

SILENT "T" IN SANTA

The **t** after an **n** is often silent in American pronunciation. Instead of saying **internet** Americans will frequently say "innernet", and "san-uh" instead of Santa. However, it is not a universal feature of American English. While some individuals may indeed pronounce it that way, it's not a standard or consistent pattern across all American English speakers.

[click to listen]



1 PRACTICE PRONOUNCING THE FOLLOWING WORDS:

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. int erview | 5. den tist | 9. int ernational | 13. San ta Monica |
| 2. twen ty | 6. int ellectual | 10. cen ter | 14. Atl anta |
| 3. disappoin ting | 7. quan tity | 11. cantalou pe | 15. Orange County |
| 4. accoun table | 8. advan tages | 12. plenty | 16. Sacramen to |

2 COMPLETE THE SENTENCES FROM THE VIDEO "PEOPLE TELL CHILDHOOD STORIES ABOUT SANTA CLAUS" WITH THE RIGHT PREPOSITIONS AND PARTICLES:

- 1.The one thing that proved it _____ a doubt for me...
- 2.And there was one time when Santa called my dad _____ name.
- 3.And when we did try to stay _____ and we did try to catch Santa, every time without fail we'd always fall asleep.
- 4.And I don't remember what we were fighting _____, but we were just relentless, going _____ it.
- 5.And so he went to the phone _____ the wall in the kitchen, grabbed it, just dialed it _____ and he goes, "Santa? This is Randy Gordon here. I have two misbehaved children that I need you to speak _____."
- 6.I could not even believe that Dad got Santa _____ the phone that quickly.
7. So I wake up _____ the morning. And I would legit see, like, muddy footprints. All _____ the floor.
- 8.So I was always a little weirded _____.

3 DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- 1.What is your earliest childhood memory, and how does it make you feel?
- 2.How would you describe the role of imagination in your childhood? Did you have any imaginary friends or worlds?
- 3.How did you find out that Santa Claus wasn't real? What was your reaction to this discovery?
- 4.Do you have any memories of believing in mythical creatures when you were a child?
- 5.What superhero or fictional character did you believe you could be or have the powers of when you were a child?
- 6.Do you think children today have different superhero figures or characters they idolize?



PEOPLE TELL CHILDHOOD STORIES

7. What is your earliest childhood memory, and how does it make you feel?
8. What are some common wishes or dreams that children often express? (e.g., becoming a princess, astronaut, or superhero)
9. Did you use to have any fears or beliefs in monsters or the boogeyman?
10. Do you remember believing that animals could talk or understand you when you were a child?
11. How do stories and media contribute to children's beliefs in animated or talking animals?
12. Have you heard of children believing that certain objects have feelings or personalities? (e.g., talking toys, animated objects)
13. What was the most challenging aspect of growing up for you?
14. Can you recall a specific moment from your childhood that has had a lasting impact on your life?

4 DO YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS? DISCUSS.

1. Young people don't respect the old as much as they used to.
2. Age is just a number and does not determine a person's abilities or potential.
3. Young people have a better grasp of technology compared to older generations.
4. Older individuals bring valuable wisdom and experience to various situations.
5. Age discrimination in the workplace is a significant issue that needs more attention.
6. The retirement age should be flexible, allowing people to work as long as they are capable and willing.
7. Age diversity in the workplace leads to better innovation and problem-solving.

Presenting Ideas	Agreeing	Disagreeing
"From my perspective..."	"I completely agree with your point."	"I see where you're coming from, but I have a different take."
"One way to look at it is..."	"I share the same viewpoint."	"I have to disagree with that statement."
"If you ask me..."	"You've expressed my thoughts exactly."	"I'm afraid I don't quite agree."
"Based on my experience..."	"I couldn't have said it better myself."	"I have a slightly contrasting viewpoint."
"In my view..."	"You've hit the nail on the head."	"I'd like to offer a different perspective."

