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Hello Teresa!

I recently moved my newsletter to Mailchimp. In doing so, I went through different mailing lists to sort everything out and came to the conclusion that I'd sent newsletters to several colleagues and friends when I started last year and then stopped doing so. How did this happen? I have no idea. But I apologize.

This month I'm bringing back those temporarily 'neglected' friends hoping that my monthly newsletter can be **useful** to them and that they can help me **spread the word** about

- * *Pron Made Easy*, my pronunciation dictionary
- * my mailing list and
- * my 'special offer' when people sign up.

You can 'unsubscribe' at any time.

Scheduling a webinar with your class

The offer to interact about my pronunciation strategy with one of your 5th or 6th grade classes is ongoing. I think it could be an interesting and useful experience. If you agree, please get in touch with me at teredeca@gmail.com so that we can make plans.

Speaking about webinars, the recording of my session in Lamego on 9Mar about my

pronunciation strategy and the words we dealt with are in a wiki page titled [Lamego Demo Session](#). You can listen to the 'unedited' recording while following the words and their pronunciation.

And here is **Maria João Amaral's feedback** about the session.

"Teresa accepted my invitation to try her *Pron Made Easy* Strategy with my current students - senior learners who actually are facing problems they have always had with the English language, since when they started learning it they weren't supposed to speak much and now, it is what they most cherish. So, pronunciation and how to use their vocal tract are some of their biggest problems, together with the lack of vocabulary.

They reacted very well to her presentation of the strategy and later when discussing with them what they thought of it, they wished they had had such a practical teacher at school. Someone, who instead of imposing incomprehensible symbols to young learners, had devised a logical system to help them say the words correctly. They even said that Teresa's strategy compared to what they wrote under or above the words when they heard the teacher in class. But it had to be done secretly, because teachers didn't allow them to since such practice didn't conform to the phonetic alphabet they should learn without understanding.

When we recalled and discussed *Pron Made Easy* strategy in class some students had not been present at Teresa's session. So, I invited the other students to explain what the strategy consisted of and with the help of their notes and the board they had no difficulty in doing so.

These are some of the opinions I registered in that lesson:

- For me, since I missed the lesson, I think this pronunciation system is easier, because both young students and seniors can quickly recognize the English sounds by means of the Portuguese characters.
- That way we feel more confident as speakers of English.
- It is what we used to do when we were young learners, but the teacher couldn't see it.

As a teacher, and having learned the so called phonetic alphabet, sometimes I have some difficulty in using some of the Portuguese characters in Teresa's system, but my students correct me and I have no problem with it.

I think the *Pron Made Easy* Strategy, if used from the very beginning with young learners, can be very useful for them to pronounce the English words correctly. With seniors even more so because if they can't remember the phonetic alphabet, they tend to use Portuguese mixed up with English. So, let them do it with advantage in pronunciation.

Teresa, keep sharing your strategy and try to figure out if it is transferable to other contexts and languages. Hopefully you may be contributing to better speakers of English all over the world. Thanks!"

Thank "you", Maria João, and your group of students! It was a very special moment.

On the Radical English front

Jennifer England, a Radical English co-founder and dear friend, is doing four webinars about different aspects of **Boosting your Vocabulary**. They will be held in May (7, 14, 21 & 28) in a Google Hangout at two different times each day to cater to different time zones: **8:00 & 17:00 London time**. You can register [here](#). You'll get a link to join the webinar when you register.

Ed Tech

This month I'd like to suggest using [Voki](#) to have your students record pronunciation tasks and other things you may find useful. It's a very simple tool and always a big hit with students. You can create a different avatar for each recording, customize it and choose a background. To give you an idea, here's a [voki](#) I created at Halloween 3+ years ago.

And here's a simple [tutorial](#) on how to **register** (for free) and **record** a voki.

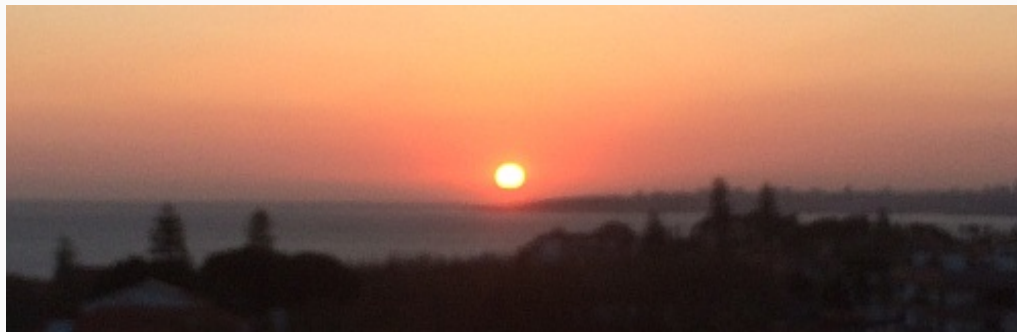
Feel free to share this month's newsletter with anyone who may be interested.

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Enjoy pronouncing! :-)

Teresa



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