



Teacher's Guide for NativeAccent Version 1.6 (NativeAccent Web)

revised June 11, 2008

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Teachers Guide for Carnegie Speech NativeAccent Web

I. Setting up a user account

Go to URL for NativeAccent as advised by Carnegie Speech:

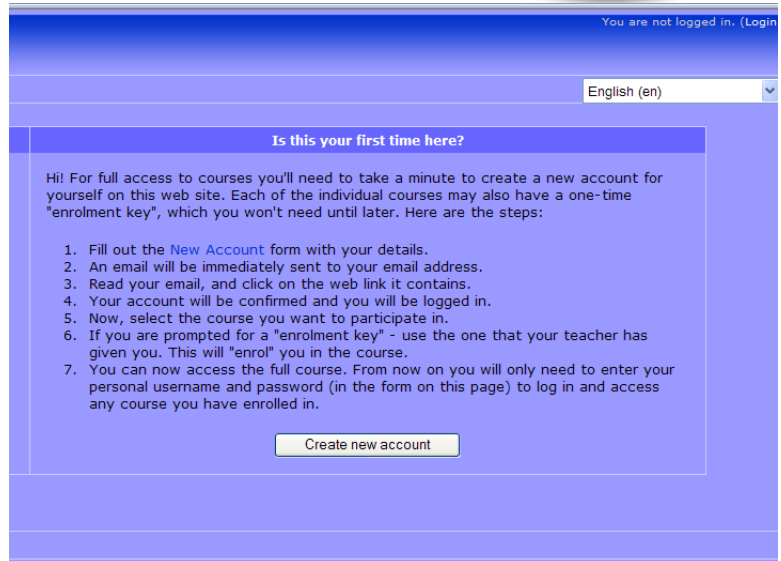
<http://nativeaccentasia.CarnegieSpeech.com> - used for India, Philippines, Singapore and other Asian Countries

<http://nativeaccent.carnegiespeech.com> – for all other countries. You will be advised by Carnegie Speech which server to use.

NOTE: The text on the webpage is available in 63 Languages. The user can select their native language from the drop-down box on right side of this page.



2. Click "Create New Account"



You are not logged in. (Login)

English (en)

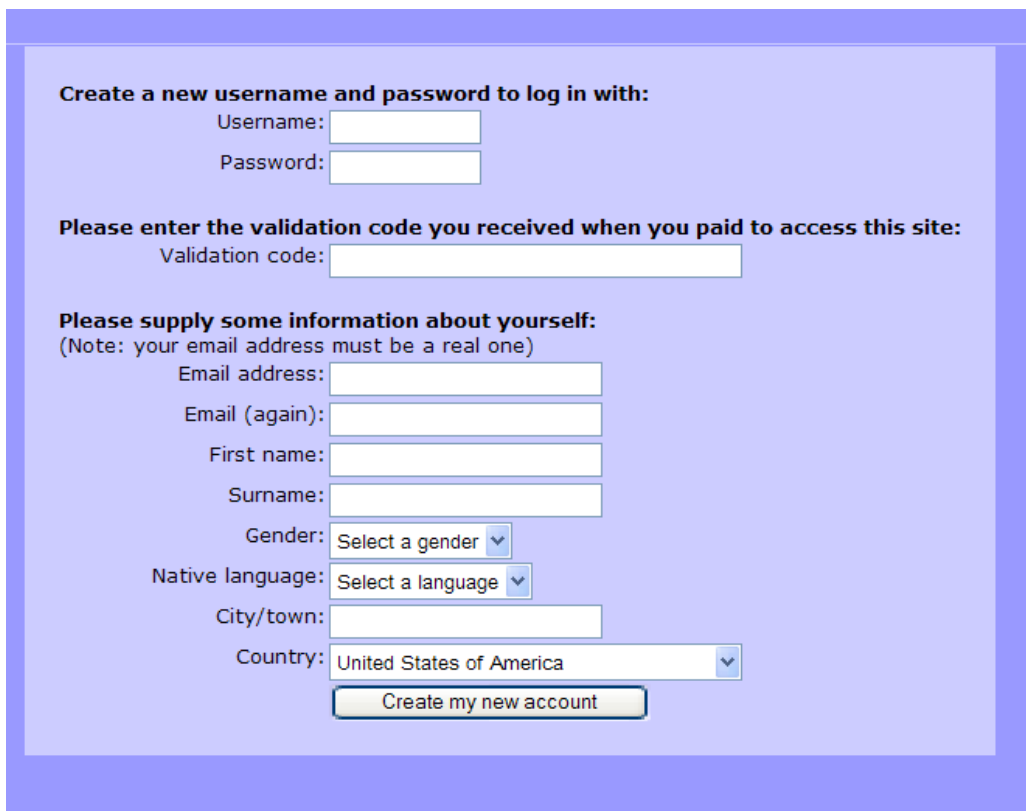
Is this your first time here?

Hi! For full access to courses you'll need to take a minute to create a new account for yourself on this web site. Each of the individual courses may also have a one-time "enrolment key", which you won't need until later. Here are the steps:

1. Fill out the [New Account](#) form with your details.
2. An email will be immediately sent to your email address.
3. Read your email, and click on the web link it contains.
4. Your account will be confirmed and you will be logged in.
5. Now, select the course you want to participate in.
6. If you are prompted for a "enrolment key" - use the one that your teacher has given you. This will "enrol" you in the course.
7. You can now access the full course. From now on you will only need to enter your personal username and password (in the form on this page) to log in and access any course you have enrolled in.

[Create new account](#)

3. The user creates their own username and password. They then complete the web form with their information. Click "Create my new account"



Create a new username and password to log in with:

Username:

Password:

Please enter the validation code you received when you paid to access this site:

Validation code:

Please supply some information about yourself:
(Note: your email address must be a real one)

Email address:

Email (again):

First name:

Surname:

Gender:

Native language:

City/town:

Country:

[Create my new account](#)

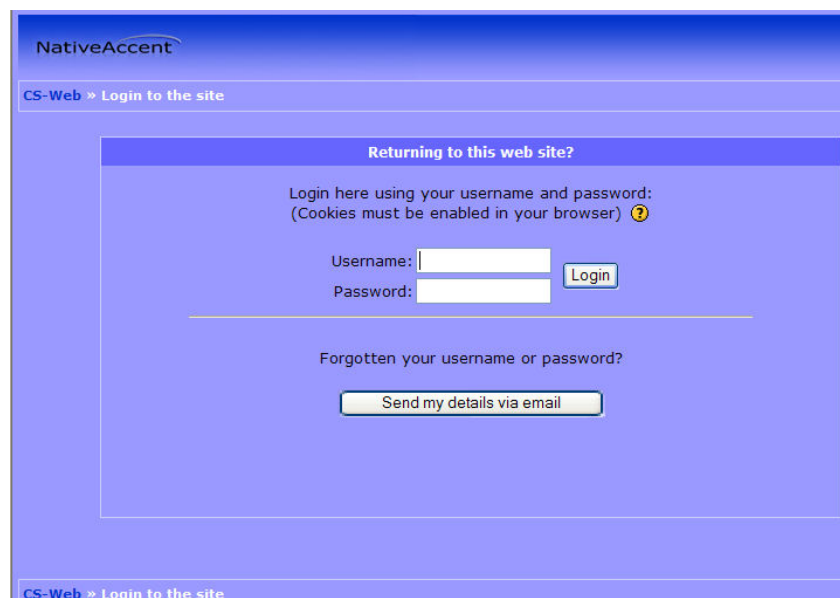
If a person's Native Language is not shown, contact Carnegie Speech and we can suggest a language that approximates the person's Native Language. If a person

doesn't have an email suggest using a gmail or mailinator.com to create alternative email. (See Help at the end of this section)

4. A registration confirmation link is sent to the user's email. (Some corporate filters may inadvertently route the registration to Junk Mail, so check that file if you haven't received a confirmation email.) Click on embedded link near bottom of the page

| |
|---|
| <p>No. of Authorized Users: One License Expiration Date: 20 Hours of use To confirm your new account, please go to this web address: http://NativeAccentWeb.CarnegieSpeech.com/myClassrom/login/confirm</p> |
|---|

5. Return to NativeAccent URL and sign-in with the username and password that you created in Step 3.



A user may see a number of classes from which to choose. The user is enrolled in one of these classes and the teacher should have provided them with the classname and if necessary the "key code".

6. Note: Cookies must be enabled for this program to work correctly. Cookies are a feature of the browser, for example Internet Explorer, Firefox, or Safari. *If the program does not load normally*, check the help menu in the browser to ensure that session cookies are being accepted. Company firewalls or other security settings could affect cookies. Refer to the documentation for these programs if they are present.

7. NativeAccent Web is delivered via Macromedia Flash. If the browser does not have the flash plug-in, you can download it at <http://www.adobe.com/products/flashplayer/>

This will complete the Account set-up.

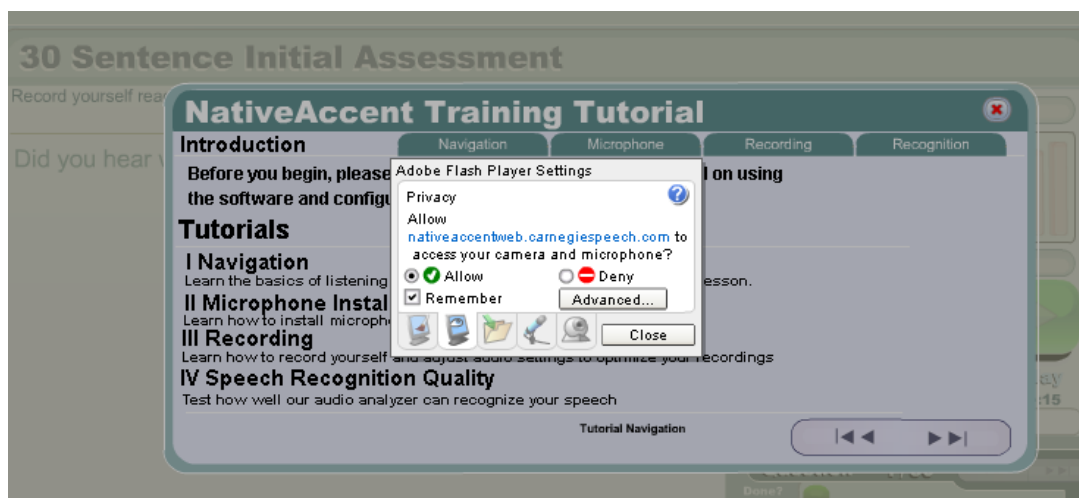
II. Setting up Teacher Account

Go to NativeAccent URL and sign-in with the username and password given you by Carnegie Speech. Refer to section IV, Teacher reports for details o how to access and analyze student and class results.

III. Using Carnegie Speech NativeAccent - User Training

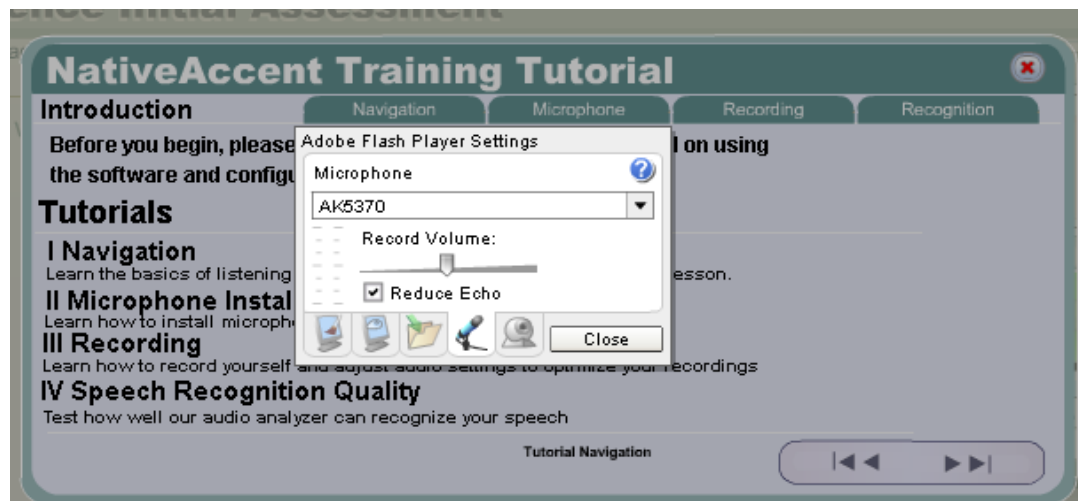
Carnegie Speech has developed a tutorial so that you will be successful using their software. Please follow these steps to begin.

1. Click on the link under the heading MY COURSES on the main menu
2. Click on the linked Topic **Assessment**
 - An Adobe Flash Player Settings box will open. Please click "Allow" and "Remember" to enable the microphone to operate with Flash. Click Close when finished.



3. Use the menu tabs and arrow buttons in the **NativeAccent Training Tutorial** to learn about lesson navigation and set microphone recording levels.

- The **Microphone** recording tutorial is very important to generating good recordings in the assessment and in the following exercises. Make sure that the levels are in the "green zone". Adjust the microphone level using the slider bar or by moving the microphone closer to or farther away from your mouth.
- If this does not produce acceptable results (the meter registering in the "green zone" when speaking normally), right click anywhere in the Flash window and click on the microphone icon in the Adobe Flash Player Settings (shown in the following illustration), and adjust the levels there.



If the computer microphone still does not operate properly, refer to the computer's operating system "help" documentation under "Adjust Audio Properties".

Click on the **Recording Tab** to confirm that the computer can hear you. Click on the **Recognition Tab** and read the longer sentence.

4. Close the Training Tutorial using the red "X" in the upper right corner of the tutorial window

III. Using Carnegie Speech NativeAccent - language assessment and instruction

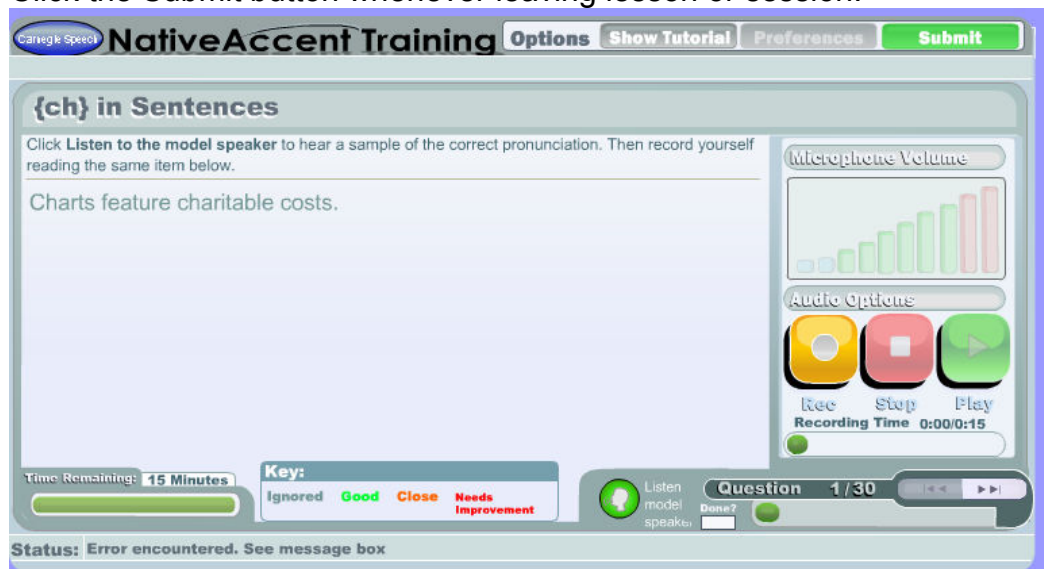
Begin the Assessment by clicking the record button and speak the focus sentence into the microphone. Make sure that the sound levels are in the "green zone". If needed, adjust the microphone level by moving the microphone closer to or farther away from your mouth. Complete the Assessment by recording all 30 sentences. Users have two opportunities to record each sentence.

Upon completion of the assessment, there are two learning paths; the Intelligent Tutor in Topic Outline 2 or a directed learning path using Topics 3 and 4. The instructor should advise the students which topic they should begin following the assessment.

Course Selection Options

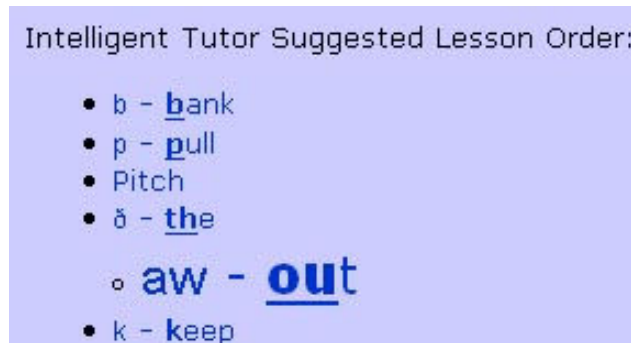
By selecting the **Intelligent Tutor** from the main TOPIC OUTLINE 2, the system presents lessons based on assessment scores. The Intelligent Tutor ranks user's abilities, beginning with their lowest score. Therefore it is recommended that they take the lessons in the order presented.

- Each lesson is designed to take about 15 minutes.
- Follow the lesson path! The benefits of "cross training" on a number of skills accrue faster than training in isolation.
- If user leaves a lesson for a short period of time, there is no need to log out or submit their results. The system will only track actual instructional and practice time.
- Click the Submit button whenever leaving lesson or session.

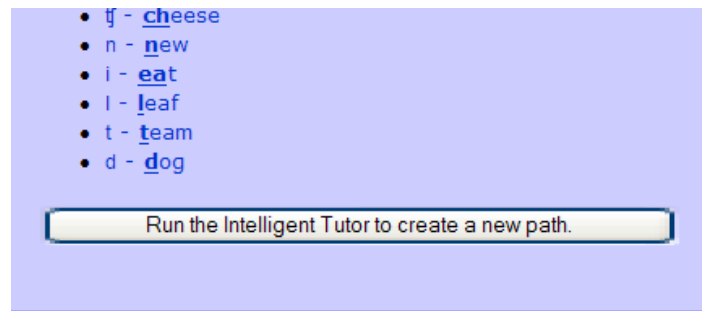


If a user leaves the lesson without clicking **SUBMIT** their scores and times are not saved. Encourage students to get into the habit of clicking **SUBMIT**.

- User progress is bookmarked; to resume learning, click on the Intelligent Tutor. The user's list of exercises is displayed. The bookmark is shown in a larger, and bolder, typeface.



- Only after completing ALL the lessons in the Intelligent Tutor, click on “Run the Intelligent Tutor to create a new path.” The computer will recalibrate the user's lesson plan based on their level of improvement.



Directed Learning Lessons in Topics 3 and 4 will be assigned by the instructor. When the student logs back in to Topics 3 and 4, there is no bookmarking. To see the last lesson, click on Activity Reports>All Logs. Scroll down until to the first lesson. The screen below shows that the last lesson was “b – bank.”

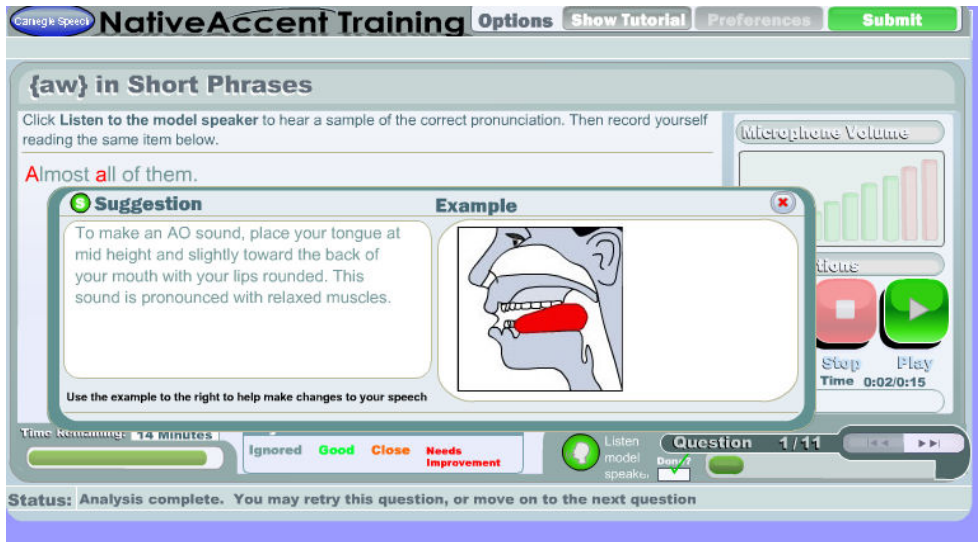
Page: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 (Next)

| Time | IP Address | Full name | Action | Information |
|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Thu 24 April 2008, 07:05 PM | 204.194.30.9 | Carlton Ketchum | course user report | Carlton Ketchum |
| Thu 24 April 2008, 07:05 PM | 204.194.30.9 | Carlton Ketchum | course user report | Carlton Ketchum |
| Thu 24 April 2008, 07:05 PM | 204.194.30.9 | Carlton Ketchum | course view | NativeAccent Course |
| Thu 24 April 2008, 06:16 PM | 204.194.30.9 | Carlton Ketchum | flash view | b - bank |
| Thu 24 April 2008, 06:16 PM | 204.194.30.9 | Carlton Ketchum | course view | NativeAccent Course |

When leaving a Directed Learning lesson, click on **SUBMIT**.

Prescriptive Advice

When focus of a lesson is below the expected threshold, NativeAccent pinpoints the error. In the example below, the **aw** is incorrectly voiced. A student may compare how they said the phrase with a model speaker. They can also read the suggestion on how to correctly make the sound. The graphic shows articulator locations. **If a student clicks on the graphic**, they will hear one or two words that demonstrate the sound. In this example, they might hear “aw as in hot and in odd”.

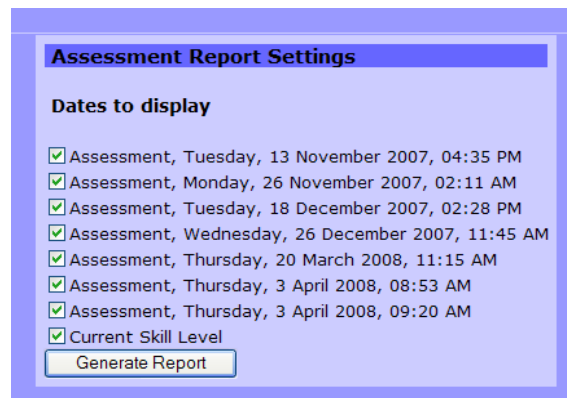


IV. Using Carnegie Speech NativeAccent - Progress Reports

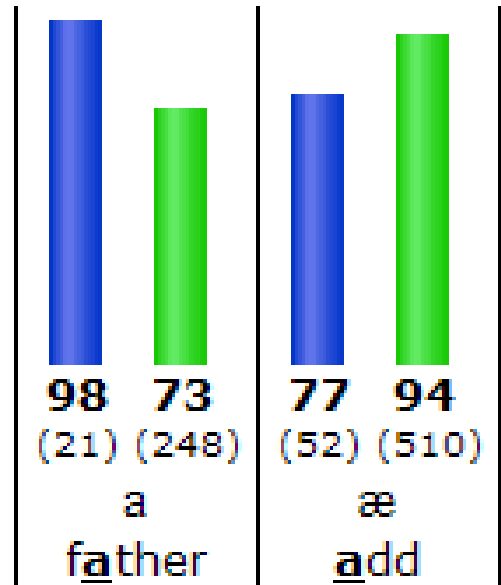
Progress Reports – User Accessible

A user can evaluate their progress by selecting "Grades" at the main instructional menu. This report shows how the user's pronunciation of each sound of English has progressed.

By selecting the assessments taken and comparing them with the current skill level, the user can see how well they are maintaining their fluency.



In this example, the initial Assessment (the blue bar), shows there was a 98% expected probability of correct pronunciation of the "a" as in **father** based on an analysis of 21 samples of that sound. The CURRENT (the green bar) expected probability of correct pronunciation is 73% based an analysis on 248 samples of that sound (the total recorded to date).

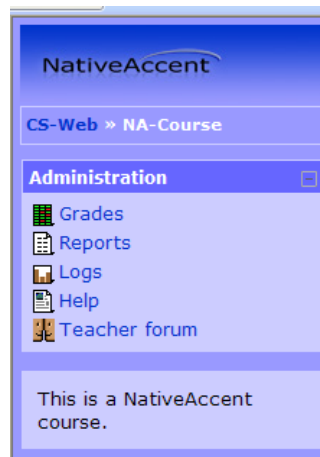


A user can review their overall progress by selecting "Activities" at the main instructional menu. The "Complete" report is self explanatory.

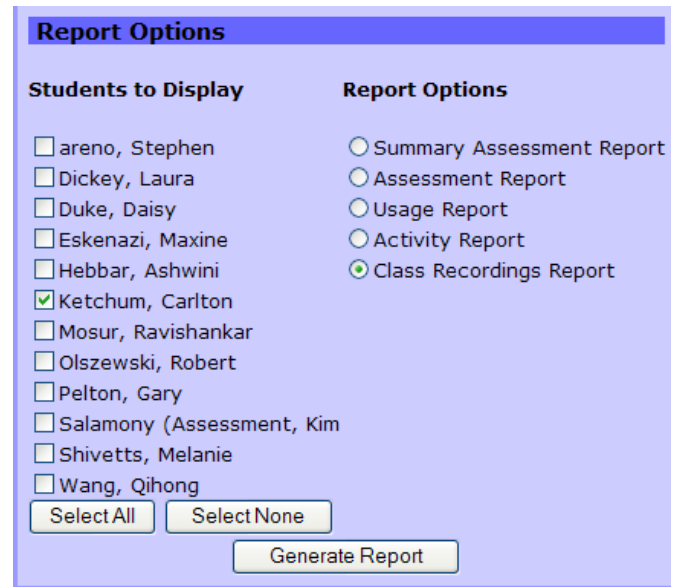
Teacher Accessible Reports

Teacher privileges are assigned by the Carnegie Speech Administrator. Teachers receive a user name and password from the Carnegie Speech Administrator.

To view the class and student performance, click on Reports in the Administration window. (Clicking Grades shows the teacher's own performance on the assessment and lessons.)



The teacher can view a series of reports on an individual student, a group of students or the entire class.

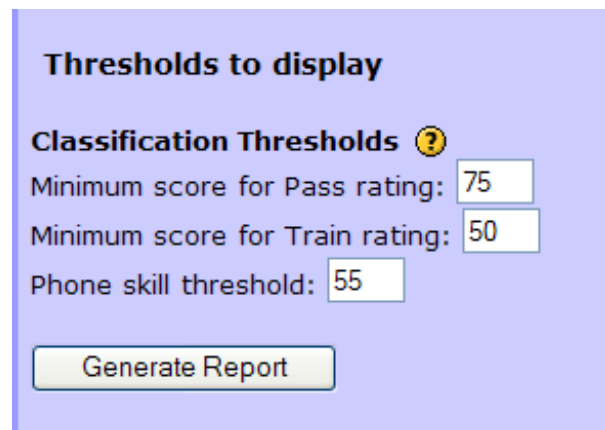


The Summary Assessment Report

The Summary Assessment Report classifies students into 3 categories, Pass, Train or Fail. The teacher can adjust the thresholds to create different groupings.

Enter the Phone Skill Threshold

The Classification happens in two phases. First each phoneme (phone) is classified as Pass/Fail. If a phone's aggregate skill is above the Threshold, then it is marked Pass, otherwise it is marked Fail. Lowering this value makes it easier for a user to be classified as passing the assessment. It also tends to blur the distinction between good and poor users.



Enter the Classification thresholds

The second phase of the classification is comparing the percentage of passing phones to the thresholds in this section. The percentage of passing phones is calculated by counting all the phones under consideration that passed by the criteria in the previous section, and dividing that number of passing phones by the total number of phones under consideration.



If the percentage of passing phones is greater or equal to the threshold in “Min score for Pass”, then the user is categorized as passing the assessment.

If the percentage of passing phones is greater or equal to the threshold in “Min score for Train” but less than the “Min score for Pass”, then the user is categorized as passing the assessment, but needing some training.

If the percentage of passing phones is lower than the threshold in “Min score for Train” the user is categorized as failing the assessment.

In the following example, Carlton Ketchum is rated a “Fail” as only 10 or 38 (26%) phonemes were rated pass, Ravishankar Mosur is rated a “Pass” as 33 of 38 (87%) phonemes were rated pass and Qihong Wang is rated “Train” having 20 of 38 (53%) were rated pass.

| Summary Assessment Report for All Phones created on May 4, 2008 | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--|----------------------|
| Name | Date/Time | Articulation Score | Assessment Results | Problematic Phones | Assessment Report |
| Ketchum, Carlton | Friday, 2 May 2008, 01:38 AM | 10/38 | Fail | Below Train Threshold | View |
| Mosur, Ravishankar | Wednesday, 14 November 2007, 06:02 PM | 33/38 | Pass | k - <u>keep</u> l - <u>leaf</u> oy - <u>moist</u> θ - <u>thick</u> ʒ - <u>vision</u> | View |
| Wang, Qihong | Wednesday, 14 November 2007, 04:37 PM | 20/38 | Train | æ - <u>add</u> b - <u>bank</u> d - <u>dog</u> ð - <u>the</u> g - <u>ghost</u> ... | View |

| |
|---|
| Passed Assessment; No training needed |
| Passed Assessment; Needs moderate training |
| Failed Assessment; Needs intensive training |

[Problematic Phones Report](#)

To view the individual’s assessment report showing the percentages for each phoneme, click on View under Assessment Report on the right of the screen. To view what phonemes that were below threshold, click on Problematic Phones Report at the bottom of the screen.

Assessment Report

The Assessment Report shows the selected student’s scores on a phoneme by phoneme basis. A teacher can select to view initial assessments, interim assessments and current skill levels.

Report Options

- Summary Assessment Report
- Assessment Report
- Usage Report
- Activity Report

Usage Report

The usage report shows the amount of time a student has spent studying and how much time remains in the course.

Usage Report created on May 4, 2008

| Name | Total Time | Time Used | Time Remaining |
|------------------|------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Fulton, Kyle | 20 hours | 0 hours 1 minute | 19 hours 59 minutes |
| Ketchum, Carlton | 20 hours | 5 hours 32 minutes | 14 hours 28 minutes |
| Wang, Qihong | 20 hours | 0 hours | 20 hours |

Activity Report

This report shows when a user accessed an exercise, the amount of time spent and a raw average pass rate. This raw average pass rate should not be confused with probability of correct pronunciation. The raw average refers scoring within the lesson, for example the sh in ship, whereas the probability contains measurements of the sh in ship outside of the lesson.

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-----|
| ʃ - ship | Wednesday, 26 December 2007, 11:12 AM | 3 mins 24 secs | 86% |
| | Tuesday, 15 April 2008, 09:04 AM | 2 days 15 hours | 0% |
| | Totals | 2 days 15 hours | 43% |
| t - team | Wednesday, 26 December 2007, 11:16 AM | 9 mins 25 secs | 75% |
| | Totals | 9 mins 25 secs | 75% |
| θ - thick | Tuesday, 18 December 2007, 02:30 PM | 43 secs | 0% |
| | Wednesday, 26 December 2007, 11:11 AM | 58 secs | 0% |
| | Thursday, 14 February 2008, 03:06 AM | 1 min 39 secs | 0% |
| | Monday, 24 March 2008, 04:23 PM | 5 mins 43 secs | 60% |
| | Thursday, 3 April 2008, 08:56 AM | 1 min 32 secs | 0% |
| | Totals | 10 mins 35 secs | 12% |

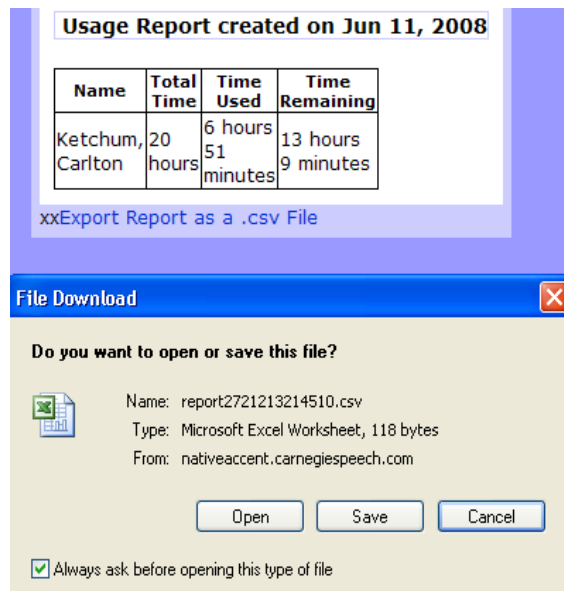
Class Recording Report

You can playback a user's recording by clicking on "Class Recording Report". Select the person(s) whose recordings you want to hear. You can select recordings by phrase or by date. Note you may need to download and .flv player to listen to the recordings. A link to an .flv player is at the bottom of the report page.

Downloading reports

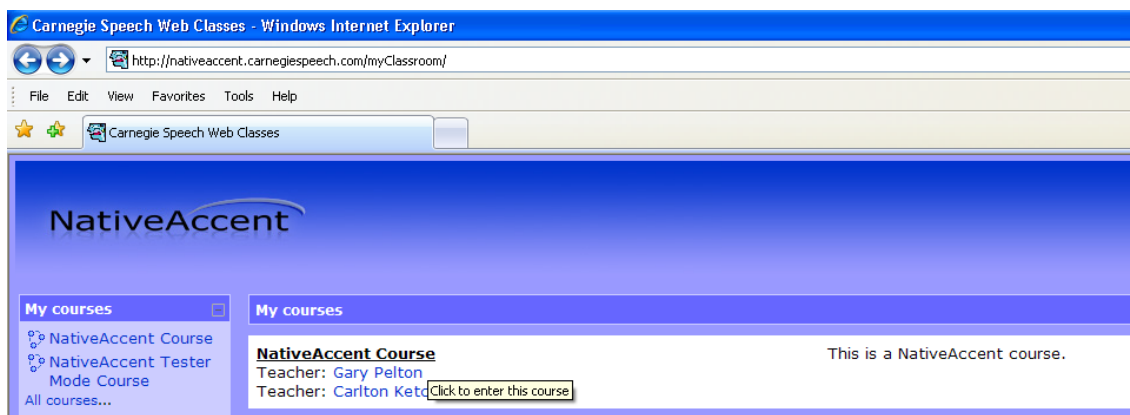
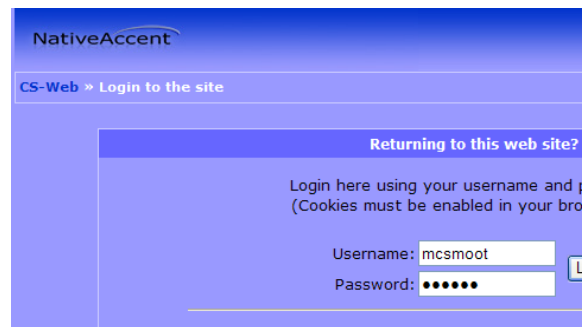
Teachers have the ability to download most reports to .csv format. To convert to Microsoft Excel format

- Export Report as a .csv file
- Click Open in File Download
- Open .csv file and click File>Save As> (Chose the location of where you want to save the file) and chose “Save As Type” Microsoft Excel Workbook .xls



V. Returning to NativeAccent

1. Go to <http://NativeAccent.CarnegieSpeech.com> or unique url created by Carnegie Speech
2. Enter Username and password
3. Click on your course





4. Go to Topic 2, Intelligent Tutor or the lesson specified by the instructor.

Help

If you have reviewed this guide, and have still been unable to use the program successfully, please write an email to support@carnegiespeech.com describing your issue. Please include your contact phone number(s), your time zone, and the best time to reach you. Emails requesting support will be answered as soon as possible, usually within 2 business days. Phone support is available from 9:00 AM to 5:00PM EDT. Please call 888-786-0606 (Toll Free US & Canada) or 1 -412- 223-2286 outside of North America.

Gmail Mailinator.com

If a person does not have an email assigned to them, they can set up a gmail or mailinator account. mailinator.com allows them to set up a temporary email account. When asked for an email address during the login process, they can type in a unique name followed by @mailinator.com. They then go to www.mailinator.com and login with their email address@mailinator.com. They will then see their inbox and the welcome email.

Equipment

To use the application, you will need a headset and computer with Microsoft 2000/XP/Vista or Apple (PowerPC or Intel processor) with OSX operating systems. A USB headset is recommended, however a less expensive analog headset with microphone should be satisfactory if supported on your computer. The headset should be connected before you launch the Carnegie Speech program. Place the microphone about 2 inches from your mouth and slightly below to avoid distortion from the air being projected from your mouth during speech.

Secrets of Success

- Always perform a brief sound level check before beginning a lesson
 - Click "Show Tutorial" and open the **Microphone** recording tutorial. Make sure that the levels are in the "green zone". Adjust the microphone level using the slider bar or by moving the microphone closer to or farther away from your mouth.
 - While still in the Tutorial, Click on the **Recording Tab** to confirm that your computer can hear you. Click on the **Recognition Tab** and read the longer sentence.



- Right click anywhere in the Flash (Lesson) window and click on the microphone icon in the Adobe Flash Player Settings and adjust the levels there
- Hands OFF the microphone boom!
- Briefly pause before beginning recording.

| NativeAccent Troubleshooting Guide | | |
|--|--|--|
| Problem | Issue | Resolution |
| Error messages: "too loud" or "too soft" | Microphone not adjusted properly | 1. Redo the "Microphone" and "Recording" sections of "My Tutorial" 2. Check the "Allow" and "Remember" flash settings |
| No playback of recording | Microphone not adjusted properly | 1. Redo the "Microphone" and "Recording" sections of "My Tutorial" 2. Check the "Allow" and "Remember" flash settings |
| No playback of recording | Speaker volume too low | 1. Increase the speaker volume |
| No playback of recording (for headsets with pin connections) | Headset speaker plug not plugged in to laptop speaker jack | 1. Make sure the headset speaker plug is plugged in to the laptop speaker jack |
| Can not find assessment grades | Grade reporting functionality is unclear | 1. Under "Grades" select the desired assessment and click "Generate Report" |
| Did not receive validation code | Validation code not received | 1. Check validation code list and resend the code |
| Did not receive confirmation email | Confirmation email considered to be spam | 1. Check spam and bulk folders; add carnegiespeech.com to whitelist 2. Change user's email address to another email provider |
| Did not receive or lost confirmation email | Confirmation email deleted or misplaced | 1. Go to website and click "Send my Details via Email" and wait for email to arrive |
| No information provided by the Intelligent Tutor | Did not take or finish the assessment | 1. Take the assessment and make sure to click "Submit" at the end |
| No information provided by the Intelligent Tutor | Did not run the intelligent tutor | 1. Click "Run the Intelligent Tutor to create a new path" |
| The url www.nativeaccent.carnegiespeech.com does not work | Wrong url | 1. The correct url is nativeaccent.carnegiespeech.com or nativeaccentasia.carnegiespeech.com |



| NativeAccent Troubleshooting Guide | | |
|---|---|--|
| Problem | Issue | Resolution |
| The url www.nativeaccentasia.carnegiespeech.com does not work | Wrong url | 1. The correct url is nativeaccent.carnegiespeech.com or nativeaccentasia.carnegiespeech.com |
| Email address used to register is forgotten | Carnegie Speech support needed | 1. Send email to support@carnegiespeech.com |
| Completed training does not appear in reports | Submit not clicked | 1. Click "Submit" at the end of each activity to record training |
| Microphone reported as muted by flash application | Microphone not adjusted properly | 1. Redo the "Microphone" and "Recording" sections of "My Tutorial" 2. Check the "Allow" and "Remember" flash settings |
| Microphone reported as muted by flash application | Headset plugged in after starting flash application | 1. Refresh the browser |
| Error message: Connection to Audio Analyzer timed out | Poor internet connectivity | 1. Try the recording again |
| Error message: Connection to Audio Analyzer timed out | Carnegie Speech support needed | 1. Send email to support@carnegiespeech.com |
| Error message: Your speech did not match the speech of our model speaker | Speech recognizer did not understand what was recorded | 1. Try speaking a bit slower 2. Try pausing a moment after clicking "record" and before clicking "stop" |
| Can not load nativeaccent.carnegiespeech.com url | Carnegie Speech support needed | 1. Send email to support@carnegiespeech.com |
| Can not load nativeaccentasia.carnegiespeech.com url | Carnegie Speech support needed | 1. Send email to support@carnegiespeech.com |