

**Title: American Accent****Course:** Semi-Sparta Program, Intensive ESL, IELTS Basic, and TOEFL Intensive**Area:** Speaking, Listening**Class Type:** Big Group Class**Class Level:** 101+ - 201+**Introduction:**

The American Accent course helps ESL students improve their pronunciation and speak English more naturally. The course focuses on the key sounds, stress patterns, and intonation of American English, giving students practice in speaking clearly and confidently.

Students will practice pronouncing individual vowels and consonants, including challenging contrasts. They will also learn important features of the American accent, such as word and sentence stress, rhythm, intonation, linking, blending, contractions, and connected speech, to make their speech sound smooth and natural.

The course develops essential speaking skills, including accurate pronunciation, clear stress and rhythm, effective intonation, and confident communication in everyday, academic, and professional situations.

**Subject Content Summary**

| Lesson Focus  | Contents   | Class Activities   |
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| <b>Week 1</b>   |  |  |
| <p><b><i>Sound Recognition &amp; Pronunciation Awareness</i></b></p> <p>Improve pronunciation accuracy and awareness of American English sounds</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Vowel and consonant sounds, including challenging contrasts (/l/ vs /r/, /θ/ vs /ð/)</li> <li>▪ Minimal pairs</li> <li>▪ Word stress, sentence stress, and weak forms</li> <li>▪ Intonation patterns</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Listening and repeating minimal pairs in pairs or groups</li> <li>▪ Pronunciation drills for word and sentence stress following teacher’s model</li> <li>▪ Guided practice of intonation patterns using short sentences</li> <li>▪ Listening exercises to identify correct vowel/consonant sounds</li> <li>▪ Peer correction and feedback on pronunciation</li> </ul> |
| <b>Week 2</b>   |  |  |
| <p><b><i>Connected Speech &amp; Blending</i></b></p> <p>Learn natural speech patterns used in American English</p>                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Linking sounds between words</li> <li>▪ Blending and reduction (e.g., “want to” → “wanna”)</li> <li>▪ Contractions and casual speech forms</li> <li>▪ Sentence rhythm and fluency</li> </ul>                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Practice reading and repeating connected speech phrases</li> <li>▪ Shadowing exercises with recordings of natural American English</li> <li>▪ Role-play dialogues using contractions, blends, and casual speech</li> <li>▪ Listening and transcription activities to notice reductions and linking</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Week 3</b>   |  |  |
| <p><b><i>Word &amp; Sentence Stress</i></b></p> <p>Understand and apply stress patterns for clarity and natural flow</p>                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Content vs. function word stress</li> <li>▪ Stress in multi-syllable words</li> <li>▪ Emphatic stress for meaning</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Marking stressed syllables in written sentences</li> <li>▪ Oral drills emphasizing content word stress</li> <li>▪ Paired reading of sentences to practice rhythm and emphasis</li> <li>▪ Listening exercises to identify stress patterns in spoken passages</li> </ul>  |

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| <p><b><i>Intonation &amp; Expression</i></b></p> <p>Use pitch and intonation to convey meaning and attitude</p>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Rising and falling intonation patterns</li> <li>▪ Questions, statements, lists, and emotions</li> <li>▪ Expressing attitudes (surprise, doubt, interest)</li> </ul>                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Repeat sentences modeling rising/falling intonation</li> <li>▪ Record and compare own speech with model recordings</li> <li>▪ Practice reading dialogues with appropriate intonation</li> <li>▪ Group discussion using intonation to convey different emotions</li> </ul>                                   |
| <b>Week 4</b>  |  |  |
| <p><b><i>Practical Speaking &amp; Listening Application</i></b></p> <p>Apply accent skills in real-life situations</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Everyday conversations, workplace dialogues, academic interactions</li> <li>▪ Telephone English, presentations, and public speaking</li> <li>▪ Self-monitoring and self-correction</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Role-play common conversations, giving presentations or instructions</li> <li>▪ Listening to recordings and identifying pronunciation features</li> <li>▪ Peer and teacher feedback on pronunciation, stress, and intonation</li> <li>▪ Recording own speech for self-assessment and improvement</li> </ul> |