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Beginner lessons for Pronunciation

Master Welsh Pronunciation with Beginner-Friendly Tips!

DEFINITION

> Welsh pronunciation involves unique sounds and rules that differ from English. Understanding these basics helps in speaking clearly and confidently.

KEY CONCEPTS

Vowel Sounds

Welsh has distinct vowel sounds that can change meaning, such as 'a' in 'cat' vs. 'father'.

Consonant Clusters

Certain consonants often appear together, like 'll' and 'rh', creating unique sounds not found in English.

Stress Patterns

Welsh words typically have the stress on the penultimate syllable, affecting how words are pronounced.

Diphthongs

Diphthongs are combinations of vowel sounds that glide from one to another, like 'au' in 'sau' (sauce).

Silent Letters

Some letters in Welsh words are silent, such as 'h' in 'cwm', which can confuse learners.

EXAMPLES

→ Cymru (Wales) - pronounced 'kum-ree'

→ Llanelli - pronounced 'thlan-eth-lee'

→ Bore da (Good morning) - pronounced 'bor-eh dah'

MEMORY TIPS

★ Associate 'll' with 'thl' in 'thle' to remember its unique sound.

★ Think of 'au' as 'ow' in 'cow' for the diphthong sound.

★ Use 'Cymru' as a reminder that 'y' can sound like 'u' in some cases.

COMMON MISTAKES

✗ Mispronouncing 'll' as 'l' instead of the unique Welsh sound.

✗ Ignoring the stress on the penultimate syllable in longer words.

✗ Confusing diphthongs with single vowel sounds.

QUICK RECAP

Welsh pronunciation has unique sounds, including specific vowel and consonant combinations. Remember to focus on stress patterns and diphthongs for clearer speech.