

# Re: Tsunami

---

*Source:* <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.lang/2007-09/msg01194.html>

---

- *From:* Harlan Messinger <[hmessinger.removethis@xxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:hmessinger.removethis@xxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Sun, 30 Sep 2007 09:12:42 -0400
- 

Peter T. Daniels wrote:

On Sep 29, 10:10 pm, Harlan Messinger  
<[hmessinger.removet...@xxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:hmessinger.removet...@xxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

ekk...@xxxxxxxx wrote:

On Sep 29, 3:30 pm, benlizross <[benli...@xxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:benli...@xxxxxxxxxxx)>  
wrote:

I don't think it to be a urban  
legend (that "tsunami" was  
originally  
pronounced as "sunami").

!! I would say it hasn't even come up to the  
level of an urban legend  
(which is frequently repeated by many  
different people). It's just  
something somebody told you once. What  
reason do you have to think there  
is any truth to it?

Because it was coming from two independent sources. One is  
a real  
person a few decades ago, before internet era. One is from a  
website,  
a few years ago. That of course does not mean that they were  
right.  
But it caught my attention because they were two totally  
independent  
sources. I remember when I saw the website, I told myself,  
"Ahah! So  
that's the reason why tsunami is pronounced sunami".

It's pronounced "sunami" by some English speakers because initial "ts"  
isn't native to English. Likewise, some people pronounce tsetse (the  
species of fly) "tee-tsee".

Re: Tsunami

teet-see, surely?

Well, yeah.

.