

## 1 *th* sounds – /θ/ and /ð/

People often mix up the *th* sounds with either /t/, /d/, /s/, /z/, /f/ or /v/ sounds. In this exercise, you will have a chance to practise the contrast between *th* and all those sounds.

Read the lines of these tables horizontally, making sure that the consonants in each column sound really different from each other.

### /t/ and /θ/ sounds



200

/t/		/θ/		/t/		/θ/
tick	→	thick		true	→	through
tanks	→	thanks		boat	→	both
taught	→	thought		art	→	bath
tie	→	thigh		oat	→	oath
tinker	→	thinker		bet	→	Beth
tin	→	thin		tent	→	tenth
heart	→	hearth		tree	→	three
tug	→	thug		tum	→	thumb
wit	→	width		tread	→	thread

### /d/ and /ð/ sounds



201

/d/		/ð/		/d/		/ð/
doze	→	those		dare	→	there
dough	→	though		breed	→	breathe
den	→	then		laid	→	lathe
dine	→	thine		seed	→	seethe
dare	→	there		bad	→	bathe
udder	→	other		ride	→	writhe
muddle	→	mother		fodder	→	father
Dan	→	than		body	→	bother
day	→	they		ladder	→	lather

### /s/ and *th* sounds



202

/s/		<i>th</i>		/s/		<i>th</i>
boast	→	both		moss	→	moth
sigh	→	thigh		certain	→	thirteen
pass	→	path		worse	→	worth
sink	→	think		saw	→	thaw
say	→	they		so	→	though
sat	→	that		mouse	→	mouth
see	→	three		sick	→	thick
sort	→	thought		sing	→	thing
use	→	youth		force	→	fourth

## /f/ and /v/ and th sounds



/f/		/θ/		/v/		/ð/
fear	→	theory		clove	→	clothe
fin	→	thin		van	→	than
phone	→	throne		ever	→	leather
oaf	→	oath		lover	→	loather
fawn	→	thorn		fever	→	feather
few	→	through		mover	→	mother
for	→	thaw		over	→	other
deaf	→	death		vat	→	that
fret	→	threat		shaving	→	scathing
fought	→	thought		river	→	rhythm

Read this email aloud, making sure that you pronounce all of the *th* sounds clearly.



To...	sheila@home.com
Cc...	
Send	Subject: News!

Mother dearest!

I'm sure you must be thinking I've forgotten you! I promise, there's nothing wrong, but there's exciting news!

I was in the bath last Thursday evening, soaking my poor throbbing feet and massaging my thumping head after yet another tricky Thursday in the office, when I realized that I needed a lengthy holiday! I've been working so hard all through this year, and I thought 'why not throw some cash at a month-long break? I haven't been away for years.' But where on earth should I go? I picked up three thick brochures from the local travel agent and thumbed through them, fantasizing about sunbathing somewhere hot, or at least thawing out from this horrible Plymouth winter weather. I soon realized I would need to be thrifty, so thirty days became thirteen – but that's still something!

So, I'm off tomorrow! The fantastic thing is Thelma (my friend, the maths teacher) is coming with me!

Will call when we land. Love you!

Ruth xx

## 8 /ŋ/

*ng* and *nk* are very common spellings for the /ŋ/ sound. In the case of *ng*, sometimes it is pronounced /ŋg/, and sometimes only as /ŋ/. Can you remember the rules? Go back to Unit 6 if you are not sure.

Read the lines of these tables horizontally, making sure that you use the pronunciation indicated.



/ŋg/	→	/ŋk/	→	/ŋ/
hunger	→	hunk	→	hang
anger	→	thank	→	gang
tangle	→	tank	→	tangy
shingle	→	sink	→	sing
finger	→	thinker	→	thing
longer	→	links	→	long
single	→	synchronize	→	slang
angle	→	anchor	→	rang
bangle	→	bank	→	bang



Read this email aloud, making sure that you pronounce all the right /ŋ/ sounds in the right places.

To... sheila@home.com

Cc...

Send Subject: Coming home!

Hi Mum,

I know you'll think I'm going bonkers, but I just can't stop laughing about the events of the last two weeks. And in spite of breaking the bank to fund this trip, I still think it's the best thing I've done in ages! It was so great to hang out with a gang of girls and just spend some time doing my favourite things; sun-bathing, eating, laughing and RELAXING!

Really looking forward to seeing you next week. I think we're catching an early flight out because Lily hates flying at night, so I'll be popping in on my way home.

R xx

Ashson & Shepherd 2012: 132-133