





Speechless Programme. Week 6 Pillar 3: Pronunciation and Vocal Technique Powerpoint Summary.

Summary

-  **Connected speech:** Linking consonant sounds to vowel sounds improves fluency in English. This technique prevents robotic-sounding speech.
 -  **Examples:** Sentences like “Tonight I will take a look” demonstrate how connecting consonants and vowels creates a more natural flow.
 -  **Repetition and echoing:** Practicing through echoing, where speakers repeat phrases after hearing them, helps reinforce these fluent patterns.
 -  **Focus on sounds:** Emphasis is placed on how the sounds of words link, not their written forms. Silent letters like "H" in "hour" illustrate this.
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- **What does the video say about how linking consonants to vowels improves speech fluency?**
 - The video explains that linking consonants to vowels improves speech fluency by creating a smoother, more natural flow between words. Instead of sounding robotic and staccato, the speaker’s voice blends words together, making the speech sound continuous. This technique mimics how native speakers communicate, where the last consonant of one word connects with the first vowel of the next word, helping to avoid abrupt breaks in speech. By practicing this, speakers can sound more fluent, cohesive, and less mechanical, enhancing their overall delivery.
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- **What does the video say about the role of echoing in mastering connected speech?**
 - The video explains that echoing is a key technique for mastering connected speech and improving fluency. Echoing involves listening to a fluent speaker and immediately repeating their words or phrases. This helps reinforce correct pronunciation and the natural flow of connected speech. By echoing, learners can better internalize how words link together, ensuring smoother, more fluent delivery. The process also allows speakers to hear themselves and compare their pronunciation with the original, making it easier to identify and correct mistakes. Echoing is especially useful for developing a natural, flowing speech pattern.
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- **What does the video say about why it is important to focus on sounds rather than the written forms of words?**
 - The video emphasizes that focusing on sounds rather than the written forms of words is crucial for mastering speech fluency. In English, the way words are spelled often

does not match how they are pronounced. For example, silent letters, such as the "H" in "hour," can mislead learners if they rely on spelling alone. By concentrating on the sounds, particularly when linking consonants to vowels, speakers can achieve a more natural and fluent flow of speech. This approach prevents the disjointed or robotic delivery that can result from focusing too much on the visual structure of words rather than their actual pronunciation.

