



PRONUNCIATION OF „OUGH“

PRONUNCIATION vs. SPELLING: ALTHOUGH x THROUGH x TOUGH

Despite having identical spelling these three words differ greatly when you hear them:



Although [ɔ:l'ðəʊ] as in flow, borrow, shadow

Through [θru:] as in flew, blue, threw

Tough [tʌf] as in stuff, buffalo, truffle

ROUGH TIME AT THE OFFICE



I've been having a really **tough time** at work lately. I've been trying to **reach** this customer who **lodged** a complaint **regarding** our delivery times. Although I've tried many times, I couldn't **get through**. All I could hear was just this annoying **engaged tone**. And then it hit me! I've **misdialed** every single time! On top of that, the customer turned out to be a real **tough cookie** - she wouldn't accept anything but full compensation!

VOCABULARY BUILDING



Tough (or **rough** /rʌf/) **time** - těžké, obtížné období
reach - dosáhnout, zastihnout
lodge (a complaint) - vznést, podat (stížnost)
regarding - týkající se, ohledně
get through - dovolat se
the engaged tone - obsazovací tón
misdial - vytočit špatné číslo
a tough cookie - tvrdák, někdo, kdo se nenechá obměkčit

QUIZ: TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Match the words that are **pronounced in the same way**, there is **one extra**:

KEY: clue + through ; tough + enough;
although + tomorrow

