



How To Talk About The Coronavirus In English

Vocabulary, Pronunciation, Example Sentences with Accent's Way English with Hadar



Transcript

Read the transcript. Underline the words you don't know. Watch the video and read along with the transcript.

Hey there! It's Hadar, and this is the Accent's Way. Welcome to my channel. Today we're going to talk about the Coronavirus.

What is up with the world? What is up with the world? Climate change, political craziness, fires in Australia, financial crises in South America... And now, this – the Coronavirus. As if that's just one more thing that we need to deal with.

By the way, I hope that by the time you're watching this, this is no more than a distant memory. But if you happen to be watching this as I released this video, then you know this is on today's agenda. It's all around the news. The entire world is taking precautions, and there are a lot of restrictions, and people are talking about it.

And the reason why I'm making this video is because I want you to get into this conversation because at the end of the day, the Corona shall pass too, but we'll always have English. And for those of you who are in self-quarantine watching this, I hope that it will pass really quickly and you'll be back into your normal life soon. So, let's get started.

Okay, so what we're going to do today is we're going to learn how to pronounce a few key words in this topic, first of all, 'Coronavirus'. And then we're going to talk about how to use them in a sentence. Okay?

So, the name of the virus and the beer is 'Corona'. We start with a K sound, then it's a schwa – "kuh", "row" – "ow" as in 'go', "kuh-row". And then "nuh", "nuh" – "kuh-row-nuh".

Then we add to it 'virus'. We have a schwa here, if you can hear. "vai", "ai" as in 'my', and then "r's". Round your lips for the R, a schwa sound and an S – "kuh-row-nuh vai-r's". 'Coronavirus'.

When we talk about Corona, we talk about the outbreak of Corona. And outbreak is when something starts, like a disease or a fight in a certain area. It starts all of a sudden. Outbreak. "awt-breik". And here you can say something like, "Have you heard about the Corona outbreak in Washington state?" Okay?

The thing about the virus is that it's very contagious. Contagious, is that it is passed from one person to another rather easily. Contagious. Here you pronounce it with a K sound at the beginning, a schwa, and an N – "k'n" "k'n", there is no O. Then "tei", that's the primary stress. "k'n-tei", and then "j's" "j's" – a 'j' sound, a schwa and an S. "k'n-tei-j's", "k'n-tei-j's". The Coronavirus is really contagious.

When people get the Coronavirus, when they get infected, they contract the virus. "To contract the virus". Contract. K sound, and then a schwa and an N, just like contagious, it's the same beginning – "k'n". And then "chrakt". TR, which turns into a "ch" sound, and then the A as in 'cat'. "k'n-chrakt". You end with a K sound and a T – "k'n-chrakt".

Make sure that you don't add any vowels between the K and the T – "k'n-chraKT" – if it's hard for you to connect consonants at the end. And don't drop that T either – "k'n-chrakT". "k'n-chrakt".

I know that some people hold that T, so you'll hear something like "k'n-chrak". But if you're a non-native speaker and you tend to drop consonants at the end, go ahead and release that T, like there is no tomorrow. 'Contract'. Maybe there is no tomorrow with everything that is going on, I don't know.

Now, there are a lot of restrictions in many different countries. Restrictions. Let's talk about this word. "ris": an R sound, round your lips, it's a relaxed "i", "ris". "chri" – another TR/"ch" sound – "ris-chrik-sh'nz": a SH sound, an N, and a, Z.

Now there are a lot of restrictions that health departments or governments, uh, put on their citizens. Like, you can't travel from one place to another. If you've come from this or that country, you need to go into self-quarantine, no foreigners are allowed into the country. So there is a lot going on, right?

And there are a lot of restrictions. But it's only because they're taking precautions. 'Precautions' are measures that people or governments take in order to prevent something dangerous from happening. Right? So it's just making sure it doesn't happen by doing this, this, and that, putting all these restrictions on people or countries or airlines. Okay?

'Precautions'. "pruh", that's a P, and an R, and a schwa. "pruh" "pruh", round your lips for the R. "kaa" -a K sound, then the 'aa' as in 'father'. "pruh-kaa-sh'n" or "sh'nz", in plural. It's a SH sound, an N and a Z: "pruh-kaa-sh'nz", "pruh-kaa-sh'nz". And whether you agree with it or not, you still have to follow it.

Now, if you're in self-quarantine, you are probably waiting to see if there are symptoms of the disease, right? Symptoms, that means that you start sneezing or coughing or you get fever, or you feel sick and you have body aches, right? All of these things happen to you when you get sick, and those are the symptoms.

'Symptoms'. Well, there is a P there, but you don't have to pronounce it. So let's talk about how to pronounce this word. "sim": it's an S sound, relaxed "i", and then an M – "sim", a silent P, and then "t'mz". "sim [p] -t'mz".

Technically, you could say "simp-t'mz", "simp-t'mz", but English is a lazy language. So when there's a chunk of consonants, a constant cluster where there is a sequence of consonants, and in the middle there is a stop sound like a P – in this case, you can drop it. "sim-t'mz", if it's easier for you.

If it's harder for you and you want to keep the P, keep the P. Okay? "sim-t'mz" or "simp-t'mz". But make it subtle, small, tiny, just like the Coronavirus. 'Symptoms'.

Now, the way to deal with the outbreak is by keeping the virus contained. 'Contained'. A lot of words beginning with "k'n" "k'n". 'Congratulations' – another word with "k'n". 'Contained', that means kept in an enclosed place, right? So it's not passing between countries. Contained, contained.

I think that's a little too late, but people want to keep it contained. "k'n", and then 'teind": a T sound, "ei" as in 'day', and then N. You end it with a D – "k'n-teind", if you talk about it in the past form, or passive form. "k'n-teind".

Now, Coronavirus doesn't have a cure, but people and companies are working on a vaccine, developing a vaccine. To pronounce 'vaccine', you start with a V sound, then the A as in 'cat' – "vak" "vak", a K sound, and then "seen", as "I've seen you before". "seen" – a high E. "vak-seen".

Now, another problem of this whole Coronavirus business is that a part of it being a @#\$%, it also triggers xenophobia. "x [i] nophobia" or "x [e] nophobia" is fear of the other or hatred towards the other.

Obviously, it started somewhere in Asia, but the thing is that it could have happened anywhere. Throughout histories we had diseases and epidemics starting in different places around the world: Europe and Africa and Asia and South America.

So it's not like the world is safe as long as you isolate yourself. This time it started in Asia. And a lot of people, from what I hear from my community, have experienced racism and fear of the other because of their descent, because they come from an Asian descent.

So, this is just an opportunity for me to first, introduce you to this term, and second, to pay attention. And to pay attention to how you behave and how you talk about people who are of different culture. And let's not play the blame game because this could have happened anywhere. It happened now in Asia. Next time it will happen where you are from. Okay?

So, I'm just saying that come from love, and let's focus on sending healing energies to the entire world and all of the people who are sick. Rather than playing the anger game and blaming each other cause it doesn't help, and it definitely won't serve you on a personal level and on a universal level. Or an energetic level, or any level you might want to level it with.

Okay, that's it. Now I want you to share with us in the comments below how are you affected by the Coronavirus. Let us know. Did you have to cancel a trip? Did you have to go into self-quarantine? Did you get sick? Did they shut down the school system in your country?

Let's share it and listen to each other and support each other in the comments below. And I want you to see that you are not alone, but also to hear from real people and not just from social media and the news.

Thank you so much for watching. Again, I send you wishes of health and love. Have a beautiful week and I'll see you, hopefully, without a mask, in the next video.



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Gapfill

Complete the sentences using the words below.

coronavirus restrictions symptoms contained vaccine outbreak contagious contracted

1. Singapore was one of the first countries to put _____ on anyone with recent travel history to China and parts of South Korea.
2. Moon announced that the virus had been _____ in South Korea and predicted it would "disappear before long."
3. Currently, there is no cure or _____ for COVID-19.
4. Live updates: Spain reports 2,000 new _____ cases in 24 hours; travelers face hours-long delays at U.S. airports
5. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is responding to an _____ of respiratory disease caused by a novel (new) coronavirus that was first detected in China and which has now been detected in more than 100 locations internationally.
6. It takes five days on average for people to start showing the _____ of coronavirus, scientists have confirmed.
7. Some viruses are highly _____ (spread easily), like measles, while other viruses do not spread as easily.
8. As of March 10, 2020, more than 117,000 people have _____ the virus. Over 4,000 deaths have resulted from the disease.



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Quiz

1. An outbreak is _____.

- a.) when someone escapes from prison or jail.
- b.) when there's a sudden increase in the number of people getting sick with a particular disease.

2. A contagious virus or disease means _____.

- a.) it can be spread from person to person.
- b.) it is very sick.

3. If someone contracted the coronavirus, that means that he or she _____ the virus.

- a.) got
- b.) stayed away from

4. Because of COVID-19, many restrictions have been put on people. For example _____.

- a.) schools are distributing free bottles of hand sanitizer.
- b.) some countries are limiting travel and telling people to stay home.

5. To protect ourselves from catching or contracting COVID-19, there are several precautions that we can take. For example, we can _____.

- a.) avoid crowded places, wash our hands often, and don't shake hands or hug and kiss when you greet people.
- b.) purchase supplies such as toilet paper, napkins, and hand sanitizer.

6. Coronavirus symptoms include _____.

- a.) cough, difficulty breathing, runny nose, and fever
- b.) avoid touching your face, don't cough into your hands, and stay home if you are sick.

7. When an outbreak is contained, that means it _____.

- a.) isn't spreading
- b.) is out of control

8. True or False? "Vaccination is one of the most effective ways to prevent diseases. A vaccine helps the body's immune system fight viruses."

- a.) true
- b.) false