

# LAPORAN KEGIATAN PENGABDIAN KEPADA MASYARAKAT

(Tulisan yang tidak dipublikasikan)

## WHICH IS WHICH? SOLVING PROBLEMS IN PRONUNCIATION



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## ABSTRAK

Kegiatan pengabdian kepada masyarakat ini merupakan tindak lanjut dari adanya kenyataan bahwa banyak orang Indonesia menggunakan bahasa Inggris lisan tanpa mengetahui adanya perbedaan antara lafal *British English* dan *American English*. Oleh sebab itu lafal yang digunakan pun menjadi tidak konsisten atau bercampur aduk di antara kedua jenis lafal tersebut. Tulisan ini merupakan hasil penelitian pustaka dan pengalaman mengajar di kelas Pronunciation. Diharapkan tulisan ini dapat membantu mahasiswa pada khususnya dan masyarakat pada umumnya dalam membedakan lafal *British English* dan *American English* sehingga mereka dapat menggunakan lafal yang mereka pilih dengan benar dan menjaga konsistensi pemakaiannya.

### BAB I. PENDAHULUAN

Bahasa Inggris dikenal sebagai bahasa internasional yang digunakan oleh banyak orang di berbagai negara di dunia. Tidak dipungkiri ada banyak jenis Bahasa Inggris. Dua jenis Bahasa Inggris yang sering digunakan adalah *British English* dan *American English*, sesuai dengan dari mana bahasa tersebut berasal. Di Indonesia sendiri, Bahasa Inggris merupakan bahasa asing yang banyak digunakan oleh masyarakatnya. Namun, jika diperhatikan banyak orang Indonesia yang tidak memperhatikan lafal yang mereka gunakan sehingga sering terjadi percampuran lafal *British English* dan *American English*, yang sebaiknya dihindari. Hal ini terjadi pula pada mahasiswa baru di kelas Pronunciation yang mengharuskan mereka menggunakan standar lafal *British English*. Kesulitan timbul karena mereka tidak menyadari adanya perbedaan lafal di antara keduanya. Inilah yang menginspirasi penulis untuk membuat tulisan tentang perbedaan-perbedaan apa saja yang perlu diketahui sehingga lafal yang digunakan menjadi lebih baik dan konsisten.

### BAB II. URAIAN PELAKSANAAN KEGIATAN

Kegiatan yang dilakukan dapat dijelaskan sebagai berikut:

1. Mengidentifikasi kesalahan yang banyak dilakukan ketika kelas Pronunciation berlangsung, dengan memperhatikan kata-kata yang terdapat dalam Diktat Pronunciation yang digunakan.
2. Mencari kamus yang cocok yang akan digunakan karena menyangkut

- perbandingan dua jenis lafal.
3. Mengumpulkan lebih banyak data dan mengelompokkannya sesuai jenisnya.
  4. Menyusun tulisan.

### BAB III. SUSUNAN PELAKSANA

Pelaksana : Dra. Marcella Melly Kosasih, M.Si.

### BAB IV: AGENDA PELAKSANAAN

Bulan September 2020 - Januari 2021

### BAB V: ANGGARAN

Tanpa biaya

### LAMPIRAN:

Hasil tulisan



WHICH IS WHICH?  
SOLVING PROBLEMS IN PRONUNCIATION

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# **Which is Which?**

## **Solving Problems in Pronunciation**

### **INTRODUCTION**

English is known as an international language spoken by many people in different countries of the world. There are undoubtedly many types of English. The two types of English often spoken are British English and American English, according to where the language comes from. In Indonesia itself, English is a foreign language that is widely used by its people. However, it is noticed that many Indonesians do not pay attention to the pronunciation they use so that there is often a mixture of British English and American English, which should be avoided. This is also the case with new students in a pronunciation class which requires them to use British English pronunciation as its standard in learning English. They were unaware of the differences in pronunciation that occur in the two types of English so that mistakes were often made due to their unawareness. This condition inspires the writer to write about the differences that the speakers of English as a foreign language should know in order not to be confused when using British or American English.

This paper is written to help students and those who are interested in knowing the differences better. By reading this paper, they will be able to understand the differences, to choose which type of English they want to use, and to use it consistently.

### **DISCUSSION**

There are several kinds of differences in pronunciation between British English and American English which usually become major problems for those who speak English as a foreign language. To solve the problems, one needs to know for sure the differences. The following parts will discuss some outstanding differences. The symbols used in this paper are based on Daniel Jones' *English Pronouncing Dictionary* (2006) and Online *Cambridge Dictionary*. Definitions are quoted from Hornby's *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* (2015).

## 1. Vowel Sound Differences

a. The vowel sounds in British English (BBC English) are as follows:

1. Short vowels: ɪ e æ ʌ ʊ ə
2. Long vowels: i: ɑ: ɔ: u: ɜ:
3. Diphthongs: eɪ aɪ ɔɪ əʊ aʊ ɪə eə ʊə

b. The vowel sounds in American English (Network English) are:

1. Lax vowels (sounds that are produced with the muscles of speech organs relaxed): ɪ e æ ʌ ʊ ə
2. Tense vowels (sounds that are produced with the muscles of the speech organs stretched tight): i: ɑ: ɔ: ɜ: u: eɪ oʊ
3. Wide diphthongs: aʊ aɪ ɔɪ
4. Retroflexed vowels or “r-colored” (sounds that are produced with the end of the tongue turned up against the hard palate): ə̣ ɜ̣:

The differences in the vowel sounds make the same words pronounced differently. The following tables show the differences.

Vowel difference	Examples	British English	American English
/æ/ → /e/	clarinet	/ˈklær.ɪˈnet/	/ˈkler.ɪˈnet/
	clarity	/ˈklærə.ti/	/ˈkler.ə.ti/
	narrative	/ˈnær.ə.tɪv/	/ˈner.ə.tɪv/
	parrot	/ˈpær.ət/	/ˈper.ət/
	parody	/ˈpær.ə.di/	/ˈper.ə.di/
	carriage	/ˈkær.ɪdʒ/	/ˈker.ɪdʒ/
	chariot	/ˈʃær.i.ət/	/ˈʃer.i.ət/
	marriage	/ˈmær.ɪdʒ/	/ˈmer.ɪdʒ/
	paradise	/ˈpær.ə.daɪz/	/ˈper.ə.daɪz/

Vowel difference	Examples	British English	American English
/ɑ:/ → /æ/	ask	/ɑ:sk /	/æsk /
	mask	/mɑ:sk /	/mæsk /
	basket	/'bɑ:.skɪt /	/'bæs.kət /
	pass	/pɑ:s /	/pæs /
	glass	/glɑ:s /	/glæs /
	past	/pɑ:st /	/pæst /
	master	/'mɑ:.stə <sup>r</sup> /	/'mæs.tə /
	castle	/'kɑ:.s <sup>ə</sup> l /	/'kæs. <sup>ə</sup> l /
	demand	/dɪ'mɑ:nd /	/ dɪ'mænd /
	answer	/'ɑ:n.sə <sup>r</sup> /	/'æn.sə /
	bath	/bɑ:θ /	/bæθ /
	path	/pɑ:θ /	/pæθ /

Vowel difference	Examples	British English	American English
/ɒ/ → /ɔ:/	forest	/'fɒr.ɪst /	/'fɔ:r.ɪst /
	correlate	/'kɒr.ə.leɪt /	/'kɔ:r.ə.leɪt /
	foreign	/'fɒr.ən /	/'fɔ:r.ən /
	horror	/'hɒr.ə <sup>r</sup> /	/'hɔ:r.ə /
	horoscope	/'hɒr.ə.skəʊp /	/'hɔ:r.ə.skəʊp /
	horrible	/'hɒr.ə.b <sup>ə</sup> l /	/'hɔ:r.ə.b <sup>ə</sup> l /
	origin	/'ɒr.ɪ.dʒɪn /	/'ɔ:r.ə.dʒɪn /
	porridge	/'pɒr.ɪdʒ /	/'pɔ:r.ɪdʒ /
	sorority	/sə'rɒr.ə.ti /	/sə'rɔ:r.ə.ti /
	torrent	/'tɒr.ə <sup>n</sup> t /	/'tɔ:r.ə <sup>n</sup> t /
	moral	/'mɒr. <sup>ə</sup> l /	/'mɔ:r. <sup>ə</sup> l /

Vowel difference	Examples	British English	American English
/ɔ:/ → /ɔ:r/	warm	/wɔ:m /	/wɔ:rm /
	war	/wɔ: <sup>r</sup> /	/wɔ:r/
	born	/bɔ:n /	/bɔ:rn /
	boredom	/'bɔ:.dəm /	/'bɔ:r.dəm /



	doorknob	/'dɔ:.nɒb /	/'dɔ:r.nɑ:b /
	fortnight	/'fɔ:t.naɪt /	/'fɔ:rt.naɪt /
	gorgeous	/'gɔ:..dʒəs /	/'gɔ:r.dʒəs /
	lord	/lɔ:d /	/lɔ:rd /
	morpheme	/'mɔ:.fɪ:m /	/'mɔ:r.fɪ:m /
	portrait	/'pɔ:..trət /	/'pɔ:r.trɪt /
	sort	/sɔ:t /	/sɔ:rt /

Vowel difference	Examples	British English	American English
/ə/ → /ǝ/	father	/'fɑ:.ðəʳ /	/'fɑ:.ðǝ /
	border	/'bɔ:..dəʳ /	/'bɔ:r.dǝ /
	liner	/'laɪ.nəʳ /	/'laɪ.nǝ /
	keeper	/'ki:..pəʳ /	/'ki:..pǝ /
	manager	/'mæn.ɪ.dʒəʳ /	/'mæn.ǝ.dʒǝ /
	laughter	/'lɑ:f.təʳ /	/'lǝf.tǝ /
	quarter	/'kwɔ:..təʳ /	/'kwɔ:r.tǝ /
	failure	/'feɪ.ljəʳ /	/'feɪ.ljǝ /
	culture	/'kʌl.tʃəʳ /	/'kʌl.tʃǝ /
	anchor	/'æŋ.kəʳ /	/'æŋ.kǝ /
	inventor	/ɪn'ven.təʳ /	/ɪn'ven.tǝ /
	amateur	/'æm.ə.tʃəʳ /	/'æm.ǝ.tʃǝ /

Vowel difference	Examples	British English	American English
/ɜ:/ → /ɝ:/	bird	/bɜ:d /	/bɝ:d /
	word	/wɜ:d /	/wɝ:d /
	curse	/kɜ:s /	/kɝ:s /
	furnish	/'fɜ:..nɪʃ /	/'fɝ:..nɪʃ /
	universal	/ju:..nɪ'vɜ:..sɪl /	/ju:..nə'vɝ:..sɪl /
	suburb	/'sʌb.ɜ:b /	/'sʌb.ɝ:b /
	surface	/'sɜ:..fɪs /	/'sɝ:..fɪs /
	external	/ɪk'stɜ:..nɪl /	/ɪk'stɝ:..nɪl /

	preserve	/prɪ'zɜ:v /	/prɪ'zə:v /
	mercy	/'mɜ:.si /	/'mɜ:.si /
	pearl	/pɜ:l /	/pɜ:l /

Vowel difference	Examples	British English	American English
/eə/ → /er/	hair	/heə <sup>r</sup> /	/her /
	their	/ðeə <sup>r</sup> /	/ðer /
	bear	/beə <sup>r</sup> /	/ber /
	spare	/speə <sup>r</sup> /	/sper /
	square	/skweə <sup>r</sup> /	/skwer /
	aware	/ə'weə <sup>r</sup> /	/ə'wer /
	repair	/rɪ'peə <sup>r</sup> /	/rɪ'per /
	declare	/dɪ'kleə <sup>r</sup> /	/dɪ'kler /
	careful	/'keə.fəl /	/'ker.fəl /
	aeroplane	/'eə.rə.pleɪn /	/'er.ə.pleɪn /
	librarian	/laɪ'breə.ri.ən /	/laɪ'brer.i.ən /
	unfair	/ʌn'feə <sup>r</sup> /	/ʌn'fer /

Vowel difference	Examples	British English	American English
/əʊ/ → /ou/	follow	/'fɒl.əʊ /	/'fa:l.ou /
	hotel	/həʊ'tel /	/hou'tel /
	shoulder	/'ʃəʊl.də <sup>r</sup> /	/'ʃoul.də /
	window	/'wɪn.dəʊ /	/'wɪn.dou /
	telephone	/'tel.i.fəʊn /	/'tel.ə.foun /
	radio	/'reɪ.di.əʊ /	/'reɪ.di.ou /
	grocer	/'grəʊ.sə <sup>r</sup> /	/'grou.sə /
	photo	/'fəʊ.təʊ /	/'fou.tou /
	envelope	/'en.və.ləʊp /	/'en.və.loʊp /
	tomorrow	/tə'mɒr.əʊ /	/tə'mɔ:r.ou /
	potato	/pə'teɪ.təʊ /	/pə'teɪ.tou /
	brooch	/brəʊtʃ/	/broʊtʃ/

Vowel difference	Examples	British English	American English
/ʊə/ → /ʊr/ /ʊ/	tour	/tʊə /	/tʊr /
	sure	/ʃʊə /	/ʃʊr /
	poor	/pʊə /	/pʊr /
	jury	/'dʒʊə.ri /	/'dʒʊr.i /
	during	/'djʊə.rɪŋ /	/'dʊr.ɪŋ /
	purify	/'pjʊə.rɪ.fai /	/'pjʊr.ə.fai /
	curious	/'kjʊə.rɪ.əs /	/'kjʊr.i.əs /
	bureau	/'bjʊə.rəʊ /	/'bjʊr.əʊ /
caricature	/'kær.i.kə.ʃʊə/	/'ker.ə.kə.ʃʊr/	

Vowel difference	Examples	British English	American English
/ɪə/ → /ɪr/	dear	/diə <sup>r</sup> /	/dir /
	here	/hiə <sup>r</sup> /	/hir /
	weird	/wiəd /	/wird /
	cheer	/ʃiə <sup>r</sup> /	/ʃir /
	appear	/ə'piə <sup>r</sup> /	/ə'pir /
	serious	/'siə.rɪ.əs /	/'sir.i.əs /
	interfere	/ɪn.tə'fiə <sup>r</sup> /	/ɪn.tə'fir /
	hero	/'hiə.rəʊ /	/'hir.əʊ /
	engineer	/ɛn.dʒɪ'niə <sup>r</sup> /	/ɛn.dʒɪ'nir /
	experience	/ɪk'spiə.rɪ.əns /	/ɪk'spir.i.əns /
	material	/mə'tɪə.rɪ.əl /	/mə'tɪ.rɪ.əl /
	period	/'piə.rɪ.əd /	/'pir.i.əd /

Vowel difference	Examples	British English	American English
/aɪ/ → /ə/ a) in some words ending in _ization	organization	/,ɔ:.gən.aɪ'zeɪ.ʃən/	/,ɔ:r.gən.ə'zeɪ.ʃən/
	dramatization	/,dræm.ə.taɪ'zeɪ.ʃən/	/,dræm.ə.tə'zeɪ.ʃən/
	characterization	/,kær.ək.tə.raɪ'zeɪ.ʃən/	/,ker.ək.tə.rə'zeɪ.ʃən/
	civilization	/,sɪv.əl.aɪ'zeɪ.ʃən/	/,sɪv.əl.ə'zeɪ.ʃən/

(the verb forms are pronounced the same)	authorization	/,ɔ:.θ̩r.aɪ'zeɪ.ʃ̩n/	/,ɑ:.θ̩ə.ə'zeɪ.ʃ̩n/
	realization	/,ri:.ə.laɪ'zeɪ.ʃ̩n/	/,ri:.ə.lə'zeɪ.ʃ̩n/
	globalization	/,gləʊ.b̩'l.aɪ'zeɪ.ʃ̩n/	/,gləʊ.b̩'l.ə'zeɪ.ʃ̩n/
b) in some words ending in _ile	quartile	/'kwɔ:.taɪl/	/'kwɔ:r.t̩l/
	volatile	/'vɒl.ə.taɪl/	/'vɑ:.lə.t̩l/
	juvenile	/'dʒu:.v̩'n.aɪl/	/'dʒu:.və.n̩l/
	versatile	/'vɜ:.sə.taɪl/	/'vɜ:.sə.t̩l/
	projectile	/prə'dʒek.taɪl/	/prə'dʒek.t̩l/
	mobile	/'məʊ.baɪl/	/'moʊ.b̩l/
	fertile	/'fɜ:.taɪl/	/'fɜ:.t̩l/
	hostile	/'hɒs.taɪl/	/'hɑ:.st̩l/

## 2. Consonant Differences

### a. Postvocalic /r/

American pronunciation shows a rhotic accent so the postvocalic /r/ is pronounced where the letter r is found in the spelling.

Examples	British English	American English
discharge	/dɪs'tʃɑ:dʒ/	/dɪs'tʃɑ:rdʒ/
support	/sə'pɔ:t/	/sə'pɔ:rt/
hardworking	/,hɑ:d'wɜ:kɪŋ/	/,hɑ:rd'wɜ:kɪŋ/
normal	/'nɔ:.məl/	/'nɔ:r.məl/
shark	/ʃɑ:k/	/ʃɑ:rk/
forearm	/'fɔ:.rɑ:m/	/'fɔ:r.ɑ:rm/
scorecard	/'skɔ:.kɑ:d/	/'skɔ:r.kɑ:rd/
interpersonal	/ɪn.tə'pɜ:.s̩.nəl/	/ɪn.tə'pɜ:.s̩.n̩l/
farmer	/'fɑ:.məʔ/	/'fɑ:r.mə-/
hermit	/'hɜ:.mɪt/	/'hɜ:.mɪt/

### b. Flapped /t/

In American pronunciation, /t/ occurring between vowels and after some consonants but before a vowel, is normally a voiced flap /ɾ/ unless the following vowel is stressed.

Examples	British English	American English
courtesy	/ˈkɜː.tə.si/	/ˈkɜː.t̬ə.si/
cruelty	/ˈkruː.əl.ti/	/ˈkruː.əl.t̬i/
wanted	/ˈwɒn.tɪd/	/ˈwɑːn.t̬ɪd/
mantis	/ˈmæn.tɪs/	/ˈmæn.t̬ɪs/
hospital	/ˈhɒs.pɪ.təl/	/ˈhɑː.sprɪ.t̬əl/
butter	/ˈbʌt.ə/	/ˈbʌ.t̬ə/
mounting	/ˈmaʊn.tɪŋ/	/ˈmaʊn.t̬ɪŋ/
cottage	/ˈkɒt.ɪdʒ/	/ˈkɑː.t̬ɪdʒ/
diabetic	/ˌdaɪ.əˈbet.ɪk/	/ˌdaɪ.əˈbet̬.ɪk/
critical	/ˈkrɪt.ɪ.kəl/	/ˈkrɪ.t̬.ɪ.kəl/
ratify	/ˈræt.ɪ.fai/	/ˈræt̬.ə.fai/

### 3. Differences in Word Rhythm and Stress

#### a) in the case of certain suffixes like *-ary*, *-ory*, *-berry*, and *-mony*

Examples	British English	American English
ordinary	/ˈɔː.dən.əri/	/ˈɔːr.dən.er.i/
unitary	/ˈjuː.nɪ.təri/	/ˈjuː.nɪ.ter.i/
secretary	/ˈsek.rə.təri/	/ˈsek.rə.ter.i/
dictionary	/ˈdɪk.ʃən.əri/	/ˈdɪk.ʃən.er.i/
primary	/ˈpraɪ.məri/	/ˈpraɪ.mer.i/
secondary	/ˈsek.ən.dəri/	/ˈsek.ən.der.i/
hereditary	/hɪˈred.ɪ.təri/	/həˈred.ɪ.ter.i/

Examples	British English	American English
laboratory	/ləˈbɒr.ə.təri/	/ˈlæb.rə.tɔːr.i/
respiratory	/rɪˈspɪr.ə.təri/	/ˈres.pə.rə.tɔːr.i/
conservatory	/kənˈsɜː.və.təri/	/kənˈsɜː.və.tɔːr.i/
mandatory	/ˈmæn.də.təri/	/ˈmæn.də.tɔːr.i/
lavatory	/ˈlæv.ə.təri/	/ˈlæv.ə.tɔːr.i/
dormitory	/ˈdɔː.mɪ.təri/	/ˈdɔːr.mə.tɔːr.i/
contributory	/kənˈtrɪb.jə.təri/	/kənˈtrɪb.jə.tɔːr.i/

Examples	British English	American English
raspberry	/ˈrɑːz.b <sup>ə</sup> r.i/	/ˈræz.ber.i/
blueberry	/ˈbluː.b <sup>ə</sup> r.i/	/ˈbluː.ber.i/
strawberry	/ˈstrɔː.b <sup>ə</sup> r.i/	/ˈstrɔː.ber.i/
blackberry	/ˈblæk.b <sup>ə</sup> r.i/	/ˈblæk.ber.i/
cranberry	/ˈkræn.b <sup>ə</sup> r.i	/ˈkræn.ber.i/
mulberry	/ˈmʌl.b <sup>ə</sup> r.i/	/ˈmʌl.ber.i/

Examples	British English	American English
matrimony	/ˈmæt.rɪ.mə.ni/	/ˈmæt.rə.moʊ.ni/
patrimony	/ˈpæt.rɪ.mə.ni/	/ˈpæt.rə.moʊ.ni/
parsimony	/ˈpɑː.sɪ.mə.ni/	/ˈpɑːr.sə.moʊ.ni/
testimony	/ˈtes.tɪ.mə.ni/	/ˈtes.tə.moʊ.ni/
hegemony	/ˈhedʒ.ɪ.mə.ni/	/ˈhedʒ.ə.moʊ.ni/
palimony	/ˈpæl.ɪ.mə.ni/	/ˈpæl.ə.moʊ.ni/

- b) **Stress in French loanwords** (American English retains the stress in the French language which in most cases falls on the last syllables)

Examples	British English	American English
massage	/ˈmæs.ɑːʒ/	/məˈsɑːʒ/
garage	/ˈgær.ɑːʒ/	/gəˈrɑːʒ/
collage	/ˈkɒl.ɑːʒ/	/kəˈlɑːʒ/
cliché	/ˈkliː.ʃeɪ/	/kliːˈʃeɪ/
chauffeur	/ˈʃəʊ.fəʔ/	/ʃoʊˈfɜː/
brochure	/ˈbrəʊ.ʃəʔ/	/broʊˈʃʊr/
concierge	/ˈkɒn.si.eəʒ/	/kɑːn.siˈerʒ/
fiancé	/fiˈɑːn.seɪ/	/fiː.ɑːnˈseɪ/
communiqué	/kəˈmjuː.nɪ.keɪ/	/kəˌmjuː.nəˈkeɪ/

## CONCLUSION

From the discussion, it is obvious that there are quite a lot of differences of how to pronounce words in British English and American English. Differences in vowel sounds, consonant sounds, and word rhythm and stress should be put into consideration when one wants to pronounce certain words in English. It is hoped that this paper will help those who want to pronounce words better and more consistently whatever type of English they choose to use.

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