

The Basics


Phonetics

Introduction to Phonology

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Basics of Phonetics and Phonology



1 Fortify your pronunciation and enunciate naturally!

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Recognition of the book

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Before we start putting phonology, let us know a little bit about communication and language.

Communication

What is Communication?



Key Differences

Communication is taken from the Latin language “communicare” which means to convey, impart or share.

- It is the process of sharing ideas or giving information.

Examples:

Letters

Talking

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Body language



Eyes contact



Writing



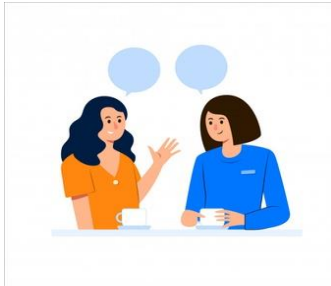
Whispering

It has mainly four kinds:

1. Verbal
2. Non-verbal
3. Written
4. Visual

Verbal /'vɜ:rbəl/

Verbal communication is performed through our talking. It is mainly spoken communication.



Examples:

Talking, whispering, shouting

Non-verbal Communication

the communication which is not performed by talking, or any kind of speech utterance. It is usually done with hand, head or any other part of your body movement.



Examples;

Body language, winging, talking with the deaf

Written Communication

It is the kind of communication which is done through written text or written from. They are like transcripts.

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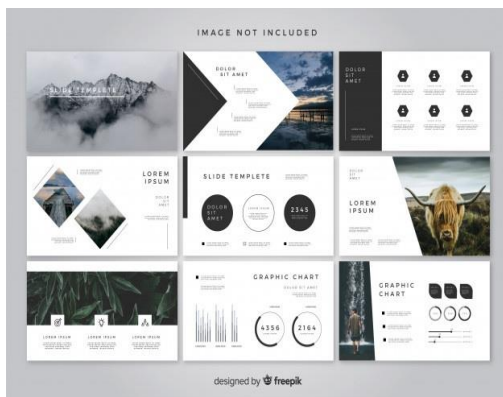
Example:

Letters writing.

Email, message, books, booklets...

Visual /'vɪʒuəl/ **Communication** /kə,mju:nɪ'keɪʃn/

It is the kind of communication which is outperformed by picture, shapes, and logos and any other type of non-living shape-like things.



Examples:

Photos, triangles, slides...

Now, let us present some sort of meagre information about **Language**.

Language /'læŋgwɪdʒ/

- a system of communication consisting of sounds, words, and grammar is called language.
- A system of communication in speech and writing.



Accent and dialect

Languages have different accents: they are pronounced differently from the people of different geographical locations.

The confusion between accent and dialect is common. Remember that accent talks just about the differences of pronunciation and moreover that is the same language according to grammar, spelling. For example, Pashto in Afghanistan, is different in Khost province in pronunciation, if you come to Kandahar province, it is much more different from Khost. This is we call it accent.

But, dialect is not only different in pronunciation, but also in grammar, writing, reading.

Dialect: the form of a language that is spoken in one area with grammar, words and pronunciation that may be different from other forms of the same language

Accent: A way of pronouncing the words of a language that shows which country, area or social class a person comes from

Phoneme: /'fəʊni:m/

The smallest unit of sound is called phoneme.

Ex: /s/ /z/ /p/

Phonology /fə'na:lədʒi/

The study of sounds is called phonology.

For some languages, we don't need phonology because the pronunciation is usually recognized from their orthography.

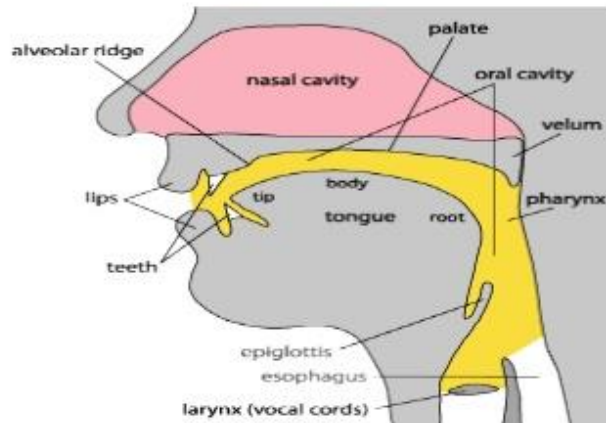
Spanish, Pashto

Phonology is the branch of linguistics which studies the ways in which sounds are used in different languages to form syllables and later words by following some system.

What is phonetics?

- ▶ Phonetics is general **study** of all human **speech sounds** and how they are produced ,transmitted and received.

Organs of speech



Phonology deals with:

1. **Acoustic**/ə'ku:stɪk/ **phonetics**/fə'netɪk/: physical properties of the sounds
2. **Auditory**/'ɔ:dətɔ:ri/ **phonetics**: deals with how the listener receives the sounds.
3. **Articulatory**/ɑ:r'tɪkjulətɔ:ri/ **phonetics**: deals with the productions of the sounds

Differences between phonetics and phonology

- Phonology deals with the sound systems languages.
- Phonetics deals with the physical realization of the elements of the sound system,

Ex: how the sound is physically produced (articulatory phonetics)

Pronunciation/prə,nʌnsi'eɪʃn/

The way in which a particular word, sound, or language is pronounced is known as pronunciation.

IPA was invented in 1888.

Hearing

Receiving or becoming aware of a sound using your ears is known as hearing.



Hearing is divided into two categories:

1. **Sound:** Any silence breaker is known as sound.



2. **Voice:** any human being sound used for the purpose of speaking, reciting or singing is called voice.

Note: The sound of an animal cannot be called sound.

Sound is divided into two categories according to the English Phonology:

- Vowel sounds
- Consonant sounds

Vowel sounds

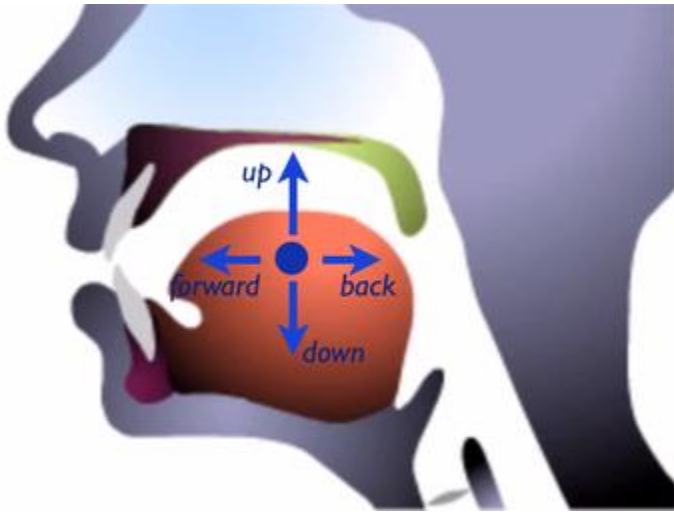
A vowel is any speech sound in which the mouth is open and the tongue is not touching the top of the mouth, the teeth.

Front vowels: /i/ /ɪ/ /e/ /ɜ/ /æ/

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Central: /ə/ /ʌ/

Back: /o/ /ɑ/ /æ/ /ɔ:/ /u:/



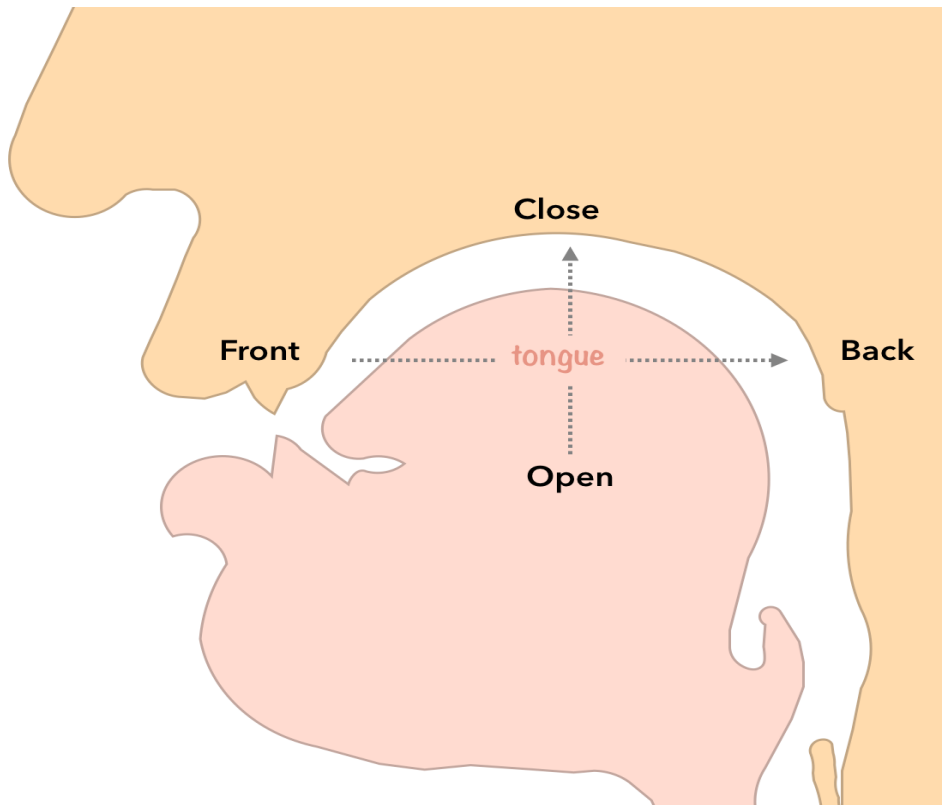
For example

/i:/ /ɑ:/

Lick /lɪk/

Beet /bi:t/

Car /kɑ:r/



Vowel sounds generally fall into two categories:

- Simple vowels are divided into **front**, **central**, and **back** vowels.
- Compound vowels are divided into **diphthongs**, and **triphthongs**.

Examples of front:

A front vowel is pronounced with the highest part of the tongue usually pushed forward and somewhat arched.

Bed, rule, fit,

Front vowels: /i/ /ɪ/ /e/ /ɜ/ /æ/

Central: /ə/ /ʌ/

Back: /u/ /o/ /ɑ/ /æ/ /ɔ:/ /u:/

Diphthongs

A combination of two vowel sounds pronounced as one vowel is called diphthong.

Ideas are different about diphthongs

Here are ten:

State /stert/ shade, pale, plate

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Soap /səʊp/ bowl, poach, oats,

Seer /sɪə(r)/

Air /eə(r)/

Sight /saɪt/

Soil /sɔɪl/

Sure /ʃʊə(r)/

Stout /staʊt/

Triphthongs

A triphthong is the combination of three vowel sounds pronounced as one sound.

Five common are here

Layer /'leɪə(r)/ payer

Liar /'laɪə/ buyer, hire, tire

Loyal /'ləʊəl/ royal, lawyer,

Lower /'ləʊə/ ,mower, slower,

Tower /'taʊə/ power, hour, our, flour

Consonant sounds

Consonant is a speech sound in which the breath is partly or completely blocked.

Such as:

/v/ very /'veri/

King /kɪŋ/

/p/

Note: consonant sounds fall into two categories:

1. VOICED
2. VOICELESS

voiced consonant

a voiced consonant is pronounced with the vibration of the vocal cords.

We have fifteen voiced consonants:

/b/ /d/ /g/ /v/ /z/ /ʒ/ /ð/ /m/ /n/ /ŋ/ /l/ /r/ /j/ /w/ /dʒ/

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Book/bʊk/

Garlic /'gɑ:rlɪk/

Moon /mu:n/

King /kɪŋ/

All vowels and diphthongs are voiced.

Voiceless consonant sounds

A voiceless consonant sound is pronounced without the vibration of the vocal cords.

We have nine voiceless sounds:

P, t, k, f, s, θ, ʃ, tʃ, h,

pocket/'pɑ:kɪt/

take /teɪk/

fork /fɔ:rk/

with /wɪθ/

all vowels are voiced. However, some consonant can be voiced or voiceless.

Phonetic Symbol

A symbol used to represent the sound of a human speech in writing is called phonetic symbol.

Every phonetic symbol represents a specific sound.

Syllable

Syllable is a word or part of a word that has one vowel sound.

A word can be one syllable, two or even more than two...

Syllabification

The act of dividing a word into syllables is called syllabification.

Examples:

Be tween win dow

Stress An extra force or emphasis on a syllable is called stress.

For example, the second syllable of the word agree /ə'gri:/ is stressed. It means a one syllable word is itself stressed, such as back, face etc.

Stress is one of the most important speech tools used by English speakers to communicate meaning. English speakers use stress to highlight information they think is important. In addition, every English

word with more than one syllable or word part has a defined stress pattern. You can look up a dictionary to see which syllable is stressed. English stress is as important as English sounds. Many words in academic contexts are multisyllabic. It is important to get them right.

There are two major types of stress, **primary stress and secondary stress**

Three levels of stress:

1. Primary
2. Secondary
3. Unstressed

Primary Stress

It is the stress where a word is emphasized the most. It is also called main stress and it is shown by (ˈ) in dictionaries. /ɪnˈkredəbl/

When you say the (ˈ), the next syllable is the stress syllable.

You can make your sound louder for making the stress clear.

Secondary Stress

It is the stress in which a word is emphasized slightly and is shown by (,) in dictionaries.

/,ɪŋkjuˈbeɪfɪn/

Nouns and adjectives with two syllables usually have stress on the first syllable.

Ex: minute, money, doctor

Most verbs have stress on the second syllable when it is made of two syllable.

Ex: Decide, forget, explain

If some other words are made from the root word, then the stress is on the same syllable.

Ex: Comfort, comfortable, discomfort...

Da dada

Da DA da

Dada Da

Stressed sounds are louder, longer and at a higher pitch.

There are two types of words:

- Function words
- Content words

Function words are off beat. They are prepositions, conjunctions and articles and so on...

Function Words

Function Words – are words used to make our sentences grammatically correct. Pronouns, determiners, and prepositions, and auxiliary verbs are examples of function words.

Function Words	Examples
Auxiliary Verbs	am ,are, has, could, should
Prepositions	at, on, to, near
Conjunctions	and, so, but, however
Determiners	a, an, the, some, many
Pronouns	I, it, we, they, she, he

Content words fall on the beat. They are like nouns, pronouns, adjectives, verbs. They stressed mostly.

Content Words

Content Words – content words are usually nouns, verbs, adjectives, and sometimes adverbs.

Content Words	Examples
Nouns	John, room, answer
Adjectives	happy, new large
Full Verbs	search, grow, hold, have
Adverbs	Really, completely, very, also, enough
Numerals	one, thousand, first
Interjections	eh, ugh, phew, well
Yes/No Answer	yes, no (as answers)

Acronyms often have stressed on the last letter.

Ex: UTS, **ID**

Intonation

The pattern of sound which rises high or low in speech is called intonation.

Ex: **WOW! What a car!**

Why is intonation so important?

Through intonation, we express:

- Feelings
- Intentions
- Attitudes

Level tone: when the intonation is not changing or moving that much.

Moving tone: when the intonation is moving or changing.

A syllable which carries a tone will be called tonic syllable.

Tonic stress, sometimes it is called nucleus and nuclear stress.

Functions of intonations

1. Intonation enables us to express emotions and attitudes as we speak and this adds a special kind of “meaning” to spoken English. This is often called the **attitudinal** /,ætr'tu:dnl/ **function** of intonation.
2. Intonation helps us to produce prominence and stress nicely and this kind of intonation is called **accentual intonation**.
3. The listener can understand greatly and there is can be conveyed good syntactic structures and this type of intonation is called **grammatical function** of intonation.
4. Looking at the acting of the speaker, we can judge from the intonation that what is new and what is given already. This type is called **discourse function**.

Pitch: How high or low other note or sound is.

Diagraph

Two letters having one sound is called diagraph.

Examples:

She, shirt, **graph**/græf/

Trigraph

Three letters having one sound is called Trigraph.

Ex: schwa /ʃwɑ:/, gorgeous /'gɔ:rdʒəs/

Homograph

A word that is spelt like another word but has a different meaning, pronunciation and grammatical form from it is called homograph.

Ex: wind /wɪnd/ wind /waɪnd/ (to have many twists)

Homophone

A word that is pronounced like another but has a different meaning, spelling and grammatical form from it is called homophone.

Ex: meet , meat

homonyms

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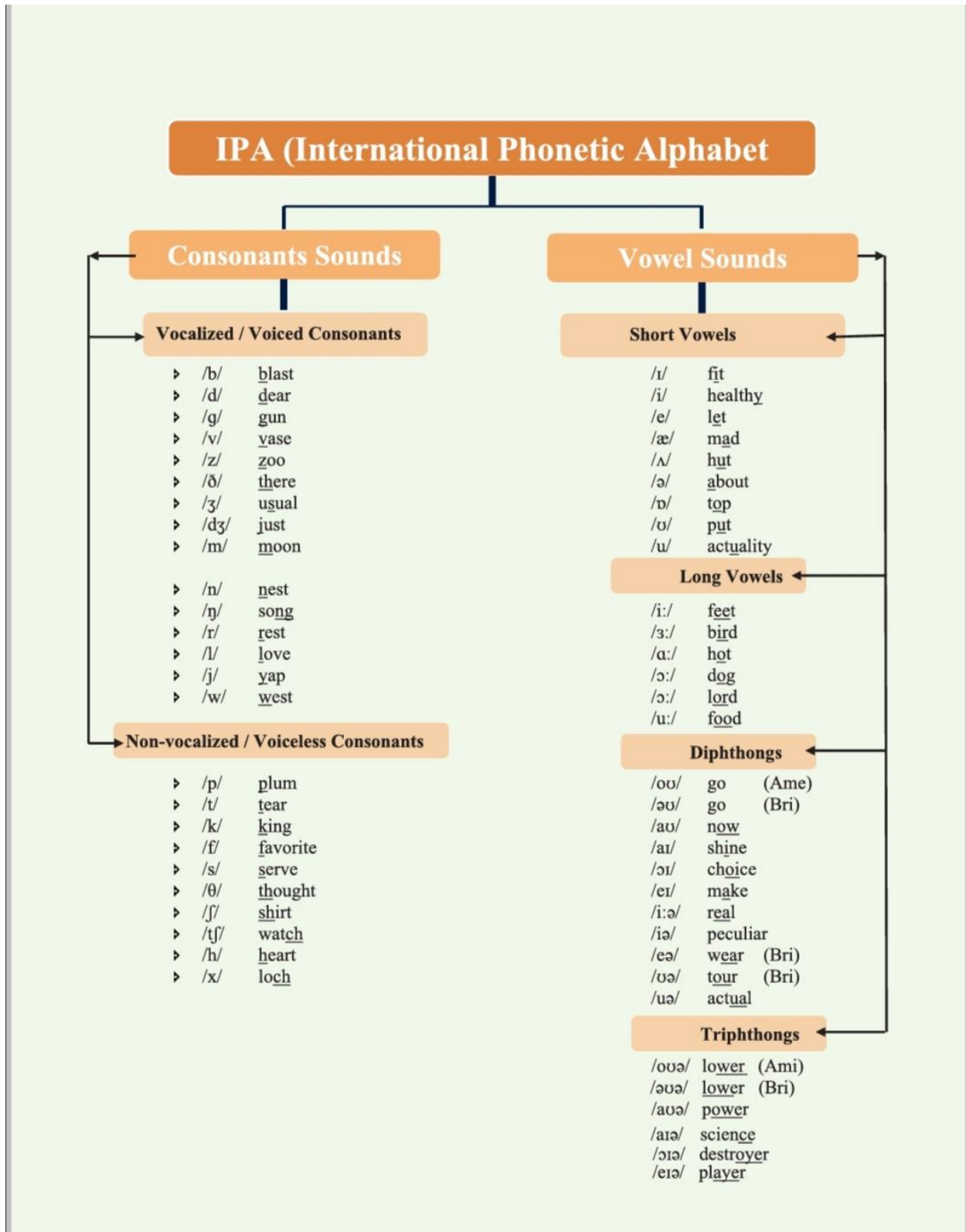
a word that is pronounced and spelt like another word but has a different meaning and grammatical form from it is called homonym.

Ex: swift (adj) swift (noun, a small bird with long wings)

Slanting lines

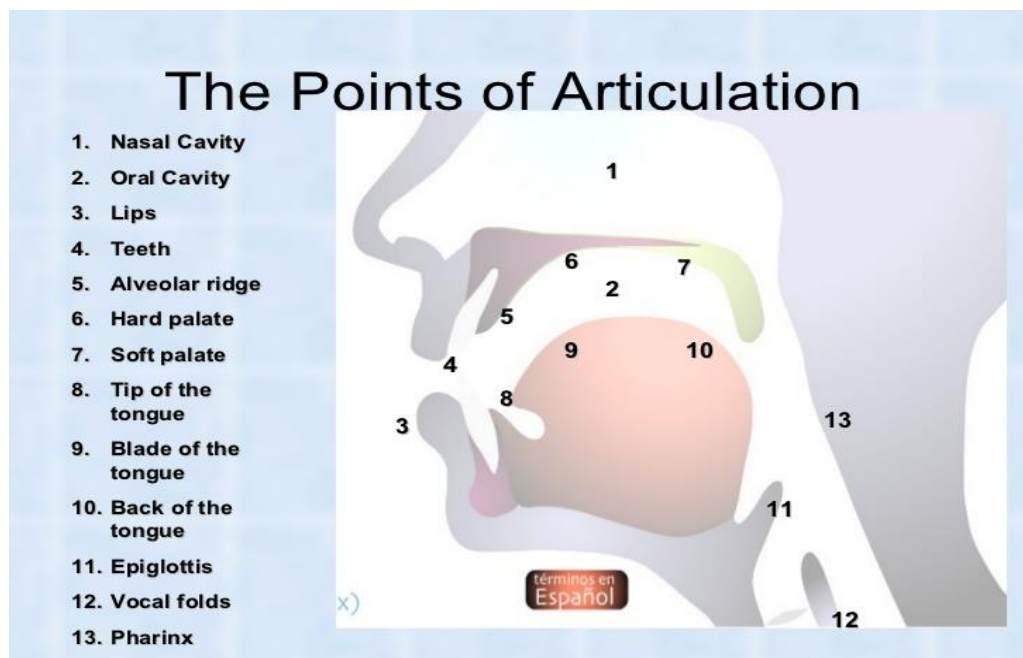
They are used to enclose the sounds of symbols or words in phonology

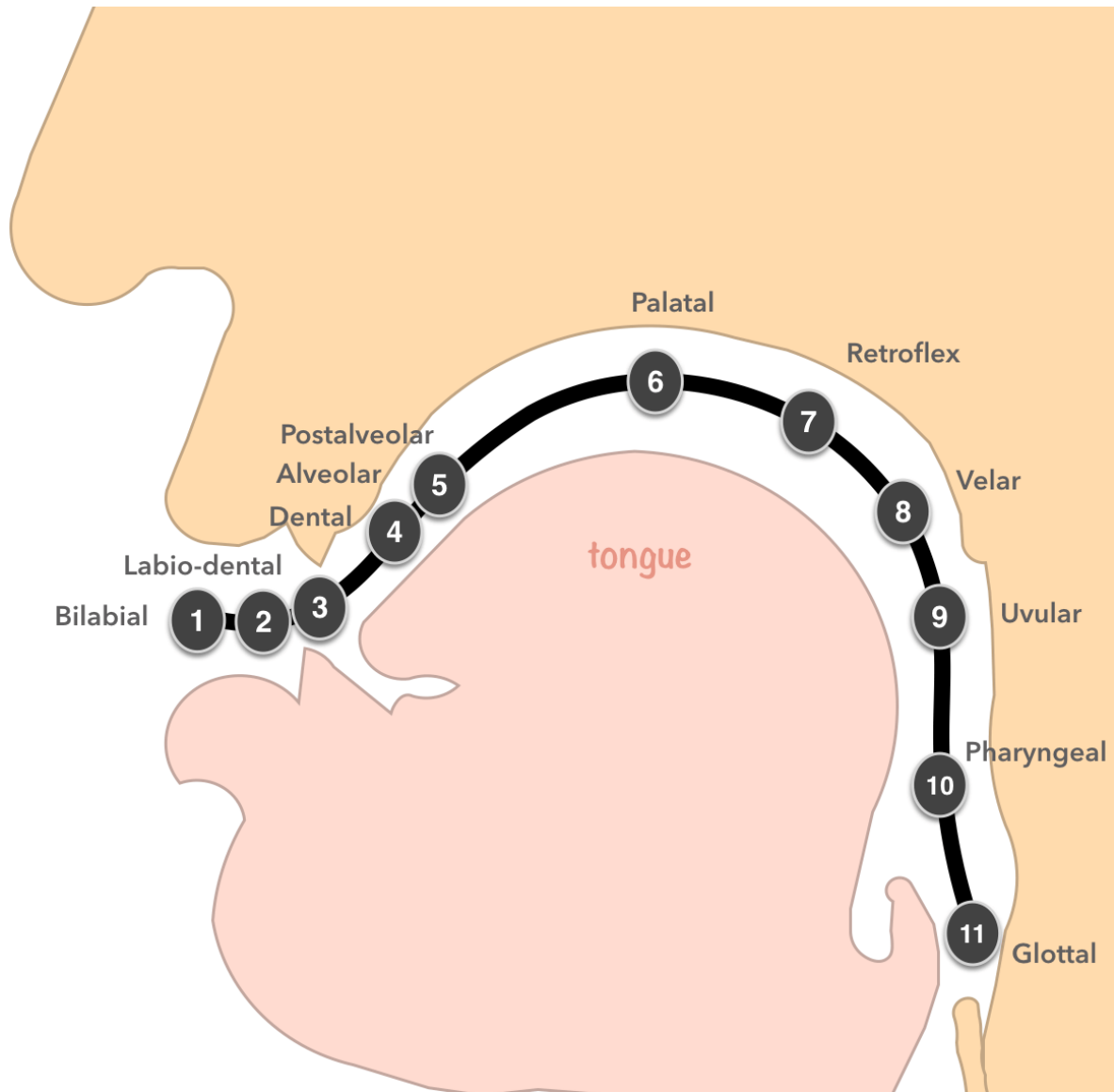
/g/



Articulation of consonant sounds

- **Articulation by Manner: How to produce the speech sound**
 1. Plosives
 2. Fricatives (narrowing sounds)
 3. Affricates (soft plosives)
 4. Nasals
 5. Liquids (continuous sounds/ Lateral)
 6. Semi Vowels
- **Articulation by Place: What speech organs are used to produce the speech sound**
 1. Bilabials
 2. Labiodentals
 3. Dentals
 4. Alveolar
 5. Post alveolar
 6. Palatal alveolar
 7. Palatal
 8. Velars
 9. Labial velar
 10. Glottal





Plosive sounds

Plosives are made by completely stopping the flow of air out of mouth and then suddenly releasing it.

The plosives are: /p/ /b/ /t/ /d/ /k/ /g/

/P/

This is a voiceless consonant sound which can be given by **P**, **PP**.

Ex: pride, whimper, creep, happy, precious, sweep, approve,

P+ s, n, and t at the beginning of the words, P is silent.

Psychology, pneumonia

P + other consonant, not possible

P + h gives the sound of /f/ phone/foʊn/, phase/ferz/

/b/

This is a voice consonant sound which can be given by **b and bb**.

Ex: brilliant, November, bring, about, tab, chubby

It is possible in three positions.

Ex: blubber, cable, cab

B + t in the middle of the words, b is silent. Debt, doubt

M+ b at the end of the words, b is silent. Climb, tomb, bomb

B + other consonant at the beginning of a word is not possible.

/t/

This is a voiceless consonant sound which can be given by **t, tt, ed**.

Ex: trust, water, hut, attain, watt (unit of measuring electrical power), teach, fatal, flatter, butt, clapped

T is possible in all three positions.

Tape, bottle, bolt

T+h gives different sound. Think, this

T+ch in the middle of the words, t is silent. Watch, ditch, catch

Ed gives t sound when it is preceded by voiceless consonants at the end of the words.

Watched, washed, stopped

T+ other consonant at the beginning of the words is not possible.

/d/

this is a voice consonant sound which can be given by d, dd, and ed.

Ex: dubious, reader, bud, middle, odd, dream, mood, shudder, modest, mad, ladder, add, mourned,

The sound is possible in all three positions: dry, reader, heed

D+g/j, D is silent. Adjective, judge

D+ other consonant at the beginning of the words is not possible.

/k/

This is a voiceless consonant sound which can be given by k, c, cc, ch, ck, sq, and x.

Ex: keen, sketch, spark, account, cricket, box, square

The letter is possible in all three positions: Kite, sky, and peak.

K+N k is silent. Knife, knit

K+ other consonant is not possible.

Ck is possible in the middle and at the end of the words. Trickle, pick

Ch is possible at the beginning, middle or end. Chemistry, ache, technology

/g/

This is a voiced consonant sound which can be given by g, gg, gh, ..

Ex: garment, dig, egg, slogan, aggravate, ghost

The sound is possible in all three positions: game, ignore, bag

E+x+vowels gives the sound of /gz/ example, exist

G+ other consonant at the beginning of the word is not possible

G+n at the beginning of the words, g is silent. Gnat, (small fly) gnaw(to keep biting sth)

G+n/m, at the end= g is silent. Sign, design

Fricatives/spirant

Fricatives are consonants produced by forcing air through a narrow channel made by placing two articulators close together.

Is made by forcing breath out through a narrow space in the mouth with the lips, teeth, or tongue in a particular position.

The fricatives are: /f/ /v/ /s/ /z/ /θ/ /ð/ /ʃ/ /ʒ/ /h/ /x/

/f/

This is a voiceless consonant sound which can be given by f, ff, ph, and gh.

Examples: finance/'fainæns/, effect/'fekt/, emphasis/'emfæsis/, rough /rʌf/

The sound is possible in three positions: fifty, prefer, loaf

F+ other consonant is not possible.

/v/

This is a voiced consonant sound which can be given by v, and vv.

Examples: vine/vaɪn/ divvy /'dɪvi/ (to divide)

The letter is possible in all three positions: voice, convince, give

/h/

This is a voiceless consonant sound and it is given by h.

Adhere/əd'hɪr/, enhance/ɪn'hæns/

The sound is possible in all three positions: heat, inhibit, ah

W+h+vowels= h is silent: what, when, where

H+ consonants= not possible

/x/

this is a voiceless consonant sound which is given by **ch**, either in the middle or at the end of the words. It is a German sound which is rarely found in English words.

Examples: och/ɑ:x/ , loch(lake) /lɑ:x/

Affricatives (Soft Plosives)

A speech sound that is made up of a plosive followed by immediately by a fricative. The affricate sounds are: /tʃ/ /dʒ/

Examples; /wɑ:tʃ/ /'ædʒɪktɪv/

/tʃ/

This is a voiceless consonant sound which can be given by (ch), (tu).

Examples: Chance/tʃæns/, teacher/'ti:tʃər/, watch/wɑ:tʃ/, torture/'tɔ:rtʃər/,

/dʒ/

This is a voiced consonant sound which can be given by j, g.

Examples: just/dʒʌst/, rejectrɪ'dʒekt/, raj/rɑ:dʒ/(bretish rule in india), judge/dʒʌdʒ/

The sound is possible in all three positions; Journey, major, raj

G+i/e/y gives the sound of **/dʒ/** : general, manage

D+u+vowel gives the sound of **/dʒ/** : gradual, individual

D+I gives the sound /dʒ/ : soldier

Nasal sounds

Nasal sound is produced by sending a stream of air through the nose. The nasal consonants in English are /m/, /n/ and /ŋ/.

/m/

This is a voiced consonant sound which is given by m, and mm.

Examples: meet/mi:t/, timber/'tɪmbər/, mummy /'mʌmi/

/n/

This is a voiced consonant sound which is given by n and nn.

Examples: nest/nest/, inn/ɪn/ innate/ɪ'neɪt/ (inborn)

/ŋ/

This is a voiced consonant. It is given by ng, nk.

King/kɪŋ/, donkey /'dɑ:ŋki/

Liquids (Laterals)

A consonant sound which is produced by placing part of the tongue against the palate so that air flows around it on both sides.

The liquids are: /r/ and /l/

Examples; water/'wɑ:tər/, lampoon/læm'pu:n/ (to criticize someone ridiculously)

/r/

This is a voiced consonant sound and the letters, r, and rr produce the sound.

Examples: real/'ri:əl/, narrate /'nærert/

The sound is possible in all three positions: read, work, car

R is pronounced in two ways: **clearly** and **slightly**

When r starts a word, it is clearly pronounced: read, road

Consonant+ r, then it is clearly pronounced: trip, drink

When r is preceded by a vowel in the middle= r is slightly pronounced: work, bored

R is slightly pronounced when it comes at the end of the words: car, war, water

R+h= h is silent: rhythm

In British English

R is silent when it comes between a vowel and following consonant: form, word, corner

R is silent when it ends a word: water, father, center

/l/



This is a voiced consonant sound which is given by l, ll.

Examples: love/lʌv/, fall/fɔ:l/

Semi-Vowels

A speech sound that sounds like a vowel but functions as a consonant.

The semi vowels are: /w/, /j/

Examples: Yellow /'jeləʊ/ water /'wɔ:tər/

/w/

This is a voiced consonant sound. It is usually produced by y,

Examples: yes/jes/, yard /jɑ:rd/

Articulation by Place

What speech organs are used to produce the speech sound is called articulation by place.

Bilabial

A speech sound made by using both lips such as **b, p**.

Labiodental

A speech sound made by placing the top teeth against the bottom lip such as, **f, v**.

Dentals

A speech sound that is produced with the tongue against upper front teeth, /ð/ /θ/

Alveolar

A speech sound made with the tongue touching the part of the mouth behind the upper front teeth. T, d

Alveolar is the adjective form of “alveolum” meaning “teeth ridge.”

Post Alveolar

It is articulated by raising the tongue tip towards the rear of alveolar which is /r/

Palatal Alveolar

A speech sound made in the place between the top teeth and the highest part of the mouth. /tʃ/

Palatal

A speech sound made by placing the tongue against or near the hard palate which is /j/

Velars

A speech sound made by placing the back of the tongue against or near the back of a mouth. k, g, /ŋ/

Labial Velar

It is articulated by raising back of the tongue towards the soft palate and rounding the lips which is w.

Glottals

A speech sound produced by glottis. /h/ /x/

Articulation of vowel sounds

pure vowels (monophthong) a speech sound that consists of only one vowel sound.

Short vowels: /ɪ/ /i/ /e/ /æ/ /ʌ/ /ə/ /ʊ/ /u/ /ɒ/

Long Vowels: /i:/ /ɜ:/ /ɑ:/ /ɔ:/ /u:/

Compound Vowels: a vowel sound that is produced by two different types of vowels.

Diphthongs: A combination of two vowel sounds pronounced as one sound.

Triphthongs: A combination of three vowel sounds pronounced as one sound.

Articulation by place

Front vowels: /ɪ/ /i/ /e/ /æ/ /i:/

Back vowels: /ʊ/ /u/ /ɒ/ /ɑ:/ /ɔ:/ /u:/

Central vowels: /ʌ/ /ə/ /ɜ:/

Front vowel: A vowel sound produced with the tongue in a position near the front of the mouth, such as the “a” in at.

/ɪ/ ih

This sound can be either at the beginning or in the middle of words.

Pit/pɪt/, fill/fɪl/ ill /ɪl/

/i/

The letters y, , i, ie and ee produce this sound.

Happy/'hæpi/, tidy/'taɪdi/, muddy/'mʌdi/, flee/fli:/, litre/'li:tər/, niece /ni:s/

/i:/ ee

This sound can be found either at the beginning , middle and end of the words.

Eat/i:t/, heel/hi:l/, see/si:/,

Happy/'hæpi/, tidy/'taɪdi/, muddy/'mʌdi/, flee/fli:/, litre/'li:tər/, niece /ni:s/

/e/ eh

This sound can be given by e, ea, ie, and ay.

Egg/eg/, pear/per/,

/æ/ aa

This sound is given by a either at the beginning when followed by a consonant or in the middle between two consonants.

Apt/æpt/, hand/hænd/, patch/pætʃ/,

Back vowels: a back vowel is that in which the tongue is positioned as far back as possible in the mouth without creating a constriction (narrowing) that would be classified as a consonant.

/ʊ/ uh

This sound can be given by oo, u, ou.

Oops/ʊps/, tour/tʊr, full /fʊl/

/u/

This sound is given by **u** in the middle of words.

continuous /kən'tɪnjuəs/ genuine /'dʒenjuɪn/

/u:/ oo

This sound can be found either in the middle, or at the end of the words.

Food/fu:d/, too/tu:/,

/ɔ:/

This sound can be found either in the middle of the words.

Inform/ɪn'fɔ:rm/, horse /hɔ:rs/

/ɑ:/

This sound can be in the middle of the words.

Hot/hɑ:t/, shot/jɑ:t/, clock/klə:k/

/ɒ/ ah

This is a British sound which can be found at the beginning and middle of words. The letters o, a, e, are pronounced a: in American English wherever pronounced **/ɒ/** in British English. O is mostly pronounced while a and e rarely give this sound.

The jaw drops some for this sound, and the tongue presses down in the back while the tip stays forward.

Odd/ɑ:d/, doll/dɑ:l/, wander /'wɑ:ndər/

Central Vowels

A central vowel is that in which the tongue is positioned halfway between a front and a back vowel.

/ɜ:/ ur

This sound can be found in the middle of the words.

It is always followed by the R consonant.

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Girl/gɜ:rl/, bird /bɜ:rd/

/ʌ/ uh

This sound can be found in the middle or at the beginning of the words.

Touch/tʌtʃ/, ugly /'ʌgli/

/ə/

This sound can be found either at the beginning, in the middle or at the end.

About /ə'baʊt/, aroma /ə'roumə/, woman /'wʊmən/

/θ/

With /wɪθ/

Both /boʊθ/



1. Put your tongue between your teeth.
2. Put your finger in front of your mouth.



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This can also be a little bit illustrative.

Diphthongs

Diphthong is the combination of two vowel sounds pronounced as one sound.

American Sound: /əʊ/

British Sound: /oʊ/

/oʊ/ oh

This sound can be found at the beginning or in the middle of the words.

Cloud/klaʊd/, ouch /aʊtʃ/

English Vowel /oʊ/



speechactive

/aɪ/ AI

This sound can be found in all three positions.

Bye/baɪ/, aye/aɪ/ (yes), fly/flaɪ/

/ɔɪ/ OY

This sound can be found either at the middle or at the end.

Soil/sɔɪl/, boy/bɔɪ/

/eɪ/

This sound can be found at the middle or end of the words.

Pay/peɪ/, fail/feɪ/

Shade, face, trail, gray, potato, later, great

/iə/

This sound can be found in the middle or at the end of the words.

Area/'eriə/, tear/teə(r)/, deteriorate, radiance, amiable

/iə/

This sound can be found either at the beginning, in the middle or end of the words.

Idea/aɪ'diə/, real/rɪəl/, ear/ɪə(r)/ here, sheer, experience, pier, serious

/eə/

This sound is in British English while /e/ sound is used in place of this in American English.

Share/ʃeə(r)/, spare/speə(r)/ dare, pair, chair

/ʊə/

This sound is in British English while **U** sound is used in place of this in American English.

Lure/lʊə(r)/, tour/tʊə(r)/, plural, curious, cure

/uə/

This sound can be found only in the middle of the words.

Usual/'ju:ʒuəl/, actual/'æktʃuəl/, gradual, arduous, affluent, ritual

Triphthongs

A triphthongs is the combination of three vowel sounds pronounced as one sound.

American sound: /oʊə/

British Sound: /əʊə/

Mower/'məʊər/, lower/'ləʊər/,

/aʊə/

This sound is given by **owe, owa, and ou** either at the beginning or in the middle of words.

Shower/'ʃaʊər/, coward/'kaʊəd/ flour /'flaʊər/

/aɪə/

This sound can be found either at the beginning or in the middle of the words.

Dial/'daɪəl/, lion/'laɪən/, ire/'aɪər/,

/ɔɪə/

This sound can be found in the middle of the words.

Royal/'rɔɪəl/, loyal /'ləɪəl/

/eɪə/

This sound is given by **aye**.

Player/'pleɪər/, layer/'leɪə(r)/,

Consonants: Places of articulation

- Bilabials

They are produced by bringing both lips together.

/p/ /b/ /m/

- Labiodentals

They are produced by touching the bottom lip to the upper teeth

/f/ /v/

- Interdentals

They are produced by putting the tip of the tongue between the teeth

/ð/ /θ/

- Alveolar

They are produced with the tongue by touching the part of the mouth behind the upper front teeth.

/t/ /d/ /n/ /s/ /z/ /l/ /r/

- Palatals

They are produced by raising the front part of the tongue to the palate.

/j/ /ʒ/ /tʃ/ /dʒ/ /j/

- Velars /'vi:lə(r)/

They are produced by raising the back of the tongue to the soft palate or velum.

/k/ /g/ /ŋ/

They are produced by restricting the airflow through the open glottis.

/h/

Consonants: Manner of articulation

the manner articulation is the way the airstream is affected as it flows from the lungs and out of the mouth and nose.

- Voiceless
- Voiced
- **Oral sounds:** are produced with the velum raised to prevent air from escaping out the nose.

/p/

- Nasal sounds: are produced with nose

/n/ /m/

- Affricates: they are produced by a stop closure with a lot of friction.

/tʃ/ /dʒ/

- Liquids

They are produced by causing some obstruction of the airstream in the mouth, but not enough to cause any real friction.

/l/ /r/

- Glides: they are produced with very little obstruction of the airstream and are always followed by a vowel.

/j/ /w/

Hyphen is used to separate the syllables of the pronunciation.

Schwa vowel is unstressed.

Close vowels; /i:/

Open vowels: /ɪ:/

The three shape movements of lips:

1. Round
2. Spread: the corners move away from each other
3. Neutral: when the lips are not noticeably rounded or spread.

A vowel which stays constant and does not glide is called pure vowel.

The Larynx (voice box) /'læriŋks/

The larynx is in the neck; its main structure is made of cartilage. If you press down on your nose, the hard part that you can feel is cartilage. Vocal folds or vocal cords, which are two thick flaps of muscle rather like a pair of lips.

When air is made to move out of the lungs we say that there is an **egressive pulmonic airstream**. The lungs are like sponges that can fill with air, and they are contained with the rib cage. If the rib cage is lifted upwards and outwards there is more space in the chest for the lungs and they expand, with the result they take in more air.

If the vocal cords vibrate, we will hear the sound that we call voicing or phonation.

Three main differences are found in air:

1. Variations in **intensity**: we produce voicing with high intensity for shouting, for example, and with low intensity for speaking quietly.
2. Variations in **frequency**: If the vocal folds vibrate quickly, the voicing is at high frequency; if there are fewer vibrations per second, the frequency is lower.
3. Variations in **quality**: We can produce different-sounding voice qualities, such as those we might call harsh, breathy, murmured, or creaky.

K, p, t are sometimes called fortis which means strong in reference to plosive sounds.

B, d, g are called **lenis** which means weak.

When we speak we produce a continuous stream of sounds. In studying speech, we divide this stream into small pieces that we call segments. The word “man” is produced with three segments.

The study of the possible phoneme combinations of a language is called **Phonotactics**.

What makes a syllable prominent?

There are at least four factors:

1. Loudness
2. Length
3. Pitch
4. Quality

Weak syllables are always unstressed.

There is not much difference between these two syllables: ʌ, ə

The main difference that the first syllable is stressed sometimes. And the second which is called the schwa vowel is never stressed.

Schwa vowel is sometimes called indefinite vowel as well.

Consonant Clusters: Two or more consonants with no vowel between them is called consonant cluster.

Ex: street, pretty, degree

Chunking and pausing

Why are chunking and pausing important?

Pausing and chunking are vital communication tools for both listeners and speakers. Speakers divide speech into 'pieces' or 'chunks' to communicate a thought or idea, or to highlight information they think is important. This is the simplest and most effective way to package information for the listener. Dividing information into chunks makes it easier for listeners to understand.

What exactly are speech chunks?

A speech chunk can be a word, a phrase, or a whole sentence. Speech chunks can be signaled in different ways:

- Pauses
- Slowing down
- Strong stress on the last key word in the chunk

One sound can be represented by one, two, three or four letters

Ex: c, ph, eight,

One spelling (grapheme) can represent multiple sounds:

Ex: though, thought, through, plough, thorough

As Jhumpa Lahiri has said, “That is the thing about books. *They let you travel without moving your feet.*” *Take a good book to bed with you. Books do not snore.* Reading is itself a sort of passion, love and we can say additive. If you really searching for happiness, mental riches, contentment and anything else, then read books relevantly. Reading about success means that you are on the way to domination.



Munawardin Lakanwal, who is the very writer and accumulator of the very book, is son of Gul Bahar-U-din Lakanwal. He was born in the dignified and noble tribe of Pashtuns in Khost, Afghanistan. Currently, he lives in Kabul, Afghanistan. Contemporarily, he is sweating in the very domain to serve the beckon of his motherland. Better to say that he has studied English Language at International English Language Institute and he has been teaching there for 5 years.

Other Publications of Munawardin Lakanwal

