

## ENHANCING PRONUNCIATION AND READING SKILLS.

**CLASS OBJECTIVE:** To improve the reading and comprehension skills.

**CONCEPT A:** Alteration in pronunciation of consonants and vowels.

In Russian, we have 10 vowels, 5 of them are hard vowels (**а, э, ы, у, о**) and the rest 5 are soft vowels (**я, е, ё, ю, и**).

The difference between hard and soft vowels is that they make the pronunciation of previous consonants hard and soft respectively.

Examples:

- The word **Дада** is pronounced as **Dada**, but **Дядя** is pronounced as **Jyajya**.
- Similarly, **Тата** is pronounced as **Tata**, but **Тетя** is pronounced as **chyochya**.

**As per the below mentioned rule, pronunciation of vowels changes due to stress.**

Russian Alphabet	Symbol	Pronunciation
A (stressed)	ah	as Ah, but shorter
A (unstressed)	a	as u in but
O (stressed) o	o	as ow in claw
O (unstressed)	a	as u in cut
Ы (stressed)	i	as yii
У (stressed)	oo	as oo in wood
Э (stressed)	e	as ae
Я (stressed)	i	as i

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