ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Commonly Mispronounced English Words with IPA and Audio Quiz

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1	**C**	2	**A**	3	**D**	4	**B**	5	**B**	6	**D**	7	**A**	8	**C**	9	**A**	10	**C**
11	**B**	12	**D**	13	**A**	14	**B**	15	**C**										

Explanations

1. Which pair of words both have a silent consonant?
✔ **C) receipt and foreign**
The p in receipt and the g in foreign are silent: /rɪˈsiːt/, /ˈfɒr.ən/. In recipe and dragon, you hear every consonant.

2. In which word is the l silent?
✔ **A) salmon**
Salmon is /ˈsæm.ən/: SAM-un. You hear the l in film, help and milk.

3. How many syllables do you hear in chocolate and in temperature in British speech?
✔ **D) two and three**
Chocolate is /ˈtʃɒk.lət/ (two) and temperature is /ˈtem.prə.tʃə/ (three). One written syllable disappears in each.

4. Which word sounds exactly the same as muscle?
✔ **B) mussel**
Muscle and mussel (a small shellfish) are both /ˈmʌs.əl/. The c in muscle is silent.

5. The first vowel sound in women is the same as the vowel in...
✔ **B) swim**
Women is /ˈwɪm.ɪn/: the o sounds like the i in swim. In woman and wool it is /ʊ/.

6. The ch in stomach sounds like the ch in...
✔ **D) Christmas**
Stomach is /ˈstʌm.ək/: ch is a k sound, as in Christmas.

7. In British English, iron rhymes with...
✔ **A) lion**
Iron is /ˈaɪən/ with a silent r, so it rhymes with lion.

8. Choir rhymes with...
✔ **C) fire**
Choir is /kwaɪə/, so it rhymes with fire. The ch is a k sound.

9. Chaos starts with the same sound as...
✔ **A) cake**
Chaos is /ˈkeɪ.ɒs/: KAY-oss, with a k sound at the start, like cake.

10. Where is the stress in character?
✔ **C) CHAR-ac-ter**
Character is /ˈkær.ək.tə/, stressed on the first syllable, and the ch is a k sound.

11. Which two words both have three syllables?
✔ **B) recipe and jewellery**
Recipe /ˈres.ɪ.pi/ and jewellery /ˈdʒuː.əl.ri/ have three. Chocolate and chaos have two; clothes has one.

12. Determine ends with the same sound as...
✔ **D) examine**
Determine is /dɪˈtɜː.mɪn/. The end sounds like the end of examine, not like mine.

13. Which word sounds almost the same as clothes?
✔ **A) close (= shut)**
Clothes is /kləʊðz/, one syllable, very close to close /kləʊz/. Cloth has a short o and no z sound.

14. Suit rhymes with...
✔ **B) fruit**
Suit is /suːt/: ui is one long sound, as in fruit. It is not “swit”.

15. Which IPA shows how to say cupboard?
✔ **C) /ˈkʌb.əd/**
Cupboard is /ˈkʌb.əd/: the p is silent and board becomes a short /əd/.

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