

Mini-Lesson: Hungarian Pronunciation Training

How It Works

What you'll find below is a list of pairs of similar-sounding words and their pronunciation.

In English, these would be words like *pay vs. bay*, *be vs. bee*, *mass vs. mars*, or *dessert vs. desert*.

You have also downloaded separate audio files for each word. We've named each file according to the corresponding word.

You can pull them all into your preferred audio player, click shuffle play and guess which word you hear.

This will train your ear to the fine nuances of the language.

Word List

adok – adók (I give – taxes)

állam – alom – álom (state – bed (for animals) – dream)

borsot – borsòt (pepper(acc.) – pea(acc.))

budi – bugyi (colloq. for toilet – knicker)

csípés – csípős (sting (n.) – spicy)

doboz – toboz (box – fir cone)

elvesz – elvész – élvez (to take away – to get lost – to enjoy)

épen – éppen (unhurtly – right now, at that moment)

fog – fok (will (v.), tooth – step, tier)

hagy – hogy (to leave – that (conj.))

hitem – hittem (my belief – I believed)

ijed – ilyet (to get scared – such thing)

kerek – kerék – kérek (round – wheel – I'd like to have...)

kéz – kész (hand – finished, ready)

látom – láttam (I see, I saw)

menni – mennyi (to go – how much)

méhen – mélyen (on the bee – deeply)

mondat – mondod – mondott (sentence – you say – he/she/it said)

nèz – nèzz (to look – look (2nd pers. sing. imp.))

örülök – őrlök (I'm happy – I'm going crazy)

savas – szavas (acidic – with words)

sértés – sértés (pork – insult)

sok – sokk (many – shock)

szár – zár (stem (of a flower) – to lock)

szervez – szerves (to organize – organic)

szervezet – szervezett (organism, system – organized)

szülök – szülők (I'm giving birth – parents)

talál – tálal (to find – to serve (food))

tiszta – tészta (clean – pasta, noodles)

ujj – új (finger – new)

varr – vár (to sew – to wait, fortress)

ver – vér (to beat, blood)