

THE SPEAK CLEARLY METHOD

FREE PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

English Pronunciation for Turkish Speakers

Türkçe konuşanlar için · built around your first language

/θ/ TH

W vs V

clusters

vowels

endings

stress

You don't have to lose your accent.

You have to be understood.

by Evangeline Smith & Miriam Smith · authors of Speak Clearly

THE PRACTICAL ENGLISH SERIES

English Pronunciation for Turkish Speakers

A Speak Clearly Method guide

Evangeline Smith & Miriam Smith

First edition · 2026

© 2026 Evangeline Smith & Miriam Smith. All rights reserved.

No part of this guide may be reproduced or distributed without written permission.

Companion to "Speak Clearly: A Practical Guide to English Pronunciation."

@SpeakClearlyMethod · linktr.ee/SpeakClearlyMethod

Built for Turkish speakers

Your accent isn't random — it's Turkish, a beautiful and logical language, showing through in English. Because Turkish follows clear rules, the places it shapes your English are predictable. And predictable means fixable.

This guide skips the sounds you already handle well and goes straight to the handful that most affect whether English listeners understand you the first time.

The promise

This is not about erasing your accent or sounding American. Only about 1 in 4 English speakers learned it as a first language — you're the majority, not the exception. We keep your accent and fix only what gets in the way of being understood.

How to use it

Read the strengths on the next page first, then work through the fix cards one at a time. Say everything OUT LOUD — into your phone's recorder or a mirror. A sound only counts when it survives outside the page.

Sounds you already own

Turkish gives you a real head start. These English sounds trip up learners from many other languages — but you’ve been making them your whole life. Trust them.

ç → CH

Your ç in çay, çocuk is exactly English “ch” in cheese, watch, teacher.

c → J

Your c in cam, cadde is exactly English “j” in jam, join, page.

ş → SH

Your ş in şeker, şey is exactly English “sh” in she, wash, nation.

j → the ‘s’ in measure

Your j in jandarma, baraj is the tricky /ʒ/ in measure, vision.

h

You pronounce h clearly — so house and happy start easily for you.

Start from these. When a new English sound feels hard, remember how many you already make perfectly.

Fix cards · 1 of 3

TH

/θ ð/

The TH sound

TURKISH HABIT Turkish has no TH, so “think” becomes “tink/sink” and “this” becomes “dis.”

THE FIX Put your tongue tip lightly BETWEEN your teeth and push air. In a mirror you should see it.

think

three

this

mother

W V

/w v/

W vs V

TURKISH HABIT Turkish has v but not w, so “west” comes out as “vest” and “wine” as “vine.”

THE FIX For W, round your lips like a kiss — no teeth touch. For V, top teeth on bottom lip.

west/vest

wine/vine

we/V

s+C

clusters

Don't add a vowel

TURKISH HABIT Turkish avoids initial clusters, so a vowel sneaks in: “school”→“sikul,” “sport”→“sıpor.”

THE FIX Glide the consonants together with NO vowel before or between them. Start on the s and slide in.

school

sport

street

stop

Fix cards · 2 of 3

i:

/ɪ i:/

Ship vs Sheep

TURKISH HABIT

English has more vowels than Turkish, so short “ship” and long “sheep” sound the same.

THE FIX

Short /ɪ/: relaxed and quick. Long /i:/: spread your lips like a smile and hold it longer.

ship/sheep

live/leave

fill/feel

æʌ

/æ ʌ e/

Cat, cut, bet

TURKISH HABIT

These three English vowels don’t map onto Turkish, so they can blur together.

THE FIX

“cat”: wide mouth, smile. “cut”: relaxed and central. “bet”: like Turkish e. Feel your mouth change.

cat/cut

bad/bud

cap/cup

-d -g

voicing

Keep the ending voiced

TURKISH HABIT

Turkish devoices final letters (b→p, d→t, g→k), so “bad” becomes “bat.”

THE FIX

Keep your voice buzzing right to the end. Hand on throat: “bad” must still buzz on the d.

bad

big

job

dog

Fix cards · 3 of 3

R

/r/

The English R

TURKISH HABIT

The Turkish r is a light tap. The English r taps nothing — a tapped r sounds foreign.

THE FIX

Curl your tongue up and back and let it FLOAT — no contact anywhere. Round your lips slightly.

red

right

car

around

' ə

stress

Stress & the weak vowel

TURKISH HABIT

Turkish gives every vowel full value. English hammers ONE syllable and weakens the rest.

THE FIX

Hit one strong beat per word; relax the others. baNAAna, comPUter, aBOUt.

banana

computer

about

PRACTISE

Your 7-day plan

Ten minutes a day. Record yourself on day 1 and day 7 — hearing your own progress is the most motivating thing you'll do.

DAY
1

TH

Mirror + tongue between teeth. Drill think/sink, this. Record 3 sentences — keep them.

DAY
2

W vs V

Round lips for W, teeth for V. Drill west/vest, wine/vine.

DAY
3

Clusters

No extra vowel: school, sport, street, stop. Say each 10x.

DAY
4

Vowels

ship/sheep and cat/cut/bet in the mirror. Watch your mouth change.

DAY
5

Endings

Keep the voice on: bad, big, job, dog. Hand on throat.

DAY
6

R & stress

Float the r; hit one strong beat (baNAna, comPUter).

DAY
7

Together

Re-record your day-1 sentences. Compare. Pick your hardest sound to keep polishing.

WHEN YOU'VE GOT THESE

Ready for all 22 sounds?

This guide covers the sounds Turkish speakers most need. Speak Clearly — the full book — covers all 22 sounds and speech patterns, with minimal pairs and tongue twisters for every one, guides for six first languages, and a complete 30-day plan.

Speak Clearly

A Practical Guide to English Pronunciation

All 22 sounds, first-language guides, self-assessment and a 30-day plan.

Buy on Amazon → amazon.com/dp/B0H7NHTLKV

A Piece of Cake

Your Practical Guide to English Idioms

160 idioms across 26 chapters — understand what native speakers really mean.

Buy on Amazon → amazon.com/dp/B0G3WNWMB1

Follow for free lessons — @SpeakClearlyMethod

YouTube · Instagram · TikTok · Facebook · X · Pinterest

Everything in one place → linktr.ee/SpeakClearlyMethod

Başarılar! You don't have to lose your accent — just be understood.

THE SPEAK CLEARLY METHOD

**Speak clearly.
Speak as yourself.**

Kendin gibi konuş.

@SpeakClearlyMethod · linktr.ee/SpeakClearlyMethod

© 2026 Evangeline Smith & Miriam Smith · The Practical English Series