Accent Trainer with Visual and Haptic Feedback

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TECHNOLOGY NEED
Research findings show that the primary difficult in learning a foreign language develops with the oral and written aspects of the language. The ability to learn a new language is lost by the age of approximately 18 months in humans not exposed to non-native sounds. Often there is a difficulty for language learners to differentiate between the target sound and own sound, eventually leading to a foreign accent when speaking a new language. Even though the current state of art provides several platforms to learn a new language, there is a need for a feature to provide feedback to the speaker.

INVENTION DESCRIPTION/SOLUTION
A novel software that can play any sound in a given language, hear the speaker and provide immediate feedback in a graphical and haptic format regarding how close the attempt was to a native speaker. The software also plays a list of common words in a language using a particular sound and has the capability to provide feedback for both vowel and consonant sounds. The software can be run on all computing platforms while leveraging cloud computing resources and data can be shared among various platforms using cloud data storage.

APPLICATIONS
- Digital software
- Mobile applications
- ESL programs
- Educational institutions

KEY BENEFITS
- Quantitative and immediate feedback
- Compatible with all computing platforms
- Useful to people with hearing impairments

STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT
Prototyped and tested

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY STATUS
PCT patent application