

Focus on PRONUNCIATION

The perfect partner for Focus on Pronunciation 1

Linda Lane

THIRD EDITION

The new edition of Focus on Pronunciation 1 gives beginning to high-beginning students the tools, tips, and techniques they need to speak clearly, accurately, and fluently. All aspects of pronunciation are included—consonants, vowels, stress, rhythm, and intonation. The variety of activities and flexible, accessible style make learning fun.

Focus on Pronunciation Features

- ▶ Presentation sections feature clear explanations and diagrams.
- ▶ Focused Practice sections build accuracy with high-interest listening and speaking tasks and engaging games.
- ▶ Communication Practice sections integrate pronunciation and fluency practice in a communicative, thematic context.
- ▶ Natural English boxes illustrate how to speak English more naturally and fluently.
- Extended Practice sections encourage continued accuracy and fluency practice outside of class.
- ▶ The Student Audio CD-ROM in the back of the book provides MP3 audio for the Extended Practice sections.
- ▶ Classroom Audio CDs provide the complete audio program.
- ▶ Complete online Answer Keys and Audioscripts can be downloaded. Go to www.pearsonELT.com/focusonpronunciation for more information.

The three-level Focus on Pronunciation, Third Edition series includes:

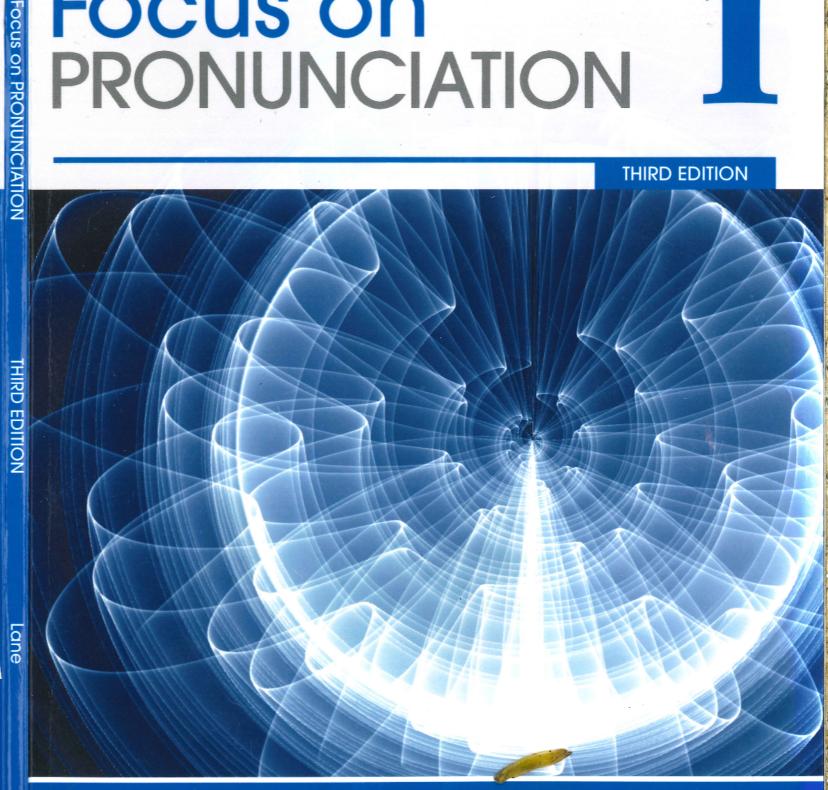
Student Book with Student Audio CD-ROM Classroom Audio CDs Online Answer Keys and Audioscripts

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ALWAYS LEARNING

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INTRODUCTION

Focus on Pronunciation 1 is a comprehensive course that helps beginning students speak English more clearly, confidently, and accurately. The course covers important topics from all aspects of pronunciation—sounds, stress, rhythm, and intonation.

The vowel and consonant sounds presented are those that occur frequently in English and that students recognize as new or difficult. Stress, rhythm, or intonation topics focus on pronunciation features that are important for clear English communication and that students can easily notice.

Each unit ends with Communication Practice about a theme (for example, shopping and volunteering). As such, the activities and practice provide students with opportunities to improve their pronunciation and communication skills in context.

ORGANIZATION OF FOCUS ON PRONUNCIATION 1

Focus on Pronunciation 1 is divided into three parts: Vowels; Consonants; and Stress, Rhythm, and Intonation. Each unit deals with specific pronunciation points and has the following organization:

STEP 1 PRESENTATION

This section introduces, explains, and provides information about the pronunciation point. It may show how sounds are made or present other useful information. This is often achieved through the use of diagrams or illustrations. Pronunciation explanations are student friendly and easy to understand.

STEP 2 FOCUSED PRACTICE

This section consists of controlled classroom activities that allow students to develop skill and proficiency with the pronunciation point.

STEP 3 COMMUNICATION PRACTICE

This section provides communicative practice activities that focus on a theme. The activities are more open-ended and they ensure student involvement through the use of games and interactive tasks. When students are engaged in the communicative activities, they should be encouraged to keep in mind these global features of clear speaking:

- Speak slowly.
- Speak loudly enough.
- Pay attention to the ends of words.
- Use your voice to speak expressively.

NEW! NATURAL ENGLISH

New to this edition, the Natural English box in each unit highlights ways to speak English more naturally. In some cases, the Natural English box reviews or "pulls in" another important aspect of pronunciation that is not the focus of the current unit. Students might, for example, be reminded to group words together in a consonant or vowel unit in order to make their English more understandable to others. Additionally, the Natural English box may highlight the pronunciation of useful expressions (such as the use of *me too* for agreement).

STEP 4 EXTENDED PRACTICE

This section consists of recorded homework activities. Accuracy Practice reviews key controlled exercises within the unit and serves as a warm-up for Fluency Practice, a freer speaking task that deals with the content of the unit. Students who have access to a computer can record their voices and review their pronunciation. The teacher can also listen to these recordings and provide feedback. Directions for how to make and send electronic files are at the back of the Student Book.

AUDIO PROGRAM

The Classroom Audio CDs have the recordings for all the pronunciation and listening exercises in the Student Book.

The Student Audio CD-ROM in the back of the book has all the recordings needed to complete the Accuracy Practice exercises in MP3 format.

KEY TO ICONS

- material recorded as part of the Classroom Audio CDs
- material recorded as part of the Student Audio CD-ROM in the Student Book
- material for students to record and give to the teacher

PLANNING A SYLLABUS

The units in Focus on Pronunciation 1 can be used in any order. Teachers can "skip around"—for example, teaching the overview unit for Vowels, then a specific vowel unit, then the overview for Stress, Rhythm, and Intonation, then a specific unit dealing with rhythm, and so on. Teachers who adopt this approach could also cover all the overview units at the beginning of the course and then skip around within the sections. The units can also be taught in order, first covering vowels, then consonants, and so on.

GENERAL REFERENCES

Most students have difficulty with English vowels and with stress, rhythm, and intonation, regardless of their native language background. With the exception of a few consonants (for example, the first sound in *think*), consonant difficulty depends more on the native language. The following references provide information on pronunciation problems related to native language:

Avery, Peter and S. Ehrlich. Teaching American English Pronunciation. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1992.

Lane, Linda. Tips for Teaching Pronunciation. Pearson Longman, 2010.

Swan, M. and Smith, B. Learner English, 2nd Ed. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2001.

The following research influenced the content and approach of this book:

Avery, Peter and S. Ehrlich. Teaching American English Pronunciation. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1992.

Celce-Murcia, Marianne, D. M. Brinton and J. M. Goodwin. *Teaching Pronunciation: A Reference for Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996.

Lane, Linda. Tips for Teaching Pronunciation. Pearson Longman, 2010.

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Linda Lane is a senior faculty member in the American Language Program of Columbia University. In addition to the Focus on Pronunciation series, she is also the author of Tips for Teaching Pronunciation, Pearson, 2010. She served as director of the Columbia University Humanities Media Center for 10 years and coordinated Columbia's TESOL Certificate Program for another 10 years, teaching classes in Applied Phonetics and Pronunciation Teaching and Introduction to Second Language Acquisition. She received her EdD in Applied Linguistics from Teachers College, Columbia University, her MA in Linguistics from Yale University, and her BS in Mathematics from the University of Washington, Seattle.

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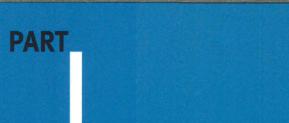
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-Linda Lane

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Vowels

UNIT	PRONUNCIATION FOCUS	COMMUNICATION FOCUS
1	Vowel Overview	Currency
2	/iy/ eat and /ı/ it	Jobs
3	/æ/ bad and $/ε/$ bed	Breakfast
4	/a/ cop and /ə/ cup	Shopping
5	Review of /ə/, /æ/, and /a/	Family
6	Vowel + r: /ar/ car, /or/ four, and /ər/ bird	Firsts