Some Tips on Teaching Pronunciation

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Abstract: We have decided to tackle pronunciation issues, even though, it is not a major problem for Romanian learners such as grammar seems to be. We sometimes find it challenging to teach pronunciation, though. Some of our students who might even be Intermediate or Upper Intermediate are still struggling with placing the stress upon the right syllable, with using intonation to convey meaning or with pronouncing longer words like adverbs or more formal structures or less used nouns. These students often ask us to help them pronounce better. Considering it essential to offer support to all our ESL students, we have dug into the matter of teaching pronunciation only to discover that other teachers are facing the same difficulties as us. Should we teach pronunciation separately or integrated? Should we explain students the technicalities behind producing sounds or should we just ask them to repeat what they hear and to consistently practice in order to improve? What kind of exercises should we choose? We have attempted to answer all these questions and, possibly, others alike throughout this paper.

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