

Common pronunciation mistakes

Class Objective: I will be able to understand the common pronunciation mistakes in Malayalam.

Concept A: Common mistake in the pronunciation of a few letters in Malayalam



la (ല)



la (ല)



zha (ജ)

These are one of the most common syllables which are mis pronounced in Malayalam.

The first one is la (ല).

- Here the tip of the tongue is touched at the upper alveolar ridge and the mouth is opened so that the open sound is heard.
- The touch with the tongue produces the required syllable and the opening by the mouth leaves the air which opens up.
- Vocal cords are vibrated during this speech.
- It can be described as voiced alveolar lateral.
- This has words in which this syllable comes in the beginning, interim and last positions.

The next one in the series is la (ല).

- Here, the tip of the tongue is rolled and curved to touch the alveolar ridge such that air is released from the part at that moment
- The middle part of the upper mouth is where the tongue rests while letting the air out.
- Vocal cords are vibrated during this speech.
- This has words which usually come in the middle and end with this syllable.

zha (ജ) is the next one which is specific to Malayalam and cannot be described as a full translation in English for the sound produced.

- Here, the tip of the tongue comes into contact with the upper alveolar ridge and after that the stress is laid by opening and curving the lips with the touch of the tongue remaining intact
- Air is left thru the lower part of the tongue and lower lips
- Vocal cords are vibrated during this speech.
- This has words which usually come in the middle and end with this syllable.

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