The Good Place

“Tahani Al Jamil” - S0103
Hump Day
‘It Girl’

- An it girl is an attractive young woman, generally a celebrity, perceived to have both sex appeal and a personality that is especially engaging.

- The expression ‘it girl’ originated in British upper-class society around the turn of the 20th century.
Baz Luhrmann is an Australian writer, director, and producer with projects spanning film, television, opera, theatre, music, and recording industries.

- **Red Curtain Trilogy:**
  - *Strictly Ballroom* (1992)
  - *Moulin Rouge!* (2001)
- *Australia* (2008)

Rajmund Roman Thierry Polański (1933) is a French-Polish film director, producer, writer, and actor.

Since 1978, he has been a fugitive from the U.S. criminal justice system, having fled the country while awaiting sentencing in his sexual abuse case, where he pleaded guilty to statutory rape.

Polanski holds the record for most wins as 'Best Director' at the César Awards, the national film award in France. He was nominated and won each time for *Tess* (1979), *The Pianist* (2002), *Ghost Writer* (2010) and *Venus in Fur* (2013).

Polanski was appointed to serve as the president of the César Awards in 2017, but withdrew from this position after public protests in France. #MeToo
R. Kelly

- American award-winning singer, songwriter, record producer, and former professional basketball player.
- R&B soul gospel hip hop

R. Kelly
Chick-fil-A: Home of the Original Chicken Sandwich
Andy’s Coffee
Accents: American vs SE / SBE / RP
Accents: American vs SE / SBE / RP
Not just Brits boop

SOURCE
Finders keepers
Accent variation relating to R

A

Cindy: Listen and notice how the speakers pronounce the letter R after a vowel. For example, compare the way Cindy and Sue pronounce the word losers: Cindy pronounces the letter R but Sue doesn't.

Cindy: So the first word of this expression is finders.
Sue: Ah, two words, is it?
Cindy: Ah, well, it's, so you're looking for...
Sue: Finders keepers? No?
Cindy: Yeah, well that's the first half.
Sue: Finders keepers.
Cindy: And what happens to the previous owner? Losers...
Sue: Losers... losers? Not losers... lost? Eh...
Cindy: Losers keepers?

* = People who find something can keep it, people who lose something can only weep (cry).

We can classify accents into two general types:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Silent R accents</th>
<th>R accents</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td>NZ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SE = Southern English  
NZ = New Zealand  
Am = American  
Scot = Scottish  
Can = Canadian  
1 = Irish

In Silent R accents such as SE, the sound /r/ only occurs before a vowel sound. Otherwise, the letter R is 'silent'. For example, in boring /bɔrɪŋ/ we hear the sound /r/, but in bored /bɔːrd/ the letter R is silent. In R accents, the letter R is pronounced in both words.

Note: The same rule applies across gaps between words. In Silent R accents, the R is silent in far to go, but it is pronounced in far away because there is a vowel sound after it. (See Unit 26.)

There are certain vowel sounds which always or usually have an R in the spelling but which are pronounced very differently in Silent R accents and R accents. These sounds are shown in blue in the box below.

Vowel sounds almost always spelt with an R
1 /ʌr/ 2 /ər/ 3 /ɔ:ər/

The first word Fair hair Near here

Vowel sounds very often spelt with an R
4 /ʌr/ 5 /ɔːr/ 6 /ɔːr/ (word-final)

Large car Four doors Finders keepers

Notice that the /r/ is not pronounced / sounded in the SE and NZ accents but is pronounced / sounded in the Am and Scot accents.

Exercises

56.1 Read the conversation between two colleagues who work as nurses at a hospital. Look at all the examples of the letter R in blue. Circle them if they are silent in Silent R accents.

Mark: Listen, Claire. I'm having a party on Thursday. Would you like to come?
Claire: I'm sorry. Mark, I can't. My brother's visiting on Thursday...
Mark: Bring your brother along -- the more the merrier!
Claire: Oh, OK, great! What's the party for?
Mark: It's my birthday. I'll be thirty-four.
Claire: Thirty-four! Poor you -- one foot in the grave already!
Mark: You're a nurse, Claire -- I expected a bit more sympathy!
Claire: Sorry, Mark, just joking. I'm thirty-something myself. Where's the party?

56.2 Listen to the conversation in 56.1. Who has a Silent R accent and who has an R accent?

56.3 Find a route from A to B. You may only go through a word if the R is silent in Silent R accents.

A bored boring story doctor car carry
word caring air area forty
worry cares hero hero forest third
ear starry fair fairest worse
hearing stars water watery foreign sugar

B

56.4 Put the words from the correct route in 56.3 under the correct vowel sound in the box below. Then listen and check your answers. You will hear the words first in a Silent R accent and then in an R accent.

1 /ʌr/ 2 /ər/ 3 /ɔːr/

word, careless ear, area, forty

4 /ʌr/ 5 /ɔːr/ 6 /ɔːr/ (word-final)

starry, ear, hero, water
We had a cat
Vowel sound variation in different accents

Vowel sounds vary a lot across different accents of English. You need to be flexible when listening and not expect words to always be pronounced in the same way you learnt. In this unit, we will compare the vowel sounds of speakers with five different accents:
- **SE** = Southern English
- **NE** = Northern English
- **Scottish**
- **Am** = American
- **NZ** = New Zealand

Perhaps the biggest variation in these accents is in the pronunciation of vowels which are spelt with the letters A and O. Here are some of the example words we will hear. The phonemic symbols show the pronunciation of the vowel in a **SE** accent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
<th>5th</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>had</td>
<td>bad</td>
<td>cas</td>
<td>was</td>
<td>out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bad</td>
<td>bat</td>
<td>las</td>
<td>wat</td>
<td>bet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cas</td>
<td>cat</td>
<td>fast</td>
<td>walk</td>
<td>bought</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>was</td>
<td>not</td>
<td>shop</td>
<td>o'clock</td>
<td>cold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>out</td>
<td>off</td>
<td>slow</td>
<td>slowly</td>
<td>go</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Northern English

Listen. You will hear two people asking each other the question, "How do you walk - slow or fast?" The first speaker has a **SE** accent and the second speaker has a **NE** accent. Notice that the **NE** speaker pronounces the vowel in fast so it sounds like the vowel in fast in the **SE** speaker's accent.

American

Listen. You will hear two people asking each other the question, "What weather do you prefer - hot or cold?" and "How do you walk - slow or fast?" The first speaker has a **SE** accent and the second speaker has an **Am** accent. Notice that the **Am** speaker pronounces the vowel sound in both fast and walk. It is similar to the vowel sound in heart in a **Se** speaker's accent (a/c), but shorter.

57.2 **SE** speakers say the words laugh and dance with the long vowel sound /æ/. **NE** speakers say these words with the short vowel sound /æ/. Listen and decide if the speakers have **SE** or **NE** accents.

1. SE
2. SE
3. SE
4. SE
5. NE
6. NE
7. NE
8. NE

57.3 Which sentence ending rhymes in an American accent and which rhymes in an English accent? Pay attention to the words in blue. Write **SE** or **Am**.

EXAMPLE: The visitor thought a) the room was hot Am...

Note: For an **Am** speaker, thought rhymes with hot; for a **SE** speaker, thought rhymes with sport.

1. I went for a walk a) in the streets of New York... Am.
2. The fish you caught b) a eleven o'clock...
3. Life was calm c) is now in the pot...
4. When she started to talk d) a washed her face...

57.4 **SE** speaker and a **male Am** speaker saying the sentences in 57.3 and check your answers.

Rita's writing a book
Consonant sound variation in different accents

Consonant sounds are generally similar across different accents of English, but there are a few important variations. In this unit, we will compare the consonant sounds of speakers with four different accents:
- **SE** = Southern English
- **Jamaican**
- **Cockney**
- **Am** = American

Perhaps the biggest variation in these accents is in the pronunciation of consonants which are spelt with the letters TH and T, as well as a sound which is cut in many accents: R/.

Here are some of the example words we will hear. The phonemic symbols show the pronunciation of each consonant in a **SE** accent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
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</table>

Listen to this short conversation and compare the pronunciation of the letter T.

**SE** What is Tom and ehm - Rita doing these days?

**Am** Well, last I heard, Tom's retired and Rita's writing a book.

**SE** Writing a book? Wow! Notice that the **Am** speaker pronounces Rita's writing so it sounds like reader's riding in a **SE** speaker's accent. In the **Am** speaker's accent, the **T** sounds like D before an unstressed syllable (except when T is part of a consonant group, e.g. poster). Before a stressed syllable, it is still TH, for example Tom and retired.

Listen to a **C** speaker saying the same sentence as the **Am** speaker above. Notice that this speaker pronounces the **T** before an unstressed syllable as a short silence or stop /T/, so writing sounds like writing /ra?i?i/.

58.2 **C** speaker saying the words below. Underline the one in which the speaker pronounces the T as /T/.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXAMPLE</th>
<th>butter</th>
<th>guitar</th>
<th>heating</th>
<th>water</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 photos</td>
<td>letters</td>
<td>bottle</td>
<td>hotel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 doctor</td>
<td>water</td>
<td>babbywheel</td>
<td>daughter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 better</td>
<td>faster</td>
<td>lighter</td>
<td>hotter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 hated</td>
<td>wasted</td>
<td>waited</td>
<td>voted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

58.3 An **Am** speaker and a **C** speaker said the sentences below (Am 1-5; C 6-10) and a **SE** speaker wrote them down wrongly because of the different pronunciations of the letters T and H. Underline one or two mistakes in each sentence and write the correct spellings.

**EXAMPLES**

**Am** We need a ladder of milk ... 
**C** Can't say my art beating! /Ris/ heart.

1. Don't worry - it's not madder.
2. I need reading glasses because I'm short-sighed.
3. Come on - what are you waiting for?
4. My grandfather's hair gets wider every year.
5. I don't like being swelled by the door in a restaurant.
6. We are getting my air cut.
7. You should tell it with both ends.
8. My airbrush is in my anbag.
9. Newtown's in a valley between eye ill.
10. Don't worry - it's dog's armless.
56.1 Mark: Listen, Claire. I'm having a potty on Thursday. Would you like to come?
Claire: I'm sorry, Mark. I can't. My brother's visiting on Thursday ...
Mark: Bring your brother along - the more the merrier!
Claire: Oh, OK, great! What's the potty? I'll be there.
Mark: It's my birthday. I'll be thirty-four.
Claire: Thirty-four? Forty-five! - one foot in the grave already!
Mark: You're a help, Claire - I expect a bit more sympathy!
Claire: Sorry, Mark. Just joking. I'm thirty-three myself. What's the potty?

56.2 Claire has an R accent (Scottish)
Mark has a Silent R accent (Southern English)

56.3

56.4

1. [kwad] 2. [kwad] 3. [kwad]
1. word 2. heard 3. word
1. wise 2. her 3. her
1. far 2. air 3. air
1. are 2. are 3. are
1. here 2. here 3. here
1. car 2. car 3. car
1. [ker] 2. [ker] 3. [ker]
1. hair 2. hair 3. hair
1. fair 2. fair 3. fair
1. air 2. air 3. air
1. car 2. car 3. car
1. here 2. here 3. here
1. wise 2. her 3. her

57.2 1 SE 2 NE 3 SE 4 NE 5 SE 6 SE 7 NE 8 SE
57. 1 a SE, b Am 2 a Am, b SE 3 a lit, b Am 4 a SE, b Am

57.5 1 walk 2 slowly 3 go 4 o'clock 5 don't

57.6 1 shopping 2 net 3 bought 4 short

58.1 1 both 2 father 3 than 4 mother 5 three

58.2 1 photos letters bottle notebook 2 doctor, waiter, babysitter, daughter 3 better, faster, lighter, hotter 4 hated, waited, visited

58.3 1 Don't worry - it doesn't matter 2 I need reading glasses because I'm short-sighted 3 Come on - what are you waiting for? waiting 4 My grandfather's hair gets white every year. White 5 I don't like being sold by the door in a restaurant. seated 6 I ate getting my air car, hate, hair 7 You should did it with both ands, took, hands 8 My hairbrush is in my end, hairbrush, handbag 9 Newton's in a valley between eye hill, high, hills 10 Don't worry - is dog's arms: his, harmless

58.4 In this picture we can see a waiter holding a bottle of water. You can see both his hands, but you can't see his face. You can also see a woman with long hair sitting at a table - you can just see the back of her head.

58.5 1 a SE 2 a Am