

#### WHERE CLASSICAL WISDOM MEETS INTELLIGENT LEARNING

#### 10. Pronunciation

# **BVPT-104: English & Communication**

**Unit 3: Developing Pronunciation and Vocabulary** 

Topic: Pronunciation — Techniques for Clear and Accurate Speech

### ☐ What Is Pronunciation?

**Pronunciation** is the way in which a word or language is spoken. It includes:

- Sounds (consonants and vowels)
- Syllable stress
- Intonation and rhythm
- Word linking and clarity

In healthcare—especially physiotherapy—clear pronunciation is essential for:

- Giving instructions to patients
- Communicating with doctors, staff, and families
- · Avoiding misunderstandings in emergencies

# ☐ Why Pronunciation Matters in Physiotherapy

Situation	Importance of Clear Pronunciation
Explaining exercises to a patient	Prevents injury and ensures proper technique
Answering questions in an exam	Shows confidence and professionalism
Working in a multicultural hospital	Avoids confusion between similar-sounding terms
Recording case notes verbally	Ensures medical accuracy and understanding

# □ Core Techniques for Clear Pronunciation

### 1. Syllable Stress

- Emphasising the correct syllable in a word makes it easier to understand.
- Example:
  - o **PHYS-io-ther-a-py** (stress on 1st syllable)
  - o **EX-ercise**, not ex-ER-cise

☐ *Tip:* Use a dictionary to check where the syllable stress lies. Look for a bold mark like ' before the stressed syllable.

### 2. Intonation and Rhythm

- **Intonation** is the rise and fall of your voice when speaking.
- It helps show emotion, questioning, or ending a sentence.

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### Examples:

- "Are you in **pain**?" (rising tone = question)
- "We will do **this** exercise **slowly**." (falling tone = instruction)

### 3. Linking Words Smoothly

- Native speakers often connect words.
- Helps with fluency and makes your speech sound natural.

### Examples:

- "Go on" becomes "Go\_on"
- "Turn it off" becomes "Turn\_it\_off"

### 4. Sound Clarity (Articulation)

- Clearly pronounce ending sounds like "-ed" or "-s"
  - o walked → /wɔːkt/
  - helps → /helps/

☐ *Tip:* Practise slowly at first, then speed up.

#### 5. Mirror Practice

- Observe your **lip, jaw, and tongue** movements while speaking.
- Helps in sounds like:
  - /th/ (think, that)
  - ∘ /r/ vs /l/ (run vs lung)

# 6. Recording and Playback

- Use your phone to record your voice reading a paragraph.
- Listen for:
  - Clarity
  - Stress and intonation
  - Correct word endings

### 7. Phonemic Awareness

• Learn IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet) symbols to understand correct pronunciation from dictionaries.

### Example:

- "physiotherapy" → /,fɪziəʊ'θerəpi/
- "rehabilitation" → /,ri:ə,bɪlɪ'teɪʃən/

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# □ Practice Activity: Read Aloud

Read the sentence below clearly, stressing the correct words:

- ☐ "We will begin with **gentle exercises** to help your **knee pain**."
- ☐ Focus on:
  - Word stress: gentle, knee, painClear endings: exercises, help
  - Rhythm and pauses

# ☐ Quick Pronunciation Drill (10 min/day)

TaskExample WordsStress Practicephysiotherapy, rehabilitationEnding Sound Clarityhelped, stopped, teachesSound Contrastship/sheep, bat/bet, thin/thenTongue-Twisters"She sells sea shells..."

# ☐ Take-Home Summary

- Pronunciation = clarity + confidence + correctness
- Focus on: stress, sound clarity, linking, and intonation
- Use tools: mirrors, recordings, dictionaries, and tongue exercises
- Practice daily in short sessions for best improvement

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