

Lecturer:  
Mr. Aounali  
LEVEL

F  
i  
r  
s  
t

Y

e

a

r

L

M

D



Mohammed Kheider University

English Department

Module: English Phonetics & Phonology



## Lecture 3: Detailed Study of English Vowels

### (Monophthongs)

**Objective:** *By the end of this course you'll be able to:*

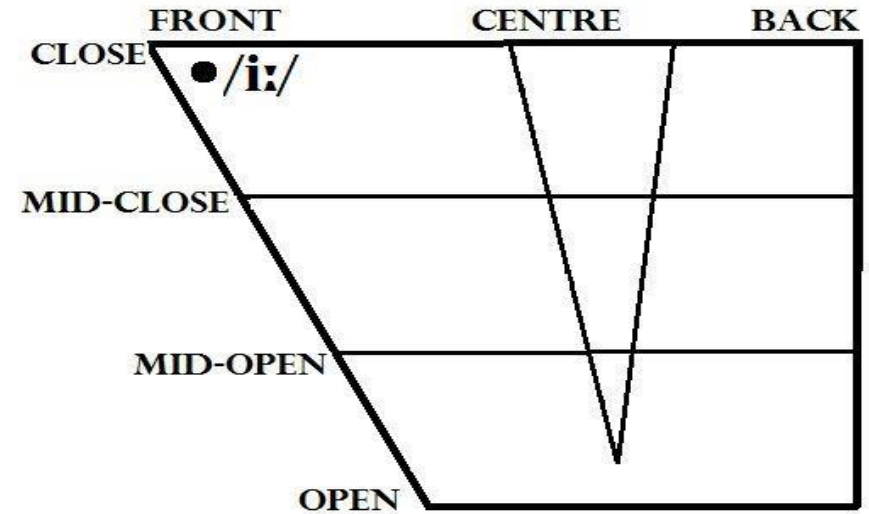
- 1- Define the front, central and back vowel sounds.
- 2- Recognise the different types of vowels and their articulation.
- 3- Distinguish between the articulation of different vowel sounds.
- 4- Know where to represent the monophthongs in the Vowel Chart.
- 5- Identify each pure vowel using description of articulation and example words.
- 6- Using authentic audios and videos for listening and repeating to English vowels.
- 7- Pronounce pure vowels in several words and utterances with correct pronunciation.

# 6. The Articulation of the Monophthongs (Pure Vowels)

## 6.1. ARTICULATIONS OF THE FRONT VOWELS

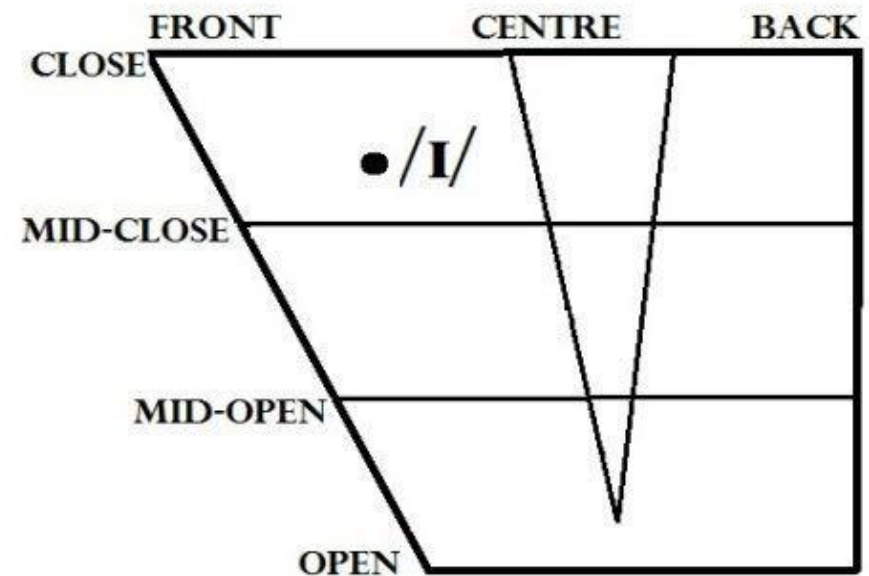
### 1. Description of the articulation of /i:/

- The soft palate is raised and the nasal resonators shut off.
- The front of the tongue is raised slightly below and behind the front close position. There is a firm contact between the side rims of the tongue and the upper side teeth.
- The lips are spread.



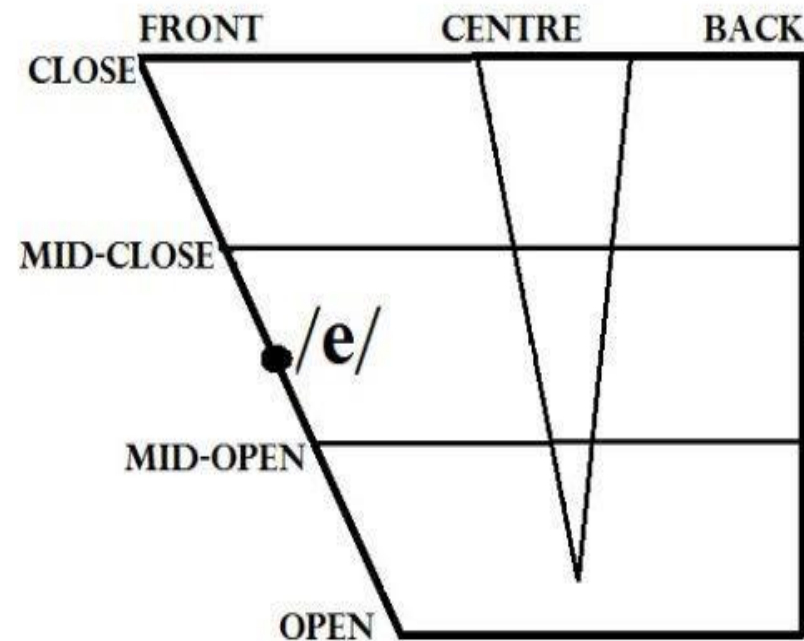
### 2. Description of the articulation of /ɪ/

- The soft palate is raised and the nasal cavity shut off.
- This short vowel is articulated with a part of a part of the tongue nearer to centre than to front, the tongue is raised above the mid-close position. The side rims contact with the upper molars slightly.
- The lips are loosely spread.



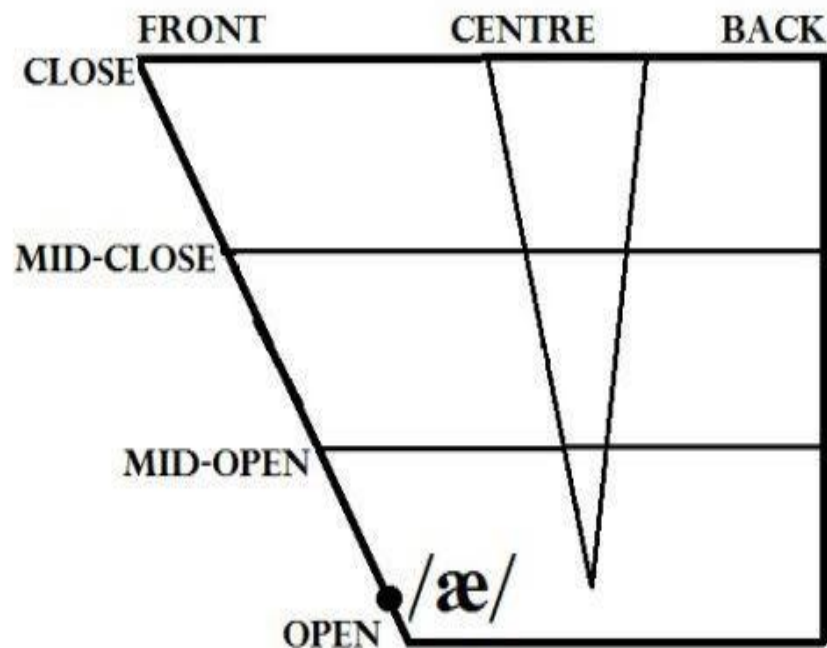
### 3. Description of the articulation of /e/:

- The soft palate is raised and the nasal cavity shut off.
- The front of the tongue is raised between the mid-close and mid-open positions. The side rims make a light contact with the upper molars.
- The lips are loosely spread and wider apart.



### 1.4. Description of the articulation of /æ/:


- The soft palate is raised and the nasal cavity shut off.
- The front of the tongue is raised below the mid-open position. The rims make a very light contact with the back upper molars.
- The lips are neutrally open.




# Drills for practising front vowels

## 1) Listen and repeat (From English Pronunciation in Use (Elementary) p. 12)

 A01b /i:/ see agree eat seat team field piece these metre secret evening equal

 A02b Peter key ski kilo litre pizza police machine people

 A03b /ɪ/ if ship miss dinner swim busy building system history honey village

 A04b /e/ check leg letter red sentence bread head read(pp) friend any  
many again said


 A05b /æ/ back camera factory hat jam manager map plan traffic family

## 2) Practice the following sets of minimal pairs:


### What is minimal pairs?

A minimal pair is a pair of words of the same language that have different meanings and which differ in only one sound ( a vowel or a consonant). The different sound must be in the same order in both words.

Example words: /lɪp/ and /tɪp/ ; /bæk/ and /bæg/  
/sɪt/ and /si:t/ ; /hæt/ and /hɑ:t/

 A06b 1) /i:/            /ɪ/

Beat	bit
Heel	hill
Lead	lid
Neat	knit
Teen	tin

2)  A07b /e/            /æ/

bet	bat
hell	Hal
led	lad
set	sat
ten	tan

## *Drills for practising front vowels*

### 3) Read the sentences and find the front vowels in the following words



1. Can you see the sea?
2. A piece of pizza, please.
3. Peter's in the team.
4. A kilo of peaches and a litre of cream.
5. Please can you teach me to speak Portuguese?



1. Tell me again.
2. Send me a cheque.
3. Correct these sentences.
4. Twenty to twelve.
5. Help your friend.



1. Fifty-six
2. Dinner in the kitchen.
3. A cinema ticket.
4. A picture of a building.
5. Big business.

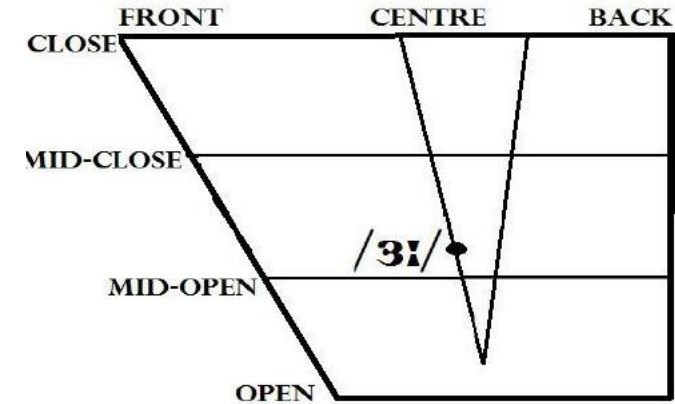


1. Thanks for the cash.
2. I ran to the bank.
3. Where is my black jacket.
4. That man works in jam factory.
5. Let me carry your bags.

## 6.2. ARTICULATIONS OF THE CENTRAL VOWELS

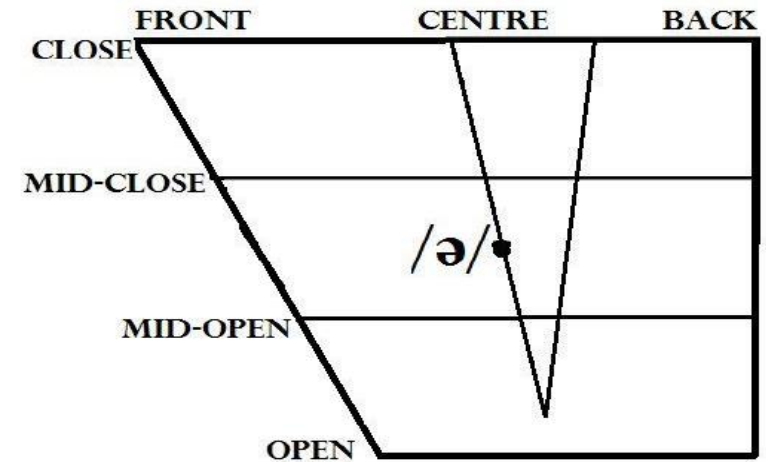
### 2.1. Description of the articulation of /ɜː/:

- The soft palate is raised and the nasal cavity shut off.
- This long vowel is articulated with centre of the tongue raised between the mid-close and mid-open positions. A light contact is made between the rims and the upper molars.
- The lips are neutrally open.



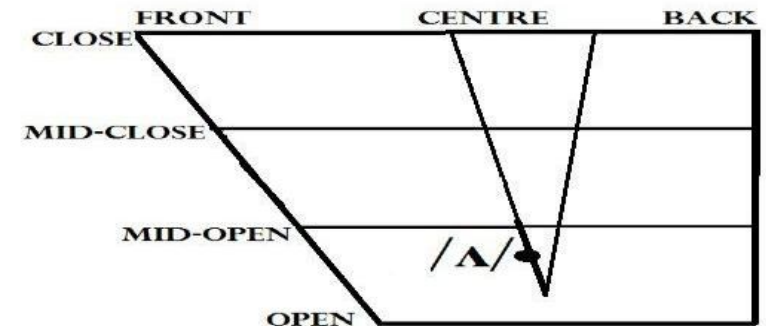
### 2.2. Description of the articulation of /ə/:

- The soft palate is raised and the nasal cavity shut off.
- The centre of the tongue is raised between the half-close and half-open when the vowel is in non-final positions: alone, suppose. But in final positions: doctor, mother, picture, the center of the tongue is in the mid-open position.
- The lips are neutrally open.



### 2.3. Description of the articulation of /ʌ/:

- The soft palate is raised and the nasal cavity shut off.
- The centre of the tongue is raised above the open position. There is no contact between the tongue and the upper molars.
- The lips are neutrally open.



## Drills for practising central vowels



**1: Listen and repeat** (From *English Pronunciation in Use (Elementary)* p. 22)

/ʌ/ bus colour come cup front bus London luck Monday month  
mother much nothing number run study sun uncle under



/ɜ:/ bird first birthday circle thirty word work world worse turn  
Thursday journey early earth heard learn service prefer verb

**2: Practice the following sets of minimal pairs**



1) /ɜ:/ /ʌ/  
bird bud  
lurk luck  
burn bun  
hurt hut  
curt cut



2) /ɜ:/ /ɑ:/  
bird bard  
lurk lark  
burn barn  
hurt heart  
curt cart



3) /ʌ/ /æ/  
bud bad  
luck lack  
bun ban  
hut hat  
cut cat



**3: Underline the following sentences**

- Good luck with your exam next month!
- Take the number one bus.
- I said 'Come on Monday', not 'Come on Sunday'.
- My brother's studying in London.



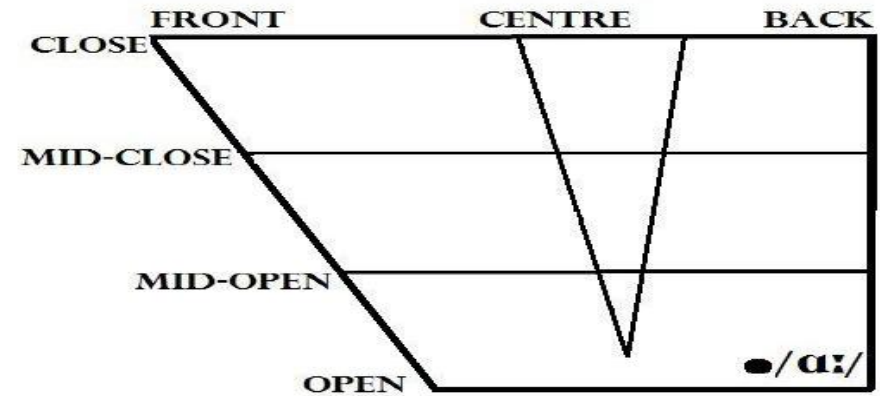
**4: Find the central vowels in the following sentences**

- The girl was watching the birds.
- How far's the car park?
- That was the worst journey in the world.
- Have you ever heard this word?
- The cakes weren't very good.
- She went to university to learn German.

## 6.3. ARTICULATIONS OF THE BACK VOWELS

### 3.1. Description of the articulation of /ɑ:/:

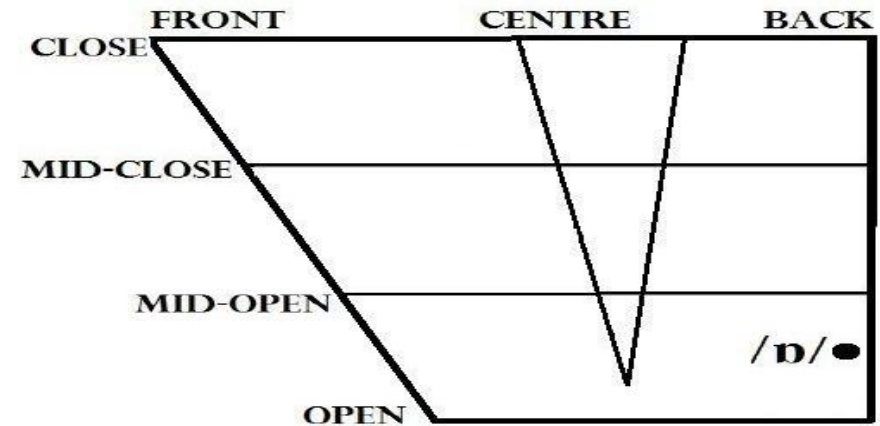
- The soft palate is raised and the nasal cavity shut off.
- This long R.P vowel is articulated with a part of the tongue between the centre and the back in the fully open position
- The lips are neutrally open.



### 3.2. Description of the articulation of /ɒ/:

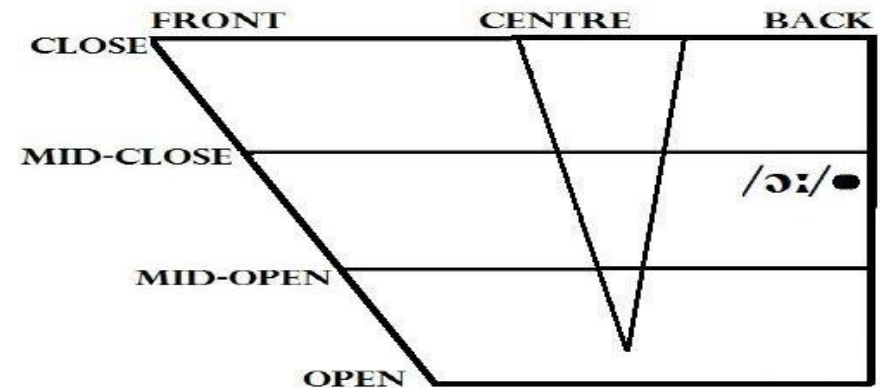
- The soft palate is raised and the nasal cavity shut off.
- For this short vowel the back of the tongue is in the fully open position.

The lips are slightly rounded.



### 3.3. Description of the articulation of /ɔ:/:

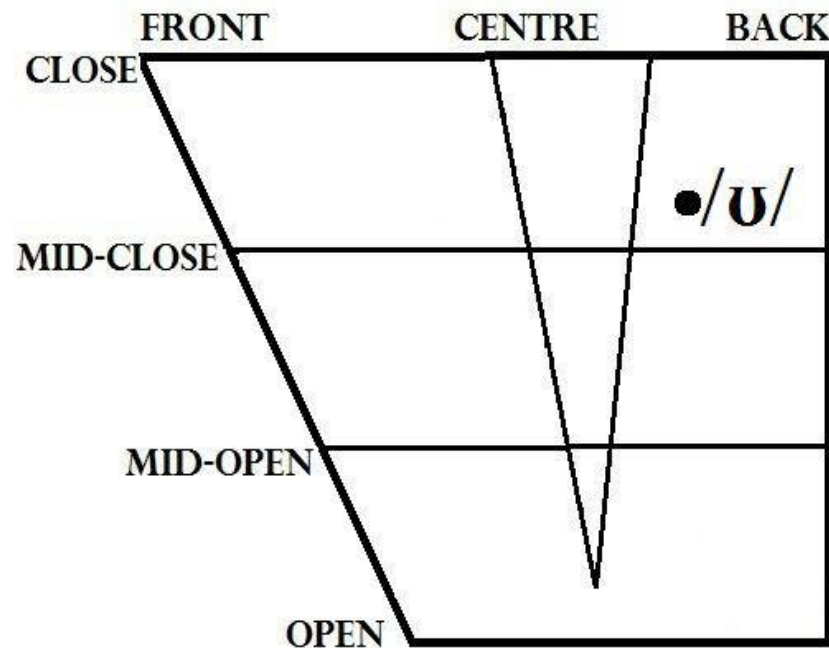
- The soft palate is raised and the nasal cavity shut off.
- For this long vowel the back of the tongue is raised between the mid-open and mid-close positions.
- There is a medium lip-rounding.





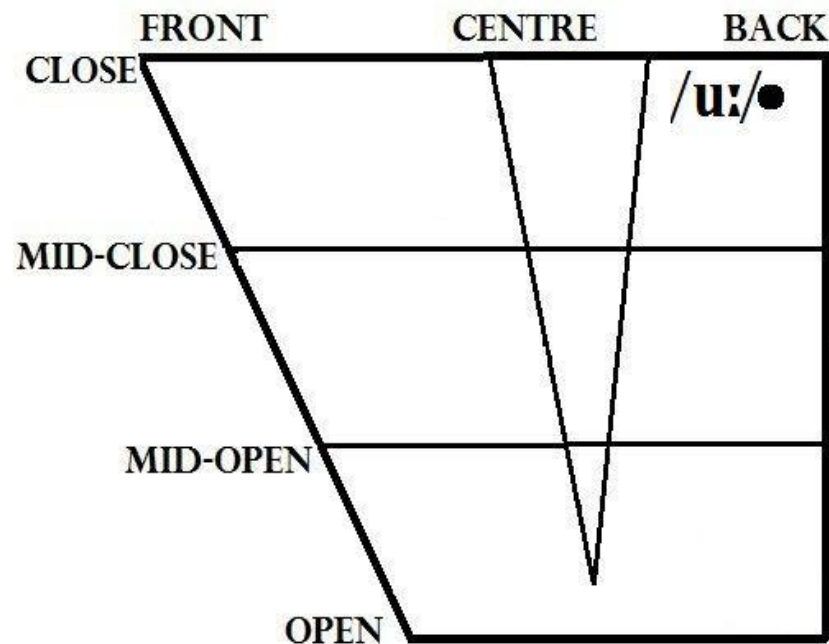
### 3.4. Description of the articulation of /ʊ/:

- The soft palate is raised and the nasal cavity shut off.
- This short vowel is articulated with a part of the tongue nearer to centre than to back above the mid-close position, with a slight contact between the rims and the upper molars.
- The lips are loosely **rounded**.



### 3.5. Description of the articulation of /u:/:

- The soft palate is raised and the nasal cavity shut off.
- This long vowel is articulated with a part of the tongue somewhat advanced from true back and raised just below the close position with a light contact with the upper molars.
- The lips are closely rounded.



## Drills for practising back vowels

### 1: Listen and repeat

**A19b** /ɑ:/ after afternoon ask answer bath bathroom can't class dance  
fast father glass tomato car card far park star start

**A20b** /ɒ/ bottle box chocolate clock coffee copy cost cross got  
quality want wash wasn't watch what

**A21b** /ɔ:/ all ball call fall tall wall quarter warm water born  
short autumn door saw before daughter taught thought

**A22b** /ʊ/ full sugar book foot would woman good look put

**A23b** /u:/ too group shoe blue music new two fruit juice

### 2: Consider the following sets of minimal pairs

<b>A24b</b> /ɔ:/	/ɒ/	<b>A25b</b> /ɔ:/	/ɑ:/	<b>A26b</b> /u:/	/ʊ/	<b>A27b</b> /ʊ/	/ɒ/
port	pot	port	part	pool	pull	good	god
cord	cod	born	barn	fool	full	look	lock
stork	stock	court	cart	suit	soot	put	pot
cork	cock	store	star	Luke	look	could	cod
sport	spot	form	farm	cood	could	shook	shock

### **A28b** 3: Find the back vowels in the following sentences

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- I'll ask my aunt where is my glasses.</li> <li>- See you tomorrow afternoon.</li> <li>- You can find him on the fourth floor.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- John has gone to the shops.</li> <li>- The dinner will be ready soon.</li> <li>- He bought a lot of books and novels.</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

#### References for further study:

- 1- Roach, Peter. *English Phonetics and Phonology*.
- 2- Gimson, A, C. *Pronunciation of English*.
- 3- Hancock, Mark. *English Pronunciation in Use*.

Lecturer:  
Mr. Aounali

LEVEL

F

i

r

s

t

Y

e

a

r

L

M

D



Mohammed Kheider University

English Department

Module: Phonetics



## Lesson 3: Detailed Study of English Vowels

### Diphthongs and Triphthongs

**Objectives:** *By the end of this course you'll be able to:*

- 1- Define the diphthongs
- 2- Recognise how the diphthongs are articulated and represented in the vowel chart.
- 3- Distinguish between the diphthongs and the triphthongs.
- 4- Pronounce the previous vowel sounds in some words with correct pronunciation.

# Overview of all the English Vowels

## Introduction:

In British English, we have **20** vowel sounds divided into **5** long vowels

**/i:/**, **/ɜ:/**, **/ɑ:/**, **/ɔ:/**, **/u:/** and **7** short vowels **/ɪ/**, **/e/**, **/æ/**, **/ʌ/**, **/ə/**, **/ʊ/**, **/ʌ/**.

In addition to the previous **12** pure vowels, we have **8** gliding vowels which are a combination of two short vowels that make one sound called a diphthong:

**/eɪ/**, **/ɔɪ/**, **/aɪ/**, **/ɪə/**, **/eə/**, **/ʊə/**, **/əʊ/**, **/aʊ/**.

Triphthongs are the following diphthongs **/eɪ/**, **/ɔɪ/**, **/aɪ/**, **/əʊ/**, **/aʊ/** + a schwa **/ə/** as follows: **/eɪə/**, **/ɔɪə/**, **/aɪə/**, **/əʊə/**, **/aʊə/**.

Tongue Low ↔ High	Vowels				Diphthongs			
	Front ← → Back				End at front → End at back			
	<b>/i:/</b>	<b>/ɪ/</b>	<b>/ʊ/</b>	<b>/u:/</b>	<b>/eɪ/</b>	<b>/ɪə/</b>	<b>/əʊ/</b>	
<b>/e/</b>	<b>/ə/</b>	<b>/ɜ:/</b>	<b>/ɔ:/</b>	<b>/ɔɪ/</b>	<b>/ʊə/</b>	<b>/aʊ/</b>		
<b>/æ/</b>	<b>/ʌ/</b>	<b>/ɑ:/</b>	<b>/ɒ/</b>	<b>/aɪ/</b>	<b>/eə/</b>			
Lips can be:								
Spread		Neutral		Rounded		Closing	Centring	Closing

# I- The English Vowels: Diphthongs

---

## I- Diphthongs /'dɪfθʊŋz/:

a diphthong or a gliding vowel is a term used in the phonetic classification of vowel sounds. It refers to a glide or a movement from one vowel to another one in which the first part is more prominent than the last. It involves a change in quality within the one vowel, they are classified according to their ending into two types as follows:

*Closing diphthongs* end in /ɪ/ like /eɪ/, /ɔɪ/, /aɪ/

or in /ʊ/ like /əʊ/, /aʊ/

*Centering diphthongs* end in /ə/ like /ɪə/, /eə/, /ʊə/.

---

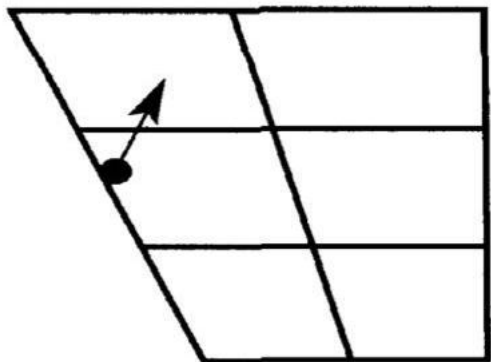
# I-1. The Closing Diphthongs:

## I-1.1. The Closing diphthongs ending /ɪ/

### *Description of the articulation of /eɪ/:*

*the starting-point is /e/ where the glide begins from slightly the mid-close front position and moves in the direction of /ɪ/ to form the diphthong /eɪ/; there is a slight closing movement of the lower jaw. The lips are spread.*

**eɪ**



### **Characteristics**

The glide begins in the position for /e/, moving up and slightly back towards /ɪ/. The lips are spread.

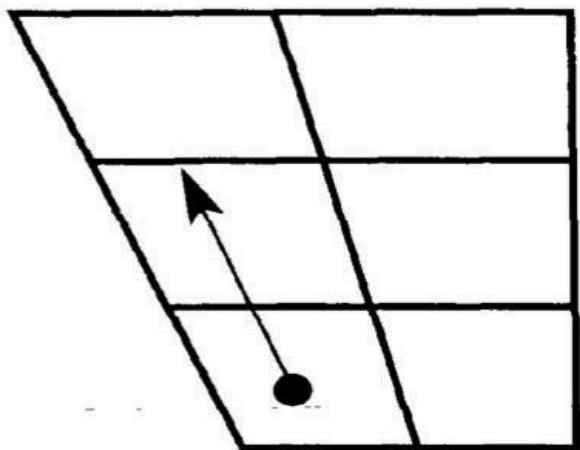
As in . . . cake, way, weigh, say, pain, they, vein

## *Description of the articulation of /aɪ/:*

*the diphthong /aɪ/ begins at a point slightly behind the front open position /æ/, it is similar to the articulation of /ʌ/ and moves towards the vowel /i/; /aɪ/ is more extensive than /eɪ/ in which there is more movement in the lower jaw to open position.*

*The lips shift from neutral to loosely spread position.*

**aɪ**



### **Characteristics**

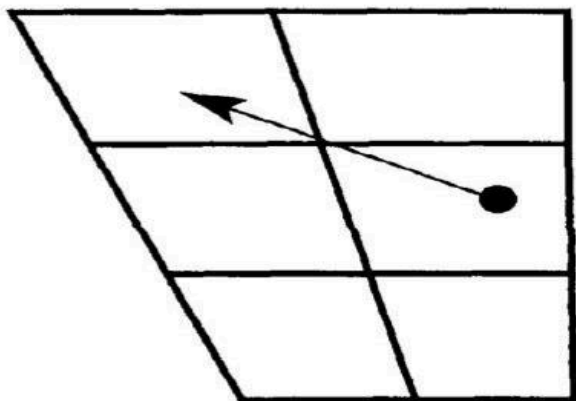
The glide begins in an open position, between front and centre, moving up and slightly forward towards /i/. The lips move from neutral, to loosely spread.

As in . . . high, tie, buy, kite, might, cry, eye

## *Description of the articulation of /ɔɪ/:*

*the gliding vowel /ɔɪ/ the tongue begins at a point between the mid-open and open back positions nearer to /ɔ:/ than to /ɒ/ then it moves in the direction of /ɪ/. The tongue movement extends from back to centralised front position. The lips are open rounded for the first element then changing to neutral for the second.*

**ɔɪ**



### **Characteristics**

The glide begins in the position for /ɔ:/, moving up and forward towards /ɪ/. The lips start open and rounded, and change to neutral.

As in . . . *toy, avoid, voice, enjoy, boy*

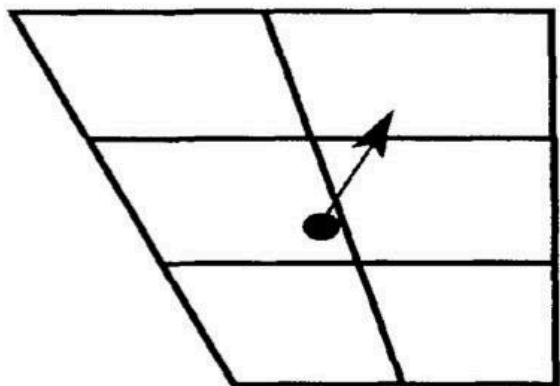


## I-1.2. The Closing diphthongs ending /ʊ/

### *Description of the articulation of /əʊ/:*

The beginning of this diphthong is at the central position between mid-close and mid-open position which is the schwa /ə/, and moves in the direction of /ʊ/. There is a slight closing movement of the lower jaw. The lips are neutral for 1<sup>st</sup> and slightly rounded for the 2<sup>nd</sup> element.

əʊ



### **Characteristics**

The glide begins in the position for /ə/, moving up and back towards /ʊ/. The lips are neutral, but change to loosely rounded.

As in . . . *go*, *snow*, *toast*, *home*, *hello*, *although*

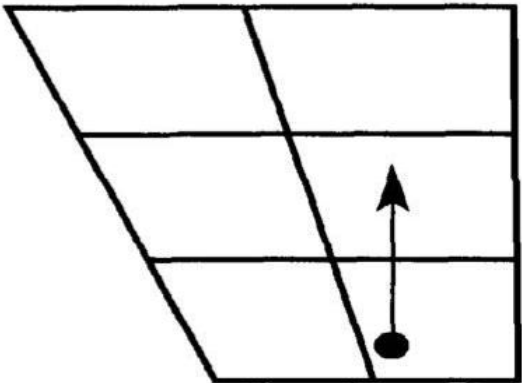
## *Description of the articulation of /aʊ/:*

*This diphthong begins with a vowel similar to /ɑː/ then there is a large movement to the vowel /ʊ/ in order to get /aʊ/.*

*This glide towards /ʊ/ begins but is not completed, in which the end of the diphthong is somewhere between mid-close and mid-open.*

*There is a slight lip-rounding in the articulation of this diphthong.*

**aʊ**



### **Characteristics**

The glide begins in a position quite similar to /ɑː/, moving up towards /ʊ/. The lips start neutral, with a movement to loosely rounded. The glide is not always completed, as the movement involved is extensive.

---

As in . . . *house, loud, down, how, bough*

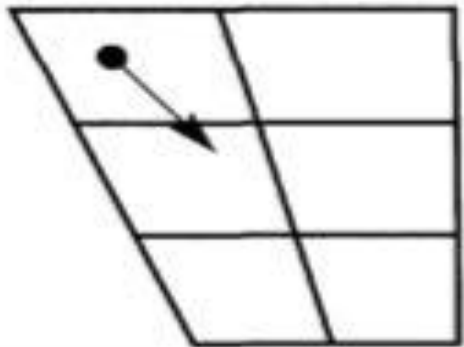
## I-2. The Centring Diphthongs:

### *Description of the articulation of /ɪə/:*

*This RP diphthong /ɪə/ begins with a position approximately to /ɪ/ in mid-close and centralised front position. The glide moves towards /ə/ and to more open in final position of the words, as in here /hɪə/ but not so extensive in mid-position of the word, as in weird /wɪəd/.*

*The lips are neutral with a slight movement from spread to open.*

ɪə



### **Characteristics**

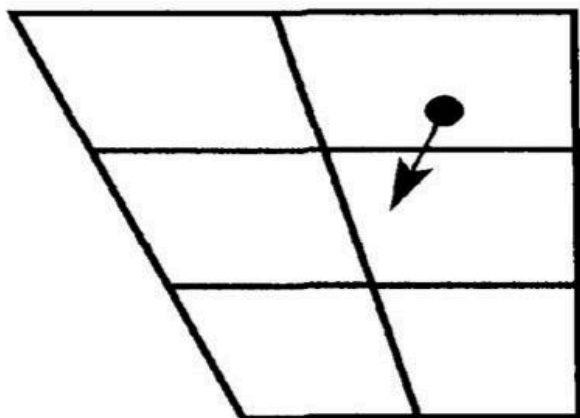
The glide begins in the position for /ɪ/, moving down and back towards /ə/. The lips are neutral, but with a small movement from spread to open.

As in . . . beer, beard, fear, pierce, Ian, here, idea

## *Description of the articulation of /ʊə/:*

*This RP diphthong /ʊə/ glides from a tongue position similar to /ʊ/ then moves towards the vowel /ə/. It moves to more the centre when the diphthong occurs in word-medial position during /'dʒʊərɪŋ/. However, it is more open in word final position as in poor /pʊə/. The lips are rounded at the beginning then neutral as the glide progresses.*

ʊə



### **Characteristics**

The glide begins in the position for /ʊ/, moving forwards and down towards /ə/. The lips are loosely rounded, becoming neutrally spread.

As in . . . \*sure, moor, tour, obscure

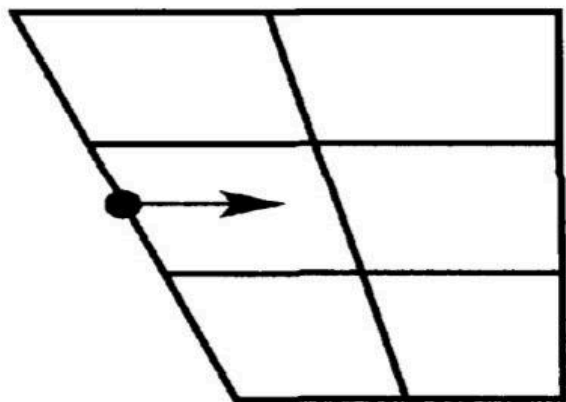
\*Quite a rare diphthong. Many speakers replace it with /ɔɪ/

## *Description of the articulation of /eə/:*

*This RP gliding vowel /eə/ begins with a mid-open front position and moves to more open variety of /ə/ especially in word final position as in there /ðeə/. However, in word-medial position the second element, /ə/ tends to be neutral as in parent /'peərənt/.*

*The lips are neutral throughout the diphthong.*

eə



### **Characteristics**

The glide begins in the position for /e/, moving back towards /ə/. The lips remain neutrally open.

As in . . . where, wear, chair, dare, stare, there

## II-Triphthongs /'trifθvŋz/

a triphthong is a glide from one vowel to another and then to a third, all produced rapidly and without interruption. For example, a slow pronunciation of the word “hour” begins with a vowel quality similar to /ɑ:/ and goes on towards /ʊ/ then ends with schwa /ə/ to get /ɑʊə/.

**The triphthongs are composed of the five closing diphthongs with schwa /ə/ added to the end:**

/eɪ/ + /ə/ = /eɪə/	i.e: Player /'pleɪə/, payer /'peɪə/
/aɪ/ + /ə/ = /aɪə/	i.e: Fire /'faɪə/, higher /'haɪə/
/ɔɪ/ + /ə/ = /ɔɪə/	i.e: Loyal /'ləɪəl/, royal /'rɔɪəl/
/əʊ/ + /ə/ = /əʊə/	i.e: Lower /'ləʊə/, slower /'sləʊə/
/aʊ/ + /ə/ = /aʊə/	i.e: Our-hour /'aʊə/, power /'paʊə/

Lecturer:  
Mr. Aounali

LEVEL

F  
i  
r  
s  
t

Y

e

a

r

L

M

D



# Mohammed Kheider University

## English Department



### Module: English Phonetics & Phonology

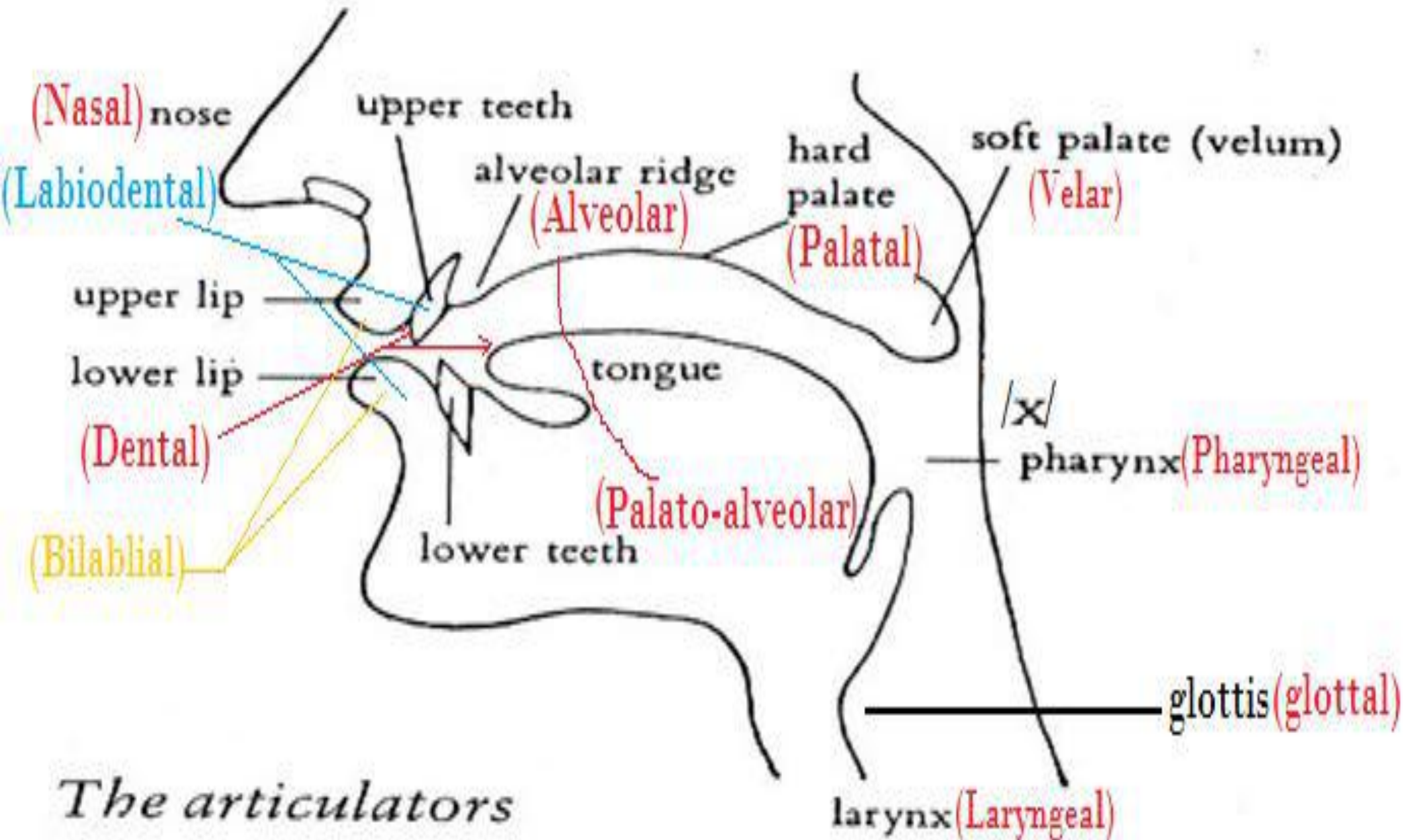
## Lecture 4: Detailed Study of English

### Consonants

**Objective:** *By the end of this course you'll be able to:*

- 1- Define English consonants.
- 2- Recognise the different manners of articulation for consonants.
- 3- Know the places of articulation of different English consonantal sounds.
- 4- Identify each consonant using description of articulation and example words.
- 5- Use authentic audios and videos for listening and repeating to English consonants.
- 7- Pronounce pure vowels in several words and utterances with correct pronunciation.

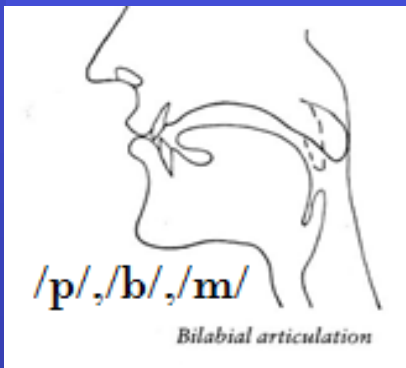
# 1. Place and Manner of Articulation of Consonants:





## 1.1. Place of Articulation:

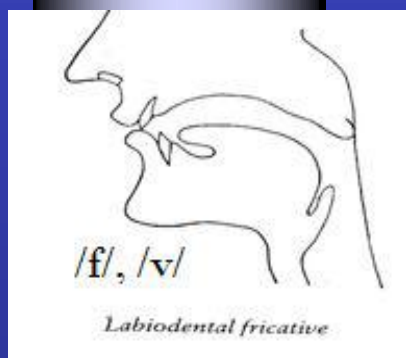
The place of articulation classifies speech sounds in terms of their articulation in the vocal tract. In this section, we will present the main places of articulation of English consonants as follows:



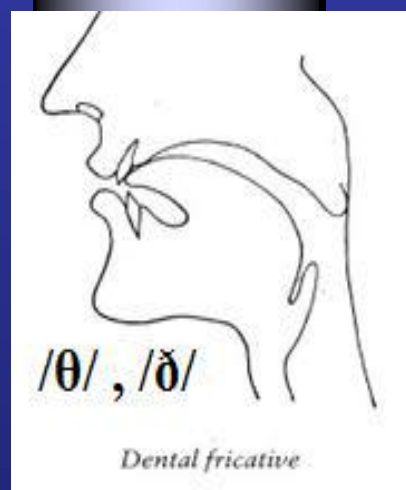
**Bilabial**: bilabial sounds are made by placing the lips against each other.

Examples of such sounds in English we have the following: /p/, /b/, /m/.

The sound /p/ is voiceless, e.g: *pay* but voiced in /b/ & /m/ e.g: *bay*, *may*.



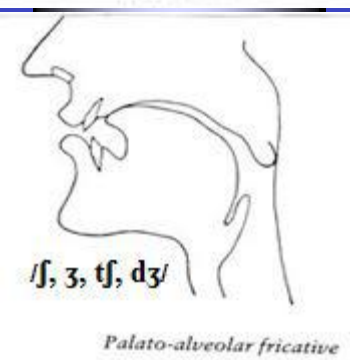
**Labiodental**: sounds are made when the lower lip is raised towards the upper front teeth. Examples are /f/ *safe* (voiceless) and /v/ *save* (voiced).



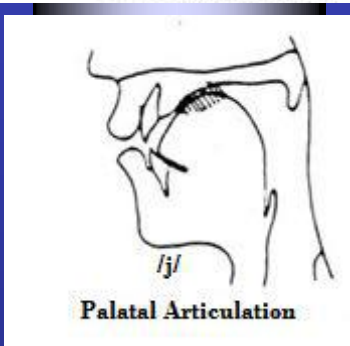
**Dental** sounds are produced by touching the upper front teeth with the tip of the tongue. Examples are /θ/ *oath* (voiceless) and /ð/ *clothe* (voiced).



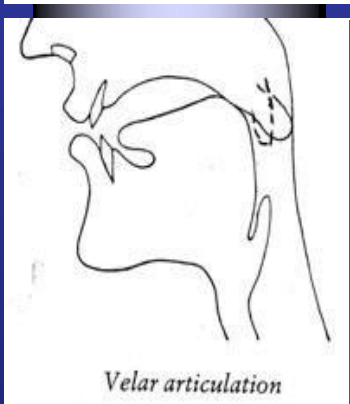
**Alveolar** sounds are made by raising the tip of the tongue towards the ridge that is right behind the upper front teeth, called the alveolar ridge. Examples are /t, s/ *too, sue*, both voiceless, and /d, z, n, l, r/ *do, zoo, no, look, rook*, all voiced.



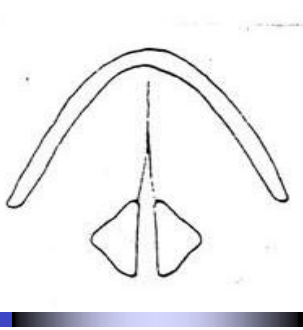
**Palato-alveolar** sounds are made by raising the blade of the tongue towards the part of the palate just behind the alveolar ridge. Examples /ʃ, tʃ/ *pressure, batch* (voiceless) and /ʒ, dʒ/ *pleasure, badge* (voiced).



**Palatal** sounds are very similar to palatoalveolar ones, they are just produced further back towards the velum. The only palatal sound in English is /j/ as in *yes, yellow, beauty, new* and it is voiced.



**Velar** sounds are made by raising the back of the tongue towards the soft palate, called the velum. Examples /k/ *back*, voiceless, and /g, ŋ/ both voiced *bag, bank*.



**Glottal** sounds are produced when the air passes through the glottis as it is narrowed. Example of such sound is /h/ as in *high*.

## 1.2. Place of Articulation:

The manner of articulation has to do with the kind of air obstruction after it has passed the vocal folds. It may meet a complete closure (**plosives**), an almost complete closure (**fricatives**), or a smaller degree of closure (**approximants**), or the air might escape in more exceptional ways, around the sides of the tongue (**laterals**), or through the nasal cavity (**nasals**).

Place of Articulation / Manner of Articulation		Labio-		Dental		Alveolar		Post- alveolar		Palato- alveolar		Palatal		Velar		Glottal	
		Bilabial	dental														
A	Plosive	p, b				t, d									k, g		
	Fricative		f, v	θ, ð		s, z				ʃ, ʒ							h
	Affricate										tʃ, dʒ						
B	Nasal	m				n									ŋ		
	Lateral					l											
	Approximant <sup>1</sup>	w							r				j				

IPA table contains the **consonant phonemes** of the English language

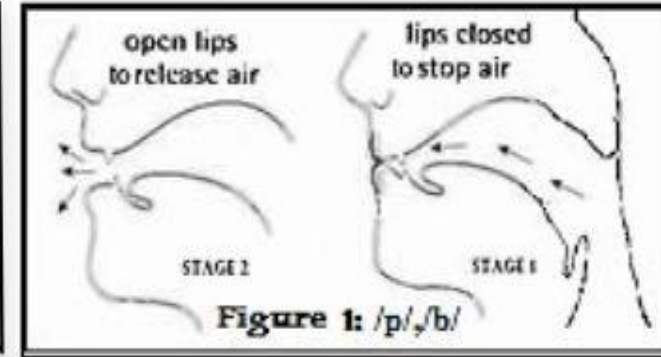
## 3. Description of the Articulation of English Consonant

### 3.1. Identification of the consonants /p/, /b/

Those two bilabial sounds are made with total closure using the lips.

The soft palate is raised to stop the air from escaping through nasal

cavity. /p/ is unvoiced and fortis. /b/ is voiced and lenis. *Pay/pei/, bye/bai/.*



**Task :** Pronounce the following words

Listen and repeat: /p/ **Pack, Pan, Copy, Happen, Hop, Pop**

/b/ **Back, Bag, Hobby, Habit, Job, Bob**

Minimal Pairs: **Back, Pack**

**Bare, Pair**

**Cab, Cap**

**Symbol, Simple**

**Punch, Bunch**

### 3.2. Identification of the consonants /k/, /g/

Those two velar sounds are made with total closure using the back of the tongue against the soft palate the suddenly release the air.

/k/ is unvoiced and fortis. /g/ is voiced and lenis. e.g: *can*/kæn/, *guess*/ges/.

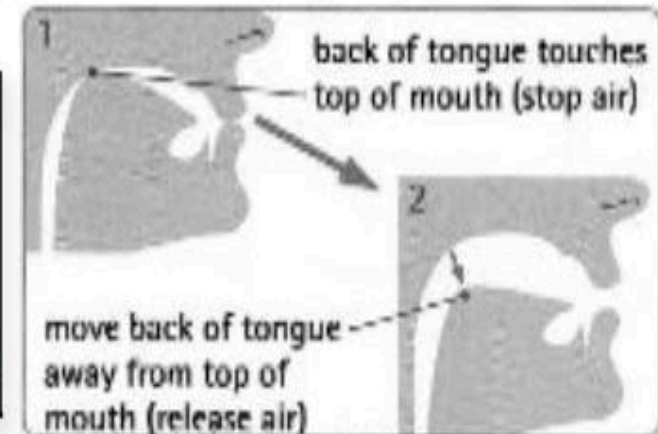


Figure 2: /k/, /g/

Task : Pronounce the following words

Listen and repeat: /k/ **Came, Lucky, Sick, Clock**

/g/ **Glue, Struggle, Bag, Gig**

Minimal Pairs:	<b>Glue,</b>	<b>Clue</b>
	<b>Ghost,</b>	<b>Coast</b>
	<b>Log,</b>	<b>Lock</b>
	<b>Pig,</b>	<b>Pick</b>
	<b>Came</b>	<b>Game</b>
	<b>Back</b>	<b>Bag</b>
	<b>Cage</b>	<b>Gauge</b>
	<b>Calories</b>	<b>Galleries</b>

## 3. Description of the Articulation of English Consonant

### 3.3. Identification of the consonants /t/, /d/

Those two alveolar sounds are made with total closure using the tongue blade against the alveolar ridge. Soft palate is raised to stop air from going to nasal cavity. /t/ is unvoiced & fortis. /d/ is voiced & lenis. *Tie/taɪ/, do/duː/.*

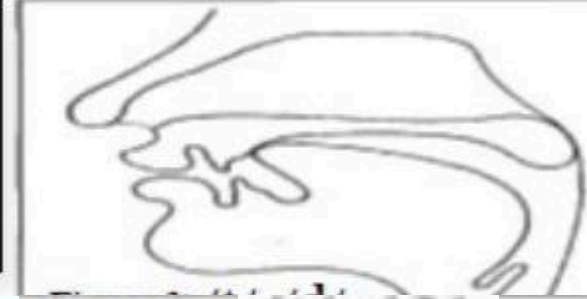


Figure /t/, /d/

Task : Pronounce the following words

Listen and repeat: /t/ **Tin, Button, Get, Tight, Tell**

/d/ **Dame, Ladder, Odd, Did, Deaf**

Minimal Pairs: **Tin, Din**

**To, Do**

**Town, Down**

**Eight, Aid**

**Bet Bed**

**Tame Dame**

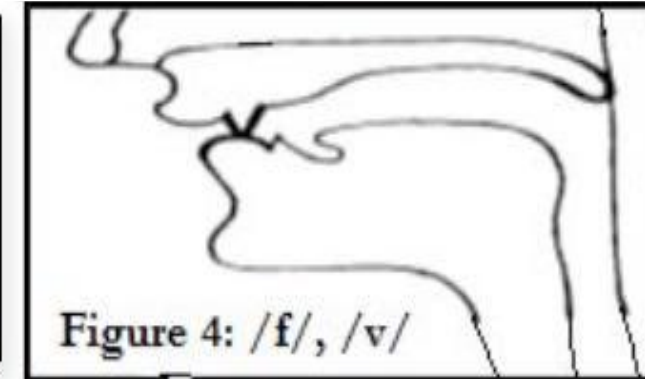
**Doom Tomb**

**Medal Metal**

**Heard Hurt**

### 3.4. Identification of the consonants /f/, /v/

Labiodental sounds are made with partial closure in which an audible friction is heard. They are articulated with the front upper teeth against lower lip. /f/ is unvoiced & fortis. /v/ is voiced & lenis. *fit* /fit/, *vice* /vaɪs/.



**Task :** Pronounce the following words

Listen and repeat: **/f/ Fat, Coffee, Rough, Fluff**

**/v/ Very, Heavy, Move, Verve**

Minimal Pairs: **Vault, Fault**  
**Believe, Belief**  
**Live, Life**

---

**Fan Van**  
**Leaf Leave**  
**Off Of**  
**Rifle Rival**

---

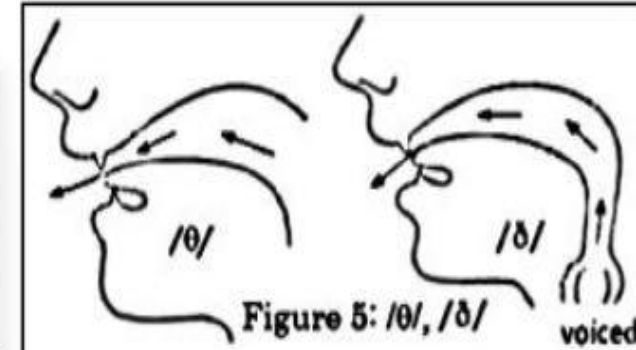
**Very Berry**  
**Vet Bet**  
**Vote Boat**  
**Vowel Bowel**



### 3. Description of the Articulation of English Consonant

#### 3.5. Identification of the consonants /θ/, /ð/

Dental sounds are made with partial closure or narrow opening using the upper front teeth against tongue-tip. The soft palate is raised. The consonant /θ/ is unvoiced & fortis. /ð/ is voiced & lenis. *Thin* /θɪn/, *that* /ðæt/.



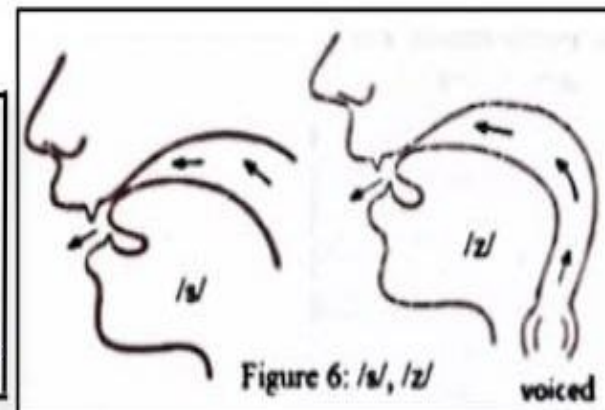
Task : Pronounce the following words

Listen and repeat: /θ/ **Thin, Throw, Thumb, Author, Healthy, Birth, Path**

/ð/ **Then, This, There, That, Other, Smooth**

### 3.6. Identification of the consonants /s/, /z/

Those alveolar sounds are made with partial closure. The soft palate is raised to stop air from going thru nasal cavity. The tip of the tongue contacts alveolar ridge. /s/ is voiceless & fortis. /z/ is voiced & lenis. See /si:/, zoo /zu:/.



**Task** : Pronounce the following words

Listen and repeat: /s/ **Soon, Mister, Hiss, Cease**

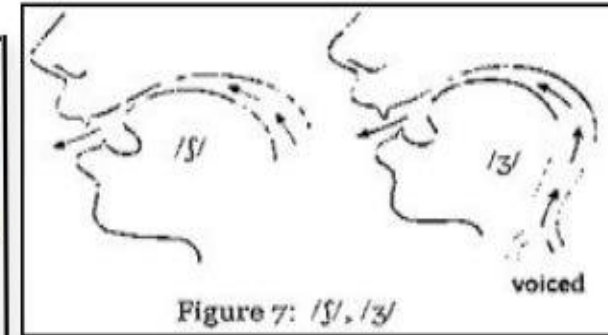
/z/ **Zero, Music, Buzz, Roses**

Minimal Pairs: **Buzz, Bus**  
**Rise, Rice**  
**Zip, Sip**  
**Lazy, Lacy**  
**His Hiss**  
**Cause, Course**  
**Plays, Place**  
**Grows Gross**

# 3. Description of the Articulation of English Consonant

## 3.7. Identification of the consonants /ʃ/, /ʒ/

Fricative consonants are formed by a narrowing of the air passage then the air escapes making a kind of hissing sound with an audible friction. The blade of the tongue contacts the palato-aveolar slightly. The soft palate is raised. /ʃ/ is unvoiced & fortis. /ʒ/ is voiced & lenis. *Shake* /ʃeɪk/, *beige* /beɪʒ/.



Task : Pronounce the following words

Listen and repeat: /ʃ/ **Ship, Sure, Nation, Fish, Shush**

/ʒ/ **Leisure, Pleasure, Vision, Beige**

Minimal Pairs: Ship, Sip

Show, So

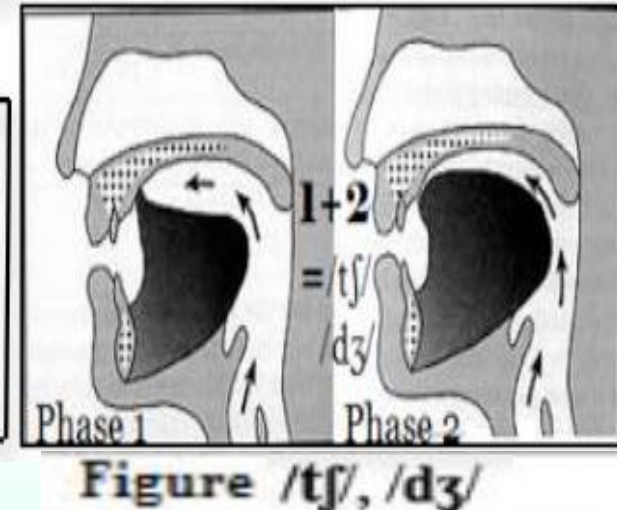
Shy, Sigh

Chauffeur, Sofa

Shock Sock

### 3.8. Identification of the consonants /tʃ/, /dʒ/

The English affricative sounds /tʃ/ and /dʒ/ are described as a transition from the plosives /t, d/ into the fricatives /ʃ, ʒ/ rapidly to get one phoneme. /tʃ/ is unvoiced & fortis. /dʒ/ is voiced & lenis. *Chief* /tʃi:f/, *Jack* /dʒæk/.



Task : Pronounce the following words

Listen and repeat: /tʃ/ **Choke, Teacher, Match, Church**

/dʒ/ **Judge, Joke, Lodger, Bridge**

Minimal Pairs: **Choke, Joke**

**Chunk, Junk**

**Rich, Ridge**

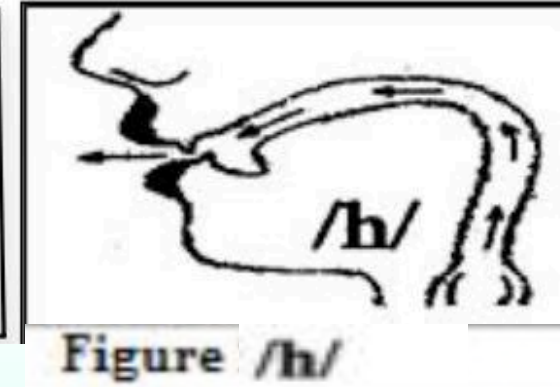
**Lunch, Lunge**

**Surge, Search**

## 3. Description of the Articulation of English Consonant

### 3.9. Identification of the consonant /h/

This consonant is articulated with the narrowing of the airflow in glottis. It is a kind of breathing out with an audible friction in the vocal cords. /h/ is voiceless when produced alone, but voiced when followed by a vowel. Example words: *Heat* /hi:t/, *who* /hu:/, *perhaps* /pə'hæps/, *adhere* /əd'hɪə/.



**Task :** Pronounce the following words

Listen and repeat: /h/ **Here, Ahead, Hot, Hello, Height, Hedge, How,**

### 3.10. Identification of the consonant /m/

In the nasal consonants the air escapes through nose. To do this, the soft palate is lowered to let air go to nasal cavity. /m/ is articulated with closed lips (bilabial) then air goes through nasal cavity. /m/ is voiced. *Mike* /maɪk/.

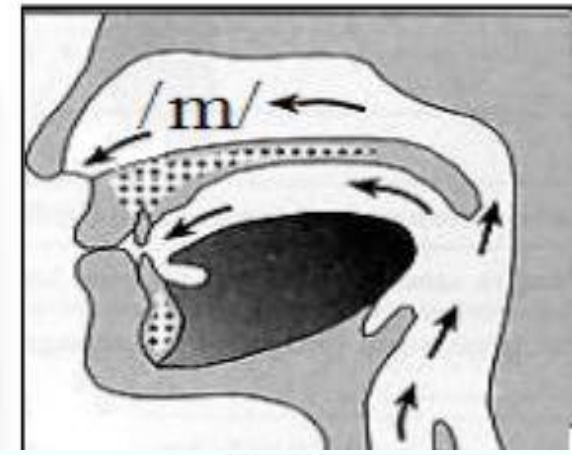


Figure /m/

Task : Pronounce the following words

Listen and repeat: /m/ **More, Hammer, Sum, Mime.**

Minimal Pairs: **Sum,**

**Sung,**

**Sun**

**Rum,**

**Run,**

**Rung**

## 3. Description of the Articulation of English Consonant

### 3.11. Identification of the consonant /n/

In the nasal sound /n/ the velum is lowered so that the air can escape through nasal cavity. /n/ is articulated with tongue tip pressing the alveolar ridge.

/n/ is voiced. *Nile* /naɪl/, *snow* /snəʊ/, *fallen* /'fɔ:lən/, *none* /nʌn/.

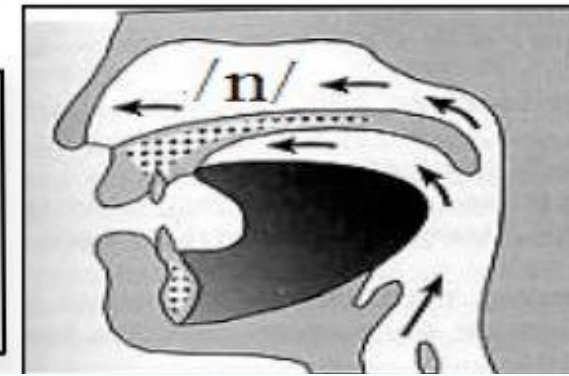


Figure /n/

Task : Pronounce the following words

Listen and repeat: **/n/ Nice, Son, Funny, None.**

Minimal Pairs: Sun, Sung

Pin, Ping

Ran, Rang

Thin, Thing

Wind, Winged

### 3.12. Identification of the consonant /ŋ/

This voiced nasal sound is made with the back of the tongue against velum.  
e.g.: *Ring* /rɪŋ/, *link* /lɪŋk/, *singer* /'sɪŋə/, *hanger* /'hæŋə/, *hunger* /'hʌŋgə/.

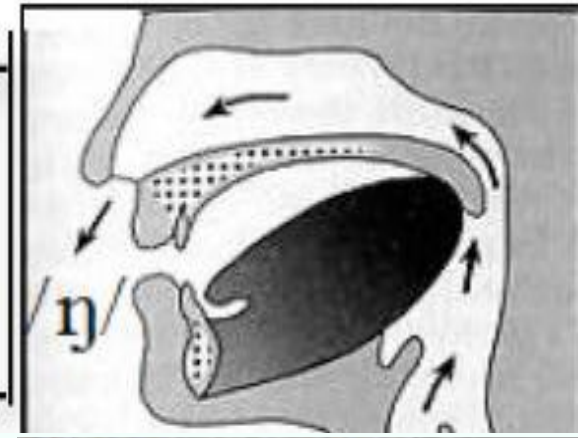


Figure : /ŋ/

Task : Pronounce the following words

Listen and repeat: /ŋ/ **Anger, Thanks, Rung, King.**

Minimal Pairs: **Run, Rung**

**Ton, Tongue**

**Win, Wing**

**Robin, Robbing**

**Sinner, Singer**



## 3. Description of the Articulation of English Consonant

### 3.13. Identification of the consonant /l/

This voiced alveolar lateral consonant is articulated with tongue centre and the alveolar ridge in which the air flows around both sides of the tongue.

There are two types of laterals:

**The clear /l/** is voiced alveolar lateral as: *let* /let/, *wallet* /'wɒlɪt/, *elite* /i'li:t/

**The dark /l/** is voiced velar lateral as: *well* [weɫ], *milk* [mɪɫk], *little* ['lɪtɫ].

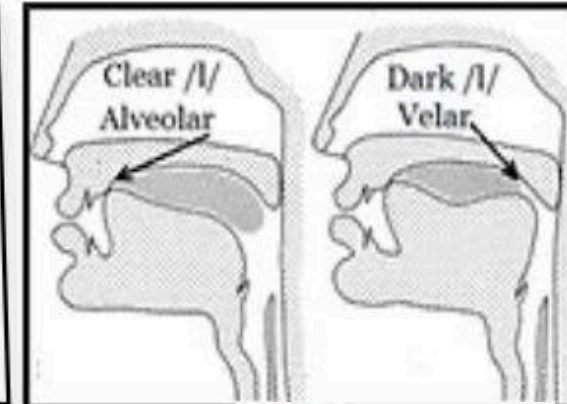


Figure ' /l/

**Task :** Pronounce the following words

Listen and repeat: /l/ **Light, Valley, Bell, Level, Let, Tell, Leaf, Feel, Loaf, Foal, Loot, Tool, Pal, Pill, Mile**

Minimal Pairs: **Light, Right**

**Led, Red**

**Clash, Crash**

**Climb, Crime**

**Lice Rice**

**Lock Rock**

### 3.14. Identification of the consonant /r/

This post-alveolar consonant is pronounced with the articulators approach each other without a plosive or fricative sound as an approximant. The tip of the tongue approaches further back to the alveolar ridge somehow like /t, d/. the lips are slightly round. /r/ is voiced. *Right* /raɪt/, *free* /fri:/, *writer* /'raɪtə/.

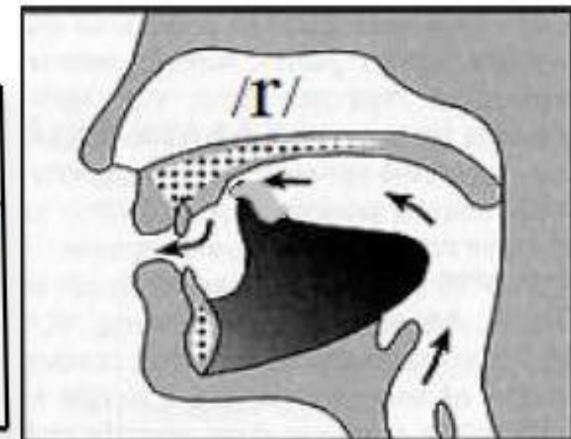


Figure /r/

Task : Pronounce the following words

Listen and repeat: /r/ **Right, Wrong, Sorry, Arrange**

Minimal Pairs: **Wrong, Long**

**Royal, Loyal**

**Misread, Mised**

**Pirate, Pilot**

**Pray Play**

Pronunciation of /r/ in British English after a vowel: **car, card, bored, here, heard**

This is my **car** but My **car** is blue

### 3. Description of the Articulation of English Consonant

#### 3.15. Identification of the consonant /w/

This glide or semivowel is made like back close vowel /u:/ but it is very short. This bilabial approximant is articulated with rounded lips. /w/ & /j/ never occur in word final position. e.g.: *waste* /weɪst/, *require* /rɪ'kwaɪə/.

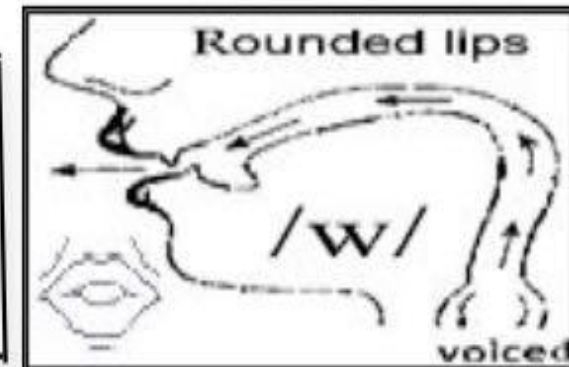


Figure ' /w/

**Task :** Pronounce the following words

Listen and repeat: **/w/** Wet, When, One, Beware, Quick, Queen

Minimal Pairs: Wet, Vet

Worse, Verse

While, Vile

West Vest

Wary Vary

### 3.16. Identification of the consonant /j/

This glide or semivowel is made like front close vowel /i:/ but is very short. This palatal approximant is articulated with the back of the tongue raised to the velum (soft palate). /j/ is voiced. *Yes/jes/, tube/tju:b/, new/nju:/.*

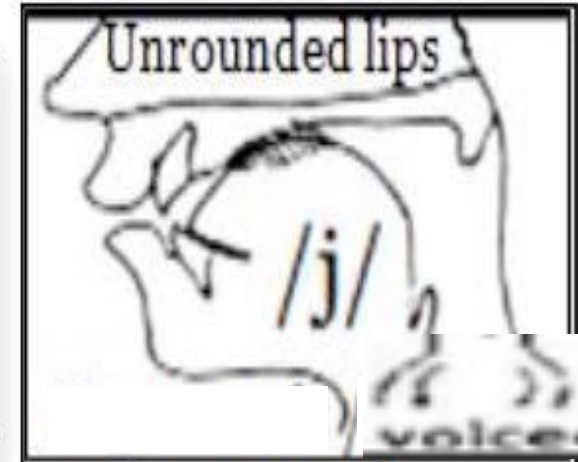


Figure /j/

Task : Pronounce the following words

Listen and repeat: **/j/ Yet, Use, Yellow, Useful, Beauty, Few, Cute, Accuse**

# Phonemic Chart

Southern British English (RP)

voiced unvoiced

Note: All vowels are voiced

VOWELS	MONOPHTHONGS				DIPHTHONGS			
	<p><b>i:</b></p> <p><u>E</u>, <u>see</u>, these <u>evil</u>, <u>seat</u>, <u>meat</u>, <u>meet</u>, <u>treat</u>, <u>believe</u>, <u>thief</u>, <u>e-mail</u>, <u>e-bay</u>, <u>BBC</u></p>	<p><b>ɪ</b></p> <p><u>in</u>, <u>if</u>, <u>big</u>, <u>with</u>, <u>this</u>, <u>six</u> <u>difficult</u>, <u>children</u> <u>Philip</u>, <u>Liverpool</u>,</p>	<p><b>ʊ</b></p> <p><u>good</u>, <u>wood</u>, <u>could</u>, <u>should</u> <u>would</u>, <u>woman</u> <u>book</u>, <u>crook</u>, <u>look</u>, <u>shook</u> <u>full</u>, <u>put</u></p>	<p><b>u:</b></p> <p><u>do</u>, <u>you</u>, <u>blue</u>, <u>two</u>, <u>shoe</u> <u>food</u>, <u>Jude</u>, <u>Jew</u> <u>knew</u>, <u>crew</u> <u>flew</u>, <u>shoot</u> <u>through</u>, <u>threw</u> <u>moody</u>, <u>Susan</u></p>	<p><b>ɪə</b></p> <p><u>ear</u>, <u>here</u>, <u>hear</u> <u>clear</u>, <u>beer</u> <u>fear</u>, <u>near</u>, <u>Ian</u> <u>stear</u> <u>happier</u></p>	<p><b>eɪ</b></p> <p><u>A</u>, <u>day</u>, <u>May</u> <u>play</u>, <u>say</u> <u>eight</u>, <u>late</u> <u>alien</u>, <u>make</u> <u>break</u>, <u>hate</u>, <u>bake</u>, <u>take</u> <u>Amy</u></p>		
	<p><b>e</b></p> <p><u>egg</u>, <u>bed</u>, <u>red</u>, <u>head</u> <u>said</u>, <u>dead</u> <u>emperor</u></p>	<p><b>ə</b></p> <p><u>away</u>, <u>ago</u> <u>over</u>, <u>mother</u> <u>banana</u> <u>dictator</u> <u>London</u> <u>Edinburgh</u></p>	<p><b>ɜ:</b></p> <p><u>her</u>, <u>first</u> <u>word</u>, <u>third</u> <u>heard</u>, <u>earth</u> <u>worst</u>, <u>learn</u> <u>herbal</u>, <u>birthday</u></p>	<p><b>ɔ:</b></p> <p><u>call</u>, <u>door</u>, <u>talk</u> <u>sure</u>, <u>shore</u>, <u>more</u> <u>pour</u>, <u>poor</u>, <u>walk</u> <u>awesome</u> <u>daughter</u> <u>thought</u>, <u>bought</u></p>	<p><b>ʊə</b></p> <p><u>pure</u>, <u>cure</u> <u>tour</u> <u>curious</u>, <u>jury</u> <u>manure</u> <u>insecure</u> <u>endure</u></p>	<p><b>ɔɪ</b></p> <p><u>boy</u>, <u>toy</u>, <u>joy</u> <u>oil</u>, <u>royal</u>, <u>soil</u> <u>boil</u> <u>spoil</u> brat</p>	<p><b>əʊ</b></p> <p><u>O</u>, <u>go</u>, <u>no</u>, <u>know</u>, <u>road</u> <u>old</u>, <u>rope</u>, <u>boat</u> <u>show</u>, <u>throw</u>, <u>oh!</u> <u>over</u>, <u>note</u> <u>know</u>, <u>robot</u></p>	
	<p><b>æ</b></p> <p><u>cat</u>, <u>ham</u>, <u>map</u> <u>happy</u>, <u>lab</u> <u>actually</u> <u>fracture</u></p>	<p><b>ʌ</b></p> <p><u>up</u>, <u>but</u>, <u>under</u> <u>love</u>, <u>mother</u> <u>brother</u>, <u>luck</u> <u>butter</u>, <u>London</u> <u>enough</u>, <u>rough</u> <u>none</u>, <u>nun</u></p>	<p><b>a:</b></p> <p><u>car</u>, <u>far</u>, <u>start</u> <u>hard</u>, <u>father</u> <u>heart</u>, <u>calm</u> <u>aunt</u>, <u>aren't</u> <u>can't</u>, <u>shan't</u> <u>half</u>, <u>banana</u></p>	<p><b>ɒ</b></p> <p><u>dog</u>, <u>on</u>, <u>off</u> <u>got</u>, <u>want</u> <u>what</u>, <u>hot</u> <u>yacht</u> <u>oxymoron</u></p>	<p><b>eə</b></p> <p><u>air</u>, <u>care</u> <u>stair</u>, <u>chair</u> <u>bear</u>, <u>wear</u> <u>where</u>, <u>there</u></p>	<p><b>aɪ</b></p> <p><u>I</u>, <u>my</u>, <u>eye</u> <u>bite</u>, <u>bike</u> <u>high</u>, <u>light</u>, <u>sight</u> <u>Skype</u>, <u>child</u> <u>irate</u>, <u>kind</u></p>	<p><b>aʊ</b></p> <p><u>now</u>, <u>cow</u> <u>ow!</u> <u>house</u>, <u>mouse</u> <u>south</u>, <u>spout</u> <u>tower</u>, <u>flower</u> <u>trousers</u></p>	
CONSONANTS	<p><b>p</b></p> <p><u>pet</u>, <u>pop</u>, <u>lip</u>, <u>happy</u>, <u>people</u> <u>peculiar</u>, <u>hippopotamus</u></p>	<p><b>b</b></p> <p><u>baby</u>, <u>bin</u>, <u>Bob</u> <u>bonanza</u> <u>brick</u>, <u>liberty</u> <u>Barbados</u></p>	<p><b>t</b></p> <p><u>tea</u>, <u>tap</u>, <u>tree</u>, <u>trap</u> <u>telemetry</u> <u>Tom</u>, <u>Thomas</u></p>	<p><b>d</b></p> <p><u>did</u>, <u>didn't</u>, <u>dive</u>, <u>road</u> <u>middle</u></p>	<p><b>tʃ</b></p> <p><u>chess</u>, <u>watch</u> <u>child</u>, <u>stretch</u> <u>beach</u>, <u>teach</u> <u>literature</u></p>	<p><b>dʒ</b></p> <p><u>jam</u>, <u>gym</u>, <u>bridge</u>, <u>edge</u> <u>legend</u>, <u>George</u> <u>vegetable</u></p>	<p><b>k</b></p> <p><u>back</u>, <u>cook</u> <u>crack</u>, <u>capitulate</u></p>	<p><b>g</b></p> <p><u>go</u>, <u>gift</u>, <u>great</u> <u>giggle</u> <u>glimmer</u></p>
	<p><b>f</b></p> <p><u>if</u>, <u>fish</u>, <u>off</u> <u>Philip</u> <u>fife</u>, <u>wife</u> <u>Philosophy</u></p>	<p><b>v</b></p> <p><u>very</u>, <u>live</u>, <u>love</u> <u>voice</u>, <u>over</u>, <u>wives</u> <u>vegetable</u></p>	<p><b>θ</b></p> <p><u>think</u> <u>three</u> <u>theory</u>, <u>birthday</u> <u>Thursday</u> <u>thousand</u></p>	<p><b>ð</b></p> <p><u>the</u>, <u>this</u>, <u>that</u> <u>these</u> <u>mother</u> <u>themselves</u></p>	<p><b>s</b></p> <p><u>sun</u>, <u>kiss</u> <u>sucker</u>, <u>missed</u> <u>kicks</u>, <u>stops</u> <u>cuts</u>, <u>costs</u> <u>Mississippi</u></p>	<p><b>z</b></p> <p><u>zoo</u>, <u>zebra</u> <u>please</u>, <u>easy</u> <u>noses</u>, <u>zombie</u> <u>cheese</u>, <u>sneeze</u> <u>rungs</u>, <u>plays</u></p>	<p><b>ʃ</b></p> <p><u>she</u>, <u>shoot</u> <u>fish</u>, <u>ship</u>, <u>shy</u> <u>fresh</u>, <u>sheep</u> <u>splash</u>, <u>wash</u> <u>ash</u>, <u>bishop</u></p>	<p><b>ʒ</b></p> <p><u>pleasure</u> <u>television</u> <u>massage</u> <u>usually</u> <u>leisure</u>, <u>Asia</u></p>
	<p><b>m</b></p> <p><u>me</u>, <u>lemon</u>, <u>home</u>, <u>camera</u> <u>manipulate</u></p>	<p><b>n</b></p> <p><u>no</u>, <u>none</u>, <u>notorious</u> <u>bone</u>, <u>Norway</u></p>	<p><b>ŋ</b></p> <p><u>sing</u>, <u>ring</u>, <u>long</u>, <u>song</u>, <u>wrong</u>, <u>doing</u>, <u>living</u></p>	<p><b>h</b></p> <p><u>hello</u>, <u>happy</u> <u>him</u>, <u>her</u> <u>hectic</u> <u>ha ha!</u></p>	<p><b>l</b></p> <p><u>leg</u>, <u>ill</u>, <u>live</u> <u>alive</u>, <u>slow</u> <u>lugubrious</u></p>	<p><b>r</b></p> <p><u>red</u>, <u>real</u>, <u>road</u>, <u>write</u>, <u>really</u> <u>already</u> <u>arrange</u></p>	<p><b>w</b></p> <p><u>we</u>, <u>when</u>, <u>what</u> <u>sweltering</u></p>	<p><b>j</b></p> <p><u>yes</u>, <u>yellow</u>, <u>yesterday</u>, <u>younger</u>, <u>music</u>,</p>

hel'əʊ / həl'əʊ  
 god 'mɔ:ɒnɪŋ  
 haɪ  
 'θæŋks  
 jɔ: 'welkəm  
 'mju:zɪk  
 ðə 'kwɪk 'braʊn 'fɒks 'dʒʌmpz 'əʊsə ðə 'leɪzi 'dɒg  
 'rəʊbɒts ɑ:r 'ɔ:səm\*  
 'gʌvnmənt / 'gʌvmənt  
 'lɪtərətʃə  
 'vedʒtəbl

\*note the extra /r/ linking the words **are**[ɑ:] and **awesome**['ɔ:səm].

hello  
 good morning  
 hi!  
 thanks  
 you're welcome  
 music  
 the quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog  
 robots are awesome  
 government  
 literature  
 vegetable

