

Pronunciation:

/v/ vs /w/



Introduction: Why /v/ and /w/ Matter

These sounds:

- Look similar
- Can be **confused easily**
- But they sound **very different**

Sound	Example	Description
/v/	very	Bottom lip touches top teeth (vibrate)
/w/	water	Lips form a small circle and glide

Tip: Clear /v/ and /w/ = clear speech

Phonetic Tip: Feel the Difference

Coaching exercise:

- Say “**vvvv**”
 - Put your **bottom lip to top teeth**
 - Feel your throat **vibrate**
- Say “**www**”
 - Make a small circle with lips
 - NO teeth, just round lips, soft glide

Hands-on exercise:

- One hand on your **throat** (feel voice)
- Other hand in front of your **mouth** (feel lip shape)

Lip Position Exercise

- Say “**vine**” – lips and teeth touch
- Say “**wine**” – lips stay rounded, don’t touch teeth

Tip:

If you can see your teeth for /w/, it’s not right.
If you can’t hear buzzing on /v/, try again.

Repeat:

vet / wet,
vast / west,
vow / wow



Minimal Pairs Call-and-Repeat

Tutor calls pairs → student repeats

- vet / wet
- vine / wine
- vote / woke
- very / wary
- vast / west

Say slowly at first → then naturally

Check:

voice for /v/,
whisper-glide for /w/



Tongue Twister 1: Voice Focus

Practice in 3 speeds:

- Slow (clear voicing)
- Normal (keep control)
- Fast (fluency)

“Victor’s velvet vest vibrated very violently.”

Tip: Focus: **strong /v/** sound, feel the buzz!

Tongue Twister 2: Lip Shape Focus

Tutor models → student repeats:

“Will Winnie wash watermelons with warm water?”

Tip: Focus: smooth, round-lipped /w/ - **no teeth involved**

Tutor: Encourage a glide, not a stop



Real-Life Conversations: Work & Weather

Contextual speaking, practice the phrases below with your tutor:

1. Talking about work:

- “I work in a very big village.”
- “Victor will visit on Wednesday.”

2. Talking about weather:

- “What’s the weather like?”
- “It’s warm, very warm.”



Listening Challenge: Which One?

Tutor says a word, student answers: “**v or w?**”

- **van**
- **wet**
- **vow**
- **white**
- **vote**
- **win**

Then tutor says mixed phrases:

- “He wore a velvet coat.”
- “Victor wants wine.”
- “We went very far.”

Listen, identify, repeat



Review & Final Fluency Task

Today, you learned:

- /v/ = voiced, lip–teeth
- /w/ = soft glide, rounded lips
- Mirror, airflow, tongue twisters, and real talk

Final task:

Say 3 full sentences using **3 /v/** and **3 /w/** words.

Tutor corrects rhythm and sound shape.