

# LESSON NOTE ON ENGLISH STUDIES

**CLASS : J.S.S.3**

**TOPIC: SPEECH**

**CONTENT: CONSONANT CLUSTERS**

**PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES:** By the end of the lesson, the students should be able to:

1. Explain the term "consonant clusters" correctly.
2. Identify the consonant that clusters in each word without mistake.
3. Identify how many consonant that clusters in each word perfectly .
4. Make correct sentences with each word identified.

**ILLUSTRATION:** The English consonants as you know are 24 in number.

Examples: /b/, /d/, /f/, /g/, / p/, /t/, / s/, /r/, /k/, etc. Examples: 1. / b/ - bag, back, boast, bubble, pad, etc.  
2. /p/ - part, cap, shop, apple, put  
3. /s/- state, still, cell, pass, sad,

4. /k/ - call, cap, keep, skip, crew and so on.

**Consonant clusters** is the **clustering or occurring together of two or three consonants at the beginning or at end of a word before a vowel sound.** Words that contain two consonants that cluster in a word are known as **TWO CONSONANT CLUSTERS.**

EXAMPLES : school /skul/, plate /pleit/, dress/ dres/, try /traɪ/, new /nju:/, tree /tri:/ etc. In the transcriptions above, there are two consonants at the beginning of each word. So, all the words above contain two consonant clusters. The consonants that cluster together are: school /sk/, plate /pl/, dress/ dr/, tree/ tr/. You can see that they occur together before the vowel sounds in all the examples above. Also, words that contain three consonants at the beginning are known as three consonant clusters. These words usually begin with /s/,

followed by either /p/, /t/, or /k/.

Examples : 1. /sp/ : splash, sprint = /sprint/ sprout /spraut/ sprinter, spread /spred/, spray, sputum, spring etc.

2. /st/ : Stream, /stri:m/, stripe /straip/, stress = /stres/, straight /streit/, stretch etc.

3. /sk/ : scrap, scribe /skraib/, skew/skju:/, screen/skri:n/, script/skript/, scrape/skrep/ etc. All the words above contain three consonant clusters such as /spl/, /spr/ /str/, /skj/, /skr/ etc.

In conclusion, consonant clusters can occur at the end of a word.

Examples of two consonant clusters at the end of a word ; nets /nets/, act /akt/, packs, raft, bend /bend/, silk, barns etc. The consonants that cluster in the words above are /kt/, /ft/, /ks/, /lk/, /nd/ /nt/ and /ns/.

Examples of three consonant clusters at the end of words: desks./ desks/, asks, giants, depths, planks, lamps, asked etc. The

consonants in the words above are: /sks/, /nts/, /nks/, /mps/ /skt/.

## **EVALUATION:**

1. Identify from the following pairs of words below the words with initial consonant clusters and those with final cluster: Scheme, pink, grace, rags, pints, store, spread, mails, prompt, lunch.

2. State how many consonant clusters in each word above. Read intensive English for JS3 (Revised Edition 2015), unit 11, 12 and unit 13. Remain safe!