



**Pron-tech collaborations:
the role of technology
in the pronunciation classroom**

IATEFL PronSIG Pre-Conference Event
Manchester, 17.04.2020

Tickets: https://conference.iatefl.org/pce_pron.html

Technology has the potential to be a great ally in our lessons, so how can we optimise its use when teaching pronunciation, and avoid possible pitfalls?

With easier access to mobile devices, the internet and a range of apps, learners (and teachers alike) may find it rather challenging to make wise choices when they want to study English, and more specifically, when they need to improve their pronunciation. With such a wide range, how can we choose what is aligned with learners' needs and help them achieve their objectives more effectively?

Moreover, when selecting tech resources to be used in our lessons, how do we make sure they are actually going to add value to the learning experience? How can we ensure the use is pedagogically sound, and not mere entertainment?

Throughout the day in our Pre-Conference Event, participants will be invited to look into ways in which they can make the most of what is available in terms of tech resources – including podcasts, apps, and online tools to name a few – and critically analyse their relevance and applicability to help improve learners' pronunciation in English.

Participants will be invited to share their experiences within their own unique teaching contexts, to help develop this into a productive learning experience for all.

You are welcome to bring your own device to join us in our PCE! Let's discuss ideas and share good practices with colleagues from across the globe!

10.00 – 10.10 Opening

10.10 – 11.10

David Crystal

Speaking an article

In a recent *Speak Out* article I bemoaned the fact that there are so few audio books on phonetics, and talked about some of the technical issues I faced in recording material for the third edition of *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language*. That article, of course, was only in written form. In this talk I'll illustrate some of the topics I described there, and discuss their relevance to ELT: the various stages in earlier periods of English pronunciation, and the still neglected domain of prosody and paralanguage.

11.10 – 11.30 Coffee break

11.30 – 12.50

Gemma Archer

Using technology to fill the pronunciation gap: meeting our students' niche needs

Sometimes, despite our best laid plans, issues appear in our students' pronunciation which are not addressed by prescribed syllabi or coursebooks. So how can we meet our students' ongoing needs and fill this gap?

In this session, I will demonstrate how to create bespoke pronunciation resources using technology, enabling tutors to target, recycle and review challenging aspects of pronunciation.

12.50 – 13.50 **Lunch break**

13.50 – 15.10

Beata Walesiak

Mobile pron apps for self-study

This workshop shows how to find and use mobile pronunciation apps to develop phonological skills and learning strategies of learners of English. It will also demonstrate basic tools that let the teacher design their own app and upload their content. Finally, it will comment on the retention in the use of mobile pron apps and learner self-declared gains. Please bring your mobile phone (Android, iOS).

15.10 – 15.30 **Coffee break**

15.30 – 16.50

Jonás Fouz-González

Teaching pronunciation with podcasts: opportunities for perception and production practice

This workshop will address the possibilities podcasts offer for pronunciation practice. First, I will briefly summarise the rationale for using podcasts for pronunciation work. Then, I will offer an overview of research exploring the learning potential of podcast-based approaches for pronunciation training. Finally, I will present different ways in which podcasts can be used to help learners work on pronunciation.

16.50 – 17.00 **Closing, feedback and certificates**