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SAY IT RIGHT

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The mangled "s"

A basic problem with the pronunciation of consonants: for the letter "s"- sss - that has to be distinguished from the "sh" and "ch" sounds.

Some examples where this problem has arisen: 1. I shall ["sall"] take no notice of it. 2. Is it such ["sus"] a problem? 3.

My English ["Englis"] needs help. Note how the lips are in a totally different position when making the "s" and the "sh" or "ch" sounds.

We will answer some of your spoken English language questions in this column, and a book prize will be awarded occasionally for the question, anecdote or suggestion most useful to our readers. Email us at sayitright@newstoday.com.sg