

# SPEAKING



Before we take part on the role play "At the Hotel", let's revise our pronunciation skills.

The most important aspect to bare in mind when it comes to pronunciation is to feel relaxed and confident about our knowledge. Do you trust your knowledge? What about your instinct? How is instinct important?

How would you read this word? **BROCHURES**

We don't need to know the meaning of a word to read it and we don't need to know how to write a word to say it or repeat it This happens because of our intentions to communicate and we use our instinct to do so.

How do you feel when you have to follow your instinct? Confident? Overwhelmed? Sassy? It is OK to feel any of these when you speak English and you are not 100% sure or a difficult word or structure comes accross. All feelings are allowed but fear. You shouldn't be afraid to make mistakes. What's the worst thing it can happen?

## **SPEAKING ENGLISH WITH NO FEAR IS A POLITICAL EVENT.**

By saying this, this teacher is intended to avoid feel ashamed or dismissed by anyone. If you are an English learner from South America, or from South Africa, or from Asia you should keep your accent and if someone doesn't understand what you are saying, you speak slower or, if you notice deference, you ask them:

### **WHAT PART OF THIS CONTEXT YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND?**

And if you notice theydouble down their intentions you should ask them:

### **WHAT DO YOU MEAN... ?**

and repeat the words that sounded bad to you. For example:

### **WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND BECAUSE OF MY ACCENT?**

### **WHAT DO YOU MEAN I DON'T SPEAK PROPPER ENGLISH?**

### **WHAT DO YOU MEAN I SPEAK LIKE MEXICAN?**

Mind you! You can ask all of these questions with a smile and a HIGH FALL TONE. Thus, you avoid sounding annoyed and don't show a negative reaction to the listener. Instead, you are making a cordial invitation to reflect upon their sh#!@% attitude.

### **WHAT DO YOU MEAN... ?**

# PRONUNCIATION!

Now, let's deal with some difficult sounds in English

These sounds are very similar except for the level of vibration in the vocal folds.



**tʃ**

Similar to the Argentine expression ¡CHE!

**CHURCH**

**dʒ**

Similar to the buzz of a bee.

**JUDGE**



These sounds are very similar except for the level of vibration in the vocal folds.



**ʃ**

Similar to the sound we make asking for silence "SHHH"

**ACIENT**

**ʒ**

Louder than the previous one. Like having a mosquito near your ear.

**TREASURE**



Let's match the following words in bold from the sentences with the sound that you consider correct.

1. What a long **journey**! I am knacled!
2. May I talk to the **manager**, please?
3. We spend the weekend in Acapulco. It was a **pleasure** to be there!
4. **Just** a moment, ma'am. We will send you someone straightaway.
5. How **strange**! I can't find my passport...
6. Hi! I would like to confirm my **reservation**, please.
7. Sorry, I don't speak French. Do you speak **English**?
8. Where should I go now? My tourist guide didn't give me **instructions**.
9. I need to call instant service. The **television** is not working.
10. I am not **sure** if this airline has travel insurance.