

ALESSANDRO: Hi everyone, Welcome to English Experts podcast number four. I'm your host Alessandro Brandão and today I have a special guest. Thank you for joining us again on our podcast. Let's get started!

ALESSANDRO: Hi everyone,

ALESSANDRO: My friend Adir is on a trip today, so I decided to look up an old friend to make a special podcast with my first online teacher, Mary Ziller. Actually, she is one of the original co-founders of English Experts. And I have a special gratitude to her.

ALESSANDRO: Hi, Mary Long time no see. What have you been doing lately?

MARY: Hi Alessandro! I've been learning about wikis and Moodle and have created several free worksheets for students in English.

ALESSANDRO: Great! We had a lot of messages responding to our last podcast. Lots of our readers asked me to record a podcast 100% in English.

ALESSANDRO: Marcos Humberto reported that he is sending our link to his friends and classmates.. Thank you, Marcos.

ALESSANDRO: Isabel Resende asked us to record a podcast everyday. It would be nice but we don't have that much time. Thanks, anyway.

ALESSANDRO: And last but not least, I would like to thank all our readers that send comments on every podcast episode.

ALESSANDRO: In regard to the first question a reader asked us, "What's the correct pronunciation of the word "vinte" twenty twenny?"

MARY: When you're reading very slowly and correctly, you would say 'twenty', and when you are talking normally, you'd say 'twenny'.

ALESSANDRO: Ah OK.

ALESSANDRO: Is there any difference between British pronunciation and American pronunciation?

MARY: I don't know (I dunno).

ALESSANDRO: Actually, I can say twentty and twenny in the USA.

MARY: Yes.

ALESSANDRO: Perfect.

ALESSANDRO: Zumstein asked us in the forum, "What's the correct pronunciation of the name of the singer Beyoncé?"

MARY: Um, according to David Letterman, it's pronounced Bee-YAHN-say, Bee-YAHN-say with the accent on the second syllable.

ALESSANDRO: Beyoncé.

MARY: Um hmm, good.

ALESSANDRO: I have another good question here. Could you tell us the correct pronunciation of either? Is it eether or aither? And Neither, is it neether or naither?

MARY: It depends on the region that you live in. In the United States you can use eether or aither or neether or naither.

ALESSANDRO: So, it depends on the region where I live.

MARY: Yes.

ALESSANDRO: Great.

ALESSANDRO: How can I distinguish the word 'can' against the work 'can't' in a sentence? I mean the pronunciation.

MARY: The word 'can' ends in an 'n' and the word can't ends in a either a glottal stop or a 't' depending on what follows afterwards. In youtube there's a wonderful teacher called Jenniferesl and she actually has a podcast just on that topic.

ALESSANDRO: Great. could you send me the link?

MARY: Yes.

ALESSANDRO: Mary, I know you are studying Portuguese. Do you think Portuguese is a hard language to learn?

MARY: I think that the verb tenses in Portuguese are the most difficult part of the language to learn. But I think that it is worth learning because you have beautiful poetry like Vinicius writes.

ALESSANDRO: Great.

ALESSANDRO: Uh, how have you been studying Portuguese?

MARY: Oh, I have a private teacher and I lived in Brazil for a couple months, and I've been watching Caminho das Indias, when it was running on television.

ALESSANDRO: Great. Great. So do you watch soap operas?

MARY: Yeah. Sometimes. I think that, uh, they're a very good way to learn a language. My Portuguese teacher told us that Brazilian soap operas are an effective tool for learning Portuguese. And I did that.

ALESSANDRO: I agree

ALESSANDRO: Leave a message to our readers that are learning English. What famous last words do you have for our readers?

MARY: Well, I think that you should never give up.

Don't quit

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all uphill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high,
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit--

Rest if you must, but **DON'T YOU QUIT**.

(anonymous poem)

ALESSANDRO: Great. wonderful words, Mary, Thank you very much for this interview.

Thank you for being such a good teacher all these years.

MARY: It was my pleasure, Alessandro. Thank you for interviewing me.

laughs

Have a good day

ALESSANDRO: Great. Uh,bye bye mary

See you soon.

MARY: bye

1 - <http://www.englishexperts.com.br/forum/a-pronuncia-de-twenty-seventy-etc-t8052.html>

2 - <http://www.englishexperts.com.br/forum/como-e-a-pronuncia-correta-de-beyonce-t8071.html>

3 - <http://www.englishexperts.com.br/forum/pronuncia-do-either-e-neither-t7861.html>

4 - <http://www.englishexperts.com.br/forum/can-and-can-t-t4360.html>