |
| 3. on   | 13. then  | 23. happen   |
| 4. no   | 14. been  | 24. find     |
| 5. not  | 15. need  | 25. into     |
| 6. know | 16. man   | 26. anything |
| 7. can  | 17. mean  | 27. nothing  |
| 8. want | 18. down  | 28. night    |
| 9. one  | 19. never | 29. again    |
| 10. now | 20. only  | 30. won      |



1. Answer the phone.
2. Come again.
3. rain or shine
4. I don't know.
5. Open the window.
6. Leave me alone.
7. Dinner is between seven and nine.
8. Dan is a fine man.
9. The brown pony is in the barn.

## Vocabulary

1 Listen and repeat these words with the sound /n/.

new	neighborhood	don't
nice	midnight	tenant
noise	spend	convenient



2 Say /n/ clearly at the end of a word. Listen and repeat.

one	seven	kitchen
nine	eleven	downtown
fifteen	I mean	train station

## Syllabic /n/

Sometimes the sound /n/ makes a syllable without any vowel sound. This is called "syllabic /n/."

- Syllabic /n/ occurs only in unstressed syllables.
- Syllabic /n/ usually comes after another consonant made with the tip of the tongue just behind your top teeth: /t/, /d/, /s/, or /z/.

1 Listen and repeat. Try not to move the tip of your tongue between the sound /d/, /z/, or /t/ and the following /n/.

<b>garden</b>	<b>isn't</b>	<b>written</b>
<b>forbidden</b>	<b>doesn't</b>	<b>gotten</b>
<b>student</b>	<b>didn't</b>	<b>important</b>
<b>prison</b>	<b>couldn't</b>	<b>certainly</b>

## Discussion

Practice in a group of three or four people. Talk about the things that are important to you in renting an apartment. Which things below are most important to you? Which things are not important?

no noise	a new kitchen	near transportation
convenient location	a nice neighborhood	friends nearby
low rent	a nice landlord	a garden



## CONVERSATION: "At a rental agency"

**Martin** Good morning. I'm interested in renting a one-bedroom apartment downtown.

**Agent** Certainly. We have a nice apartment on the corner of Main Street and Central Avenue. It has big windows, a new kitchen, and a very convenient location. And it's only \$1,120 a month.

**Martin** I couldn't pay \$1,120 a month. I'm a student.

**Agent** A student, hmm. . . . How much can you spend?

**Martin** Well, I didn't want to spend more than \$700 a month.

**Agent** \$700 a month? We don't often have apartments as inexpensive as that. Not in the center of town, anyway. We've got one apartment for \$790 a month.

**Martin** Where is it? Is it in the same neighborhood?

**Agent** No, it isn't. It's on Seventh Avenue, near the train station.

**Martin** I don't know. I mean, I need to be near the university.

**Agent** It's on a bus line. It has a kitchen, but the kitchen doesn't have an oven.

**Martin** No oven? Well, a nice kitchen isn't that important to me.

**Agent** There's a garden in the front, but the tenants can't use it. The landlord lives downstairs. Friends are forbidden in the apartment after midnight. No noise and no television after 11:15. No –

**Martin** No, thank you! I want an apartment, not a prison!

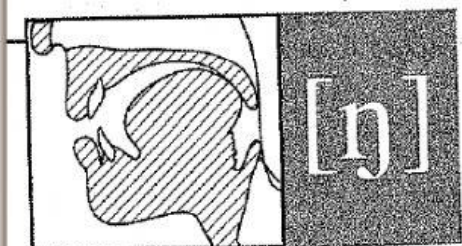


## Conversation Practice

Work with a partner. Take turns asking and answering questions about the dialog. Use short answers like "No, he didn't" / "No, he isn't" / "Yes, he is."

1. Is Martin looking for a house in the country?
2. Does he want an apartment with two bedrooms?
3. Is Martin a student?
4. Did he want to spend \$1,120 a month?
5. Does the second apartment have a kitchen?
6. Does the kitchen have an oven?
7. Could Martin make noise after midnight?
8. Did Martin rent the apartment?

## + Consonant sound /ŋ/ as in "thing"



**Back of tongue:** Raised toward the soft palate

**Airstream:** Continuous through the nose

**Vocal cords:** Vibrating

### [ŋ] In the Middle of Words

anger	youngest
thank	single
finger	longest
banging	hungry

### [ŋ] At the End of Words

sting	running
tongue	strong
walking	singing
feeling	belong

The consonant [ŋ] does not occur at the beginning of words in English.

### hint

The letters *ng* or *ngue* at the ends of words are always pronounced [ŋ].

wrong      sing      walking      tongue

The letter *n* before *g* or *k* is usually pronounced [ŋ].

hungry      single      thank      drink



**Instructions:** Practice pronunciation of the [ ŋ ] sound with the top 30 most common words.

- |              |             |              |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. think     | 11. ring    | 21. during   |
| 2. thing     | 12. hang    | 22. frank    |
| 3. thank     | 13. along   | 23. single   |
| 4. something | 14. king    | 24. belong   |
| 5. long      | 15. sing    | 25. angry    |
| 6. wrong     | 16. uncle   | 26. drunk    |
| 7. morning   | 17. song    | 27. English  |
| 8. bring     | 18. strong  | 28. hungry   |
| 9. drink     | 19. darling | 29. finger   |
| 10. young    | 20. bank    | 30. language |





1. Good **evening**.
2. I'm **going** home.
3. Is **something** wrong?
4. **ring** on my **finger**
5. **raining** and **snowing**
6. Are you **coming** **along**?

## Common Expressions

Listen and repeat these common expressions with the sound /ŋ/.

Good **morning**.

I'm **hungry**.

Is **something** **wrong**?

The phone is **ringing**.

I've been **waiting** a **long** time.

How **long** have you been **studying** English?

## Vocabulary

Listen and repeat these words with the sound /ŋ/.

string

falling

sleeping

standing

pink

running

yelling

helping

morning

talking

tying

reaching

## Conversation Practice

- 1 Practice with a partner. Use the phrases below to make true sentences about yourself. Then listen to your partner's sentences.

*Examples:* I'm not wearing a ring.

I'm reading an interesting book.

1. wearing a ring
2. reading an interesting book
3. wearing something pink
4. taking a boring class
5. studying more than one language
6. planning a long trip
7. thinking of moving (to a new house or apartment)

Pair Work



### CONVERSATION: "Noisy neighbors"

**Frank** (*angrily*) Bang! Bang! Bang! What are the Kings doing? It's seven o'clock on Sunday morning, and we're trying to sleep!

**Ingrid** They're talking very loudly.

**Frank** Yes, but what's the banging noise, Ingrid?

**Ingrid** (*looking out the window*) Ron is standing on a ladder and banging some nails into the wall with a hammer. Now he's tying some strong string on the nails.

**Frank** What's Ann doing?

**Ingrid** She's bringing something pink for Ron to drink. Now she's putting it down. He's reaching for the drink and – Oh, no!

**Frank** What's happening?

**Ingrid** The ladder is falling!

**Frank** Is Ron still standing on it?

**Ingrid** No, he's ... he's hanging from the string. Oh, my goodness. He's holding onto the string by his fingers and yelling.

**Frank** Isn't Ann helping him?

**Ingrid** No. She's running toward our house.

**Frank** You're joking!

**Bell** (*Ring! Ring! Ring!*)

**Ingrid** That's her ringing the bell!

**Frank** Well, I'm not answering it. I'm sleeping.





# END OF PRONUNCIATION



She was more like a beauty queen from a movie scene  
I said don't mind, but what do you mean, I am the one  
Who will dance on the floor in the round?  
She said I am the one, who will dance on the floor in the round

She told me her name was Billie Jean, as she caused a scene  
Then every head turned with eyes that dreamed of being the one  
Who will dance on the floor in the round

People always told me be careful of what you do  
And don't go around breaking young girls' hearts  
And mother always told me be careful of who you love  
And be careful of what you do 'cause the lie becomes the truth

Billie Jean is not my lover  
She's just a girl who claims that I am the one  
But the kid is not my son  
She says I am the one, but the kid is not my son

For forty days and forty nights  
The law was on her side  
But who can stand when she's in demand  
Her schemes and plans  
'Cause we danced on the floor in the round  
So take my strong advice, just remember to always think twice  
(Do think twice, do think twice)

She told my baby we'd danced 'til three, then she looked at me

Then showed a photo my baby cried his eyes were like mine (oh, no)  
'Cause we danced on the floor in the round, baby

People always told me be careful of what you do  
And don't go around breaking young girls' hearts  
She came and stood right by me  
Just the smell of sweet perfume  
This happened much too soon  
She called me to her room

Billie Jean is not my lover  
She's just a girl who claims that I am the one  
But the kid is not my son

Billie Jean is not my lover  
She's just a girl who claims that I am the one  
But the kid is not my son  
She says I am the one, but the kid is not my son

She says I am the one, but the kid is not my son

Billie Jean is not my lover  
She's just a girl who claims that I am the one  
But the kid is not my son  
She says I am the one, but the kid is not my son

She says I am the one  
You know what you did, (she says he is my son)  
breaking my heart babe  
She says I am the one

Billie Jean is not my lover  
Billie Jean is not my lover  
Billie Jean is not my lover  
Billie Jean is not my lover (don't Billie Jean)  
Billie Jean is not my lover  
Billie Jean is not my lover