The following is a list of communication barriers, which includes non-words, commonly mispronounced words, common phrases of incorrect English, and other things that make you say, "Hmmmm".

Not included are those words that are colloquial (regional) such as a "bubbler" rather than a water fountain, non-words that are a product of an accent such as "pahk the cah", or non-words that are culturally based such as "Can I axe you a question?"

I am, however, still after more non-words, commonly mispronounced words, common phrases of incorrect English, and other things that make you say, "Hmmmm".

My classes and I have found that there is a continuum of fact and opinion. For example, route is sometimes pronounced “root” (although, I still maintain that it is incorrect, and that “root” is British-English). Some of these words may fall on this continuum of fact and opinion.

One other bit of info for your gee whiz collection is that the language spoken here in the US is officially known as the American language rather than the English. There is a difference. There are correct and incorrect ways of pronouncing words according to American English.

Please keep them coming! My students love these!
A Todd
Non Words

- Snuck should be Sneaked
- Expecially should be Especially
- Excape should be Escape
- Irregardless should be Regardless
- Anyways should be Anyway
- Orientated should be Oriented
- Funner should be More fun
- Sherbet not sherbert (only one r)
- Mischievious is actually mischievous (Without the extra i)
- Espresso is not expresso
- Undoubtedly not Undoubtably
- Things can be taken for granted, but not for granite
- Unthaw should be simply thaw. (Wouldn’t unthaw be to freeze?)
- Across not Acrossed
- Height not Heighth
- Flustrated should be Frustrated
- supposebly should be supposedly
- Alls (“Alls you need to do is”) should be All
- Fuller should be more full
- Squoze and squozen are not words
- Nuculer should be Nuclear
Commonly Mispronounced Words (According to American English)

- Aunt = Ant ("Ont" is British English)
- Colorado has no rod
- Nevada is not odd
- Oregon is not gone
- There is no noise in Illinois
- There is no sauce in Arkansas
- Prescott is not cut *Ask me about this one
- There is no Z in Boise
- TemPE not TEMpe
- Des Moines, the capitol of Iowa, the s’s are silent
- Alma (School Road) Alma as in Albert, not as in Almond
- Halloween is not Holloween (Old Hallows eve)
- Huge not Yuge
- Human not Yuman
- Route is not a root
Lazy Talk

- Mondee
- Tuesdee...

- F’nance should be Finance
- D’tail should be Detail
- R’search should be Research

Incorrect American English

- “There’s a lot”, “There’s a few” should be “There are a lot”, and “There are a few”.
  - Remember There is one, there are two or more.
- By accident not On accident
- Real heavy instead of Really heavy
- Saying “He came” when you are no longer where he went
- should have went
- “Bring this to school” should be “take this to school”.
- “I seen it” should be “I’ve seen it”.
- “I usta’ could” should be “I used to be able to”
- “We should of gone” should be “We should have gone”

Other Communication Barriers

- “Same difference” makes no sense
- “I could care less” makes no sense

- North is up, South is down, East and West are over