

# Unlocking Engagement: Emphasizing the Significance of Pronunciation Instruction and Addressing Typical Vietnamese Learner Errors

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**"Speaking another language is power, and pronunciation is the face of that power" (Levis, 2022)**

Do you agree or disagree with this quote?





# Outline

1. Navigating Pronunciation Challenges in Teaching English in Vietnam
2. English vs Vietnamese: Key Phonetic Differences
3. Findings and Pronunciation Activities
4. Open Discussion
5. Q&A

# Navigating Pronunciation Challenges in Teaching English in Vietnam

What challenges do you normally have when teaching pronunciation?



# Navigating Pronunciation Challenges in Teaching English in Vietnam

- No planned syllabus for teaching pronunciation (Nguyen & Newton, 2020)
- Time and curricula constraints (Nguyen & Newton, 2020; Levis, 2022)
- Shyness among students (Trinh, Nguyen & Le, 2021)

# English vs Vietnamese: Key Phonetic Differences

What are key differences between English and Vietnamese when it comes to pronunciation?



# English is a syllable-timed language



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Nah Yeah (Yes)



Yeah Nah (No)



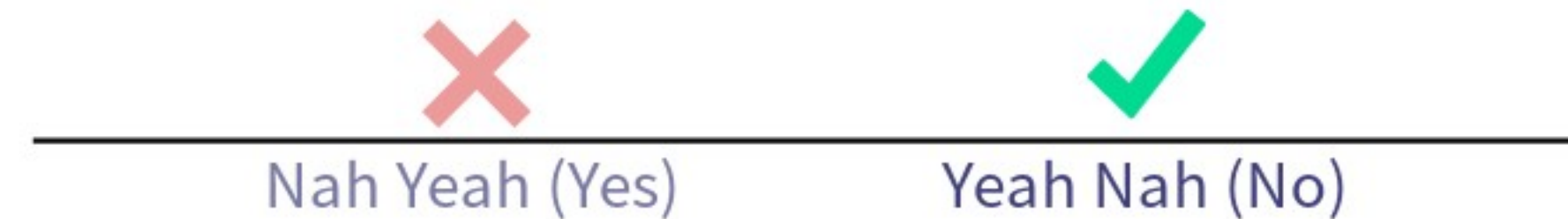
# Leaderboard

**No results yet**

Top Quiz participants will be displayed here once there are results!



# Teaching speaking and listening is possible without pronunciation (Levis, 2022)



# Leaderboard

**No results yet**

Top Quiz participants will be displayed here once there are results!

# How many tones does Vietnamese have?



# Leaderboard

**No results yet**

Top Quiz participants will be displayed here once there are results!

English	Vietnamese
Has 26 letters.	Has 29 letters, including seven letters using four diacritics: ă, â/ê/ô, ơ/ư, đ.
Ex: glass, scrub	Does not have consonant cluster sounds
Is a stress-timed language (Trinh, Nguyen & Le, 2021), which means vowel sounds are reduced. Ex: The <u>kids</u> <u>go</u> to <u>school</u> (3 syllables)	Is a syllable-timed language (Trinh, Nguyen & Le, 2021), which means each syllable has the same length. Ex: Chúng tôi đi học
	Does not have linking features

# English

Does not have tones (intonational)

The final consonants are normally pronounced.

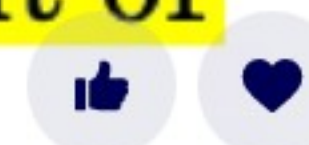
# Vietnamese

Has 6 tones

VIETNAMESE TONES	
No Tone	<u>Dấu Ngang</u> (Horizontal)
↘	<u>Dấu Huyền</u> (Grave)
↗	<u>Dấu Hỏi</u> (Question)
~	<u>Dấu Ngã</u> (Tilde)
↙	<u>Dấu Sắc</u> (Acute)
•	<u>Dấu Nặng</u> (Dot)
VIETNAMESENOTES.COM	

Ex: ma = ghost; má = mom; mà = but; mã = horse; mạ = rice/mom...

The final consonants are usually **silent or stopped.**



# Findings and Activities for Teaching Pronunciation

- From 2 articles
- Discuss and share your opinions



# According to Trinh, Nguyen and Le (2021),

→ "The learning of the IPA worked for less proficient English learners, especially busy learners."





The Color Vowel Chart (Thompson & Taylor, 2009)



What color is your name? "Thai is \_\_\_\_."



Create a color vowel word list



Silver Pin

Gray day

chicken  
nickel

cake

egg  
dress  
sweet  
head

## Adapted Game ideas:

- Stop the Bus/Scattegories
- Color Vowel Bingo
- Guess the word
- Color Vowel Stories
- Answer questions using your color

# According to Couper (2021),

→ "Using L1 can certainly be helpful as a starting point because it is always a good idea to begin with the concepts that learners already have"



# Vietnamese - English Minimal Pairs

→ Help students practise the length difference between Vietnamese and English



# Vietnamese - English Minimal Pairs

→ Can you think of other Vietnamese -  
English minimal pairs that fit this  
logic?





# Open Discussion

- Have you done these activities before? If yes, were they effective?
- If not, how would they fit into your classroom? Would it be effective? Why (not)?



# Open Discussion

- What pronunciation activities/games have you used that have been successful?
- Choose 1 activity to give a quick demonstration/explanation to us

# What have you found useful in our workshop?

Waiting for responses ...

# Q&A

**0 questions**  
**0 upvotes**



## References

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