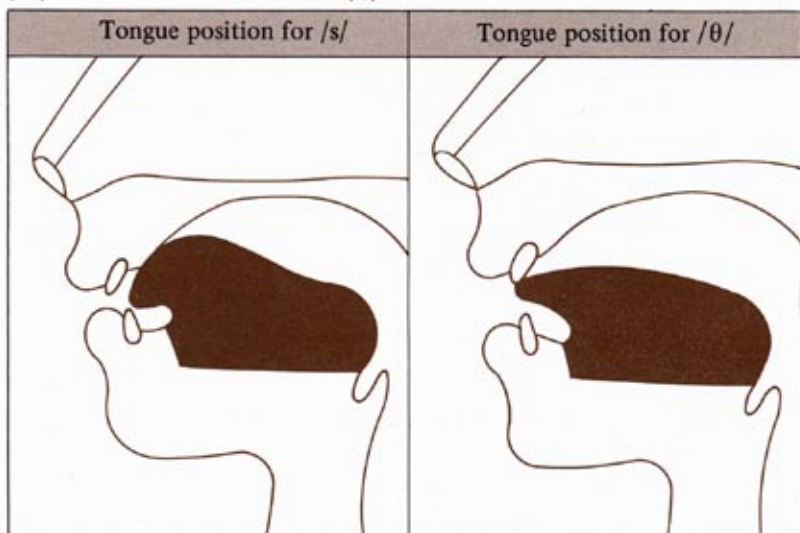


## 116 /θ/ CONTRASTED WITH /s/



/θ/は、日本人にとって発音しにくい音の一つである。そのために、SINK と THINK などの語は誤って発音されやすい。ここでは、/s/と/θ/を比較しながら練習する。/θ/の発音では舌を上歯の歯先に触れさせることが大切である。

Let's begin by reviewing the pronunciation of /θ/. Look at the diagram and repeat these words beginning with /θ/.

- |          |            |          |              |
|----------|------------|----------|--------------|
| 1. think | 3. thought | 5. thick | 7. thin      |
| 2. thing | 4. theme   | 6. thumb | 8. thank you |

Now repeat these words ending in /θ/.

- |          |          |         |
|----------|----------|---------|
| 1. teeth | 3. faith | 5. path |
| 2. mouth | 4. Smith | 6. moth |

Some Japanese speakers have trouble pronouncing and hearing the difference between /s/ and /θ/. Let's do some practice on this contrast.

*Repeat*

- |                 |                  |                        |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------------|
| 1. think – sink | 5. theme – seem  | 9. pass – path         |
| 2. sin – thin   | 6. sank – thank  | 10. myth – miss        |
| 3. thing – sing | 7. face – faith  | 11. moss – moth        |
| 4. sick – thick | 8. mouth – mouse | 12. youth – use /yuws/ |

Next, repeat some pairs of sentences.

1. Miss Smith is sinking. — Miss Smith is thinking.
2. His face is strong. — His faith is strong.
3. It's a good pass. — It's a good path.
4. It's a bit sick. — It's a bit thick.
5. What a nice mouse! — What a nice mouth!

Then, practice these trick sentences.

1. The theme seems thin.
2. That thing is too thick.
3. The cat has a mouse in its mouth.
4. Miss Smith has nice teeth.

The combination of /θ/ and /s/ in adjoining words also needs practice.

Repeat

1. The north side of town. /nɔrθ saɪd/
2. The south side of town.
3. Miss Smith sits here.
4. This thing is mine.
5. The boss thinks so.

➡ Now listen to a list of sentences spoken by the teacher. If a sentence has /s/, hold up one finger; if /θ/, hold up two fingers.

## 11 7 EXERCISES ON /s/ AND /θ/

### (a) Practice reading these numbers

- 6 = /sɪks/  
66 = /sɪkstɪj sɪks/  
666 = /sɪks hændrəd ən sɪkstɪj sɪks/  
6,666 = /sɪks θəʊsənd sɪks hændrəd ən sɪkstɪj sɪks/  
66,666 = /sɪkstɪj sɪks θəʊsənd sɪks hændrəd ən sɪkstɪj sɪks/

### (b) Practice and memorize this dialog

- S. 1 My sister got sick yesterday.  
S. 2 Which sister?  
S. 1 The sixteen-year-old.  
S. 2 Anything serious?  
S. 1 I don't think so. Something like a cold, maybe.