

20./r/ run

The tongue lies relaxed on the bottom of the mouth with only the tip raised towards the alveolar ridge. Now move the tip rapidly downwards so that it just brushes very briefly against the ridge and resumes its former position, at the same time expelling a little air and vibrating the vocal cords.

PRACTICE

A. roar run red roof rice rubbish rabbit river

B. silent /r/

ca(r) fu(r) nea(r) poo(r) ha(r)m
bi(r)d tu(r)n sho(r)t fie(r)ce i(r)on

C. Which is the speaker saying? /l/ or /r/?

1. I must remember to collect/correct the papers before tomorrow.
2. Glamour/Grammar is all she lives for.
3. The pilot/pirate signalled that he was coming alongside.
4. I'm afraid I didn't bring the light/right suitcase.
5. My lodger's/Roger's a solicitor.

D. Say slowly, then faster and faster. Don't be afraid to exaggerate when saying /r/.

1. Right as rain.
2. Merry Christmas, everybody!
3. Red as a beetroot.
4. Ring-a-ring o' roses.
5. Run rabbit, run rabbit, run, run, run.

E. Here are a few minimal pairs with /l/ and /r/ for you to practice. There are lots and lots. How many can you think of?

1. flog frog
2. bleed breed
3. belly berry
4. long wrong
5. fly fry
6. glow grow

Answers: 1. collect 2. grammar 3. pirate 4. right 5. lodger's