

Pre-Work Week 11: Sibilants /ʃ/ vs. /s/

I: Introduction to Sibilants: consonants with a hissing sound (rít âm thanh)

Examples: /s/, /z/, /ʃ/, /tʃ/, /ʒ/, /dʒ/

Sibilants in Vietnamese:

-How is the sound /s/ produced in Vietnamese? Is it produced in the same location in the mouth as the English /s/? -How is /s/ usually spelled in Vietnamese?

-Is the sound /ʃ/ used in Vietnamese? Is it produced differently from the English /ʃ/?

"xôi" : pour

"sôi" : boil

"xuân" : spring

sương thu : autumn fog

-The Vietnamese sound /s/ touches the teeth more than the English /s/ and is made with the tongue blade rather than only the front of the tongue. /ʃ/ is made behind the alveolar ridge in some Vietnamese speakers.

--How is /s/ and /ʃ/ spelled in English? List all the ways you can think of...

Hints: ocean, pronunciation, hiss, mouse, shave, nation:

These are only some of the ways /s/ and /ʃ/ can be spelled!

How to make the sounds:

/s/ is voiceless and made with the tongue touching the alveolar ridge, but allowing air to pass through. /ʃ/ is also voiceless, but to make it different from /s/, pull the tip of your tongue slightly back and up. (It is the same sound you make when you want someone to be quiet: Shshshshsh!) For /tʃ/, just put a /t/ in front of /ʃ/ and drop your jaw quickly.

Exercise One: Minimal Pair Repetition

/s/	/ʃ/	/tʃ/
sip	ship	chip
sane	Shane	chain
leasing	leashing	leaching
bass	bash	batch
Cass	cash	catch

Exercise Two: Minimal Pair/Trio Distinction

Listen to the sentences read. As you hear the sentences, circle the word you hear.

1. She was leasing/leashing/leaching when I called.
2. The man was watching his bass/bash/batch.
3. We saw a girl with Cass/cash.
4. He was watching/washing his car.

5. They were going to show/chew/sue it.

Exercise Three: Listening Discrimination

Listen to the following words. Circle the word you hear your teacher say.

	A	B		A	B
1.	self	shelf	9.	sigh	shy
2.	plus	plush	10.	said	shed
3.	sip	ship	11.	sock	shock
4.	crust	crushed	12.	mass	mash
5.	same	shame	13.	sake	shake
6.	sack	shack	14.	fished	fist
7.	seat	sheet	15.	rust	rushed
8.	cell	shell	16.	save	shave

Now, practice saying these words with a partner.

Exercise Four:

Practice in Context: Practice these with a partner. Now, listen to your teacher read these sentences and repeat. Circle all words that contain /s/. Underline all words that have a /f/. (5 minutes)

1. Students like to shift in their shoes.
2. I hit my shoe with a shovel.
3. I had to sit in a shabby seat.
4. I bought some snacks down at that shack.
5. I always try to stop my car in the shade.
6. I thought that guy was shy, but he ended up just being sly.
7. He is scared of his shadow.
8. That dog looks so sad and shaggy.
9. Snakes in the grass scare me speechless.
10. I've decided to shampoo the seat of my car.