



Tongue Twisters and Pronunciation

Reading Worksheet — Level C | tahricteaches.com

Do you know what a tongue twister is? It is a sentence or phrase that is very hard to say quickly. Famous examples include 'She sells seashells' and 'Peter Piper picked pickled peppers.' People use tongue twisters to have fun with words.

Tongue twisters can help you improve your **pronunciation**. When you say difficult sounds again and again, your mouth and tongue learn to move in the right way. This is very helpful for learning English, because English has many tricky sounds that may be new for you.

The best way to use tongue twisters is to **practice** every day. Start slowly and say each word clearly. Then try to go a little faster. If you make a mistake, do not stop. Just start again. With time, you will get much better at saying difficult sounds.

Many tongue twisters have a special **rhythm**. This means the words have a beat, like music. A **syllable** is one part of a word. For example, 'butter' has two syllables: 'but' and 'ter.' Clapping as you say each syllable can help you speak more clearly.

Some tongue twisters use the same **consonant** sound many times. A consonant is a letter like 's,' 'p,' or 'b.' For example, 'Silly Sally swiftly shopped at the shop' repeats the 's' sound a lot. This kind of practice is great for learning to speak English more clearly and confidently.

A. Vocabulary

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------|---|
| 1. tongue twister | _____ | a. easy to hear or understand |
| 2. pronunciation | _____ | b. letter that makes an open sound: a, e, i, o, or u |
| 3. repeat | _____ | c. letter that is not a vowel, such as b, p, s, or t |
| 4. syllable | _____ | d. one part of a word with a single vowel sound |
| 5. practice | _____ | e. how fast something moves or happens |
| 6. rhythm | _____ | f. phrase or sentence that is very difficult to say quickly |
| 7. consonant | _____ | g. way you say a word or sound correctly |
| 8. vowel | _____ | h. to say or do something again |
| 9. speed | _____ | i. act of doing something many times to get better at it |
| 10. clear | _____ | j. regular pattern of sounds, like a beat in music |

B. True or False

- | | |
|---|---|
| ___ 1. A tongue twister is a sentence that is very hard to say quickly. | ___ 2. Tongue twisters can help you improve your pronunciation. |
| ___ 3. You should go as fast as possible when you first try a tongue twister. | ___ 4. If you make a mistake, you should stop practicing and give up. |

___ 5. Many tongue twisters have a special rhythm, like a beat in music.

___ 7. The word 'butter' has three syllables.

___ 9. 'Silly Sally swiftly shopped at the shop' repeats the 's' sound many times.

___ 6. A syllable is one part of a word.

___ 8. A vowel is a letter like 's,' 'p,' or 'b.'

___ 10. Tongue twisters are only useful for children and not for adult learners.

C. Fill in the Blanks

Word Bank: pronunciation, practice, rhythm, syllable, consonant, repeat, speed, vowel

1. Tongue twisters help you improve your _____ by saying difficult sounds again and again.

2. The best way to get better at tongue twisters is to _____ every day.

3. Many tongue twisters have a special _____ that sounds like a beat in music.

4. A _____ is one part of a word. For example, 'butter' has two of them.

5. The letter 's' is a _____ because it is not a vowel.



D. Comprehension Questions

1. What is a tongue twister?

2. How should you start when you practice a tongue twister?

3. How can tongue twisters help you learn English?

E. Discussion Questions

1. Do you know any tongue twisters in your language? How are they similar to or different from English tongue twisters?

2. Which sounds in English are the most difficult for you to say, and how do you practice them?



Answer Key

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A. Vocabulary: 1-f, 2-g, 3-h, 4-d, 5-i, 6-j, 7-c, 8-b, 9-e, 10-a

B. True/False: 1-T, 2-T, 3-F, 4-F, 5-T, 6-T, 7-F, 8-F, 9-T, 10-F

C. Fill Blanks: 1-pronunciation, 2-practice, 3-rhythm, 4-syllable, 5-consonant

D. Comprehension:

1. A tongue twister is a sentence or phrase that is very hard to say quickly.
2. You should start slowly and say each word clearly, then try to go a little faster.
3. They help you practice difficult sounds again and again, which improves your pronunciation.