

Speech Sounds, Phonetics, and Dialects: How to Reduce, Modify, or Introduce the Presence of an Accent

Our everyday speech oftentimes reflects the geographic region from which we originally lived. Sometimes our accents reflect the fact that we were born in another state or another country. There may be personal or professional reasons that we wish to modify or eliminate our dialect or accent. For some professions (e.g. performers), it may be necessary to learn different aspects of a dialect - as a means of acquisition.

Dialects/accents are produced based upon the interpretation of speech sounds and their relationships to each other. Our regional backgrounds dictate this interpretation.

This seminar provides information and understanding of the speech sounds and how they relate to one another during speech production. You will have gain an increased perspective of various common dialects and the speech sound changes that occur. This seminar will give you the tools necessary to develop a program to help reduce an existing dialect by modifying speech sound produced. Further, you will be given the tools to acquire a dialect that you choose (e.g. for performers or businesses) by understanding the speech sound relationships that are expected within the target dialect.

Participants will learn about speech sounds and their relationships to one another and will be able to apply pronunciation patterns to speech production. This interactive seminar will increase your awareness about your own accent and motivate you to try to acquire a new dialect! Learn from a speech professional certified in Compton P-ESL program integration.

At the end of this seminar, each participant will be able to:

1. Identify and use the sounds that comprise the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)
2. Be able to transcribe phrases or sentences into IPA for improved speech production
3. Describe speech sounds and identify differing characteristics
4. Understand regional influences on speech production changes
5. Prepare a short paragraph using speech sounds that differ from your given regional dialect
6. Develop a treatment plan to further modify your speech production or existing dialect independently

This is a fun, supportive, non-traditional means to gain experience and improve skills. It is a two and a half (2.5) hour seminar composed of 40% lecture, 30% participant interaction and 30% practice sessions. Course is restricted to address specific needs of the company being educated. The number of participants is limited to maximize participating benefit. Group interaction is strongly encouraged. Special conditions may apply and specific arrangements may be made. Materials are provided are included in the tuition cost.

****Individual Treatment Sessions Addressing Specific Speech Production Needs are Available.****

Tuition Cost: \$175