

# neo's Speech Recognition Tools and Language Proficiency

Neo courses include Speech Recognition exercises that are highly motivating and effective. These exercises have proven to be an excellent way to get students focused on the repetition training necessary to develop oral language proficiency.

neo's Speech Recognition is an effective tool to practice English speaking skills until the process becomes automatic, and a learner's accent slowly improves.

## Voice Recognition Feedback

For each sentence, neo will present learners with three opportunities to recognize the spoken sentences. neo will display the sentence text with color-coded words after the Speech Recognition button is released. The colored words provide the learner with feedback on how well the words were pronounced:

- ✔ Green if the voice recognition is excellent.
- ✔ Black if voice recognition is successful.
- ✘ Red if it was not recognized.

If the learner's sentence is recognized, neo will automatically compare the recording to the native speaker's pronunciation and award points based on its accuracy.

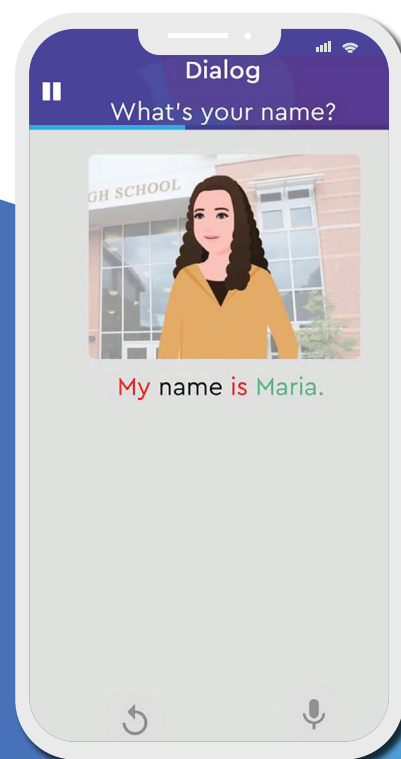
## Voice Recognition Points

If most of the words in the sentence are recognized on the first attempt, the student will receive **10 points**, even if all the words are not green.

If all the words are green on the first try, the learner will receive **20 points**.

Learners can press the **Replay** button at any time to try again.

If the learner's spoken sentence is not recognized, neo will automatically play the model's voice again and give the learner another chance to record. After three unrecognized attempts, neo will move on to the next sentence.



Students have access to the video tutorial on how to take advantage of this tool on the neoClassroom portal:

### Speech Recognition Video

## Long Sentences and Voice Recognition

neo's SR exercises from levels B1 and above have longer sentences. Learners should listen to the sentence and try to repeat the full sentence from memory. neo SR is designed to recognize longer sentences even if there are several red words. Learners are not expected to get a perfect score, and it is common to require several attempts to be recognized.

## SR and Repetition

When practicing with neo's SR exercises, learners should try to repeat the sentences word for word and they should be aware that they don't need to get every word right (green or black), especially with longer sentences. The language-acquisition process occurs naturally with practice, so it is OK if every word is not green right away.

## Variations in Pronunciation

In natural speech, there are variations in pronunciation between individual speakers. The way a word sounds is affected by the words that come before and after. neo gives bonus points for **perfect recognition** (all green words) as a special incentive for students. However, neo still recognizes sentences that are mostly black with a few red words. When this occurs, it means that the sentence can be understood by English speakers.

### SR Levels

The learner can adjust the level of Speech Recognition that best suits their needs.

**Early speaker** - for those who are starting to speak English.

**Emerging speaker** - for those who already have some practice.

**Experienced speaker** - for those who have more experience speaking English.

To learn how to change the level in the neoStudy App, students can click on the drop-down menu and click on SR Levels. For more information see the **SR Levels** video.