

Course description

Aim: the students will learn the basics of English speech sounds

Objective 1: they will be able to account for the basic concept of phonetics

Objective 2: they will be able to account for the units of spoken English

Objective 3: they will be able to produce, and discriminate speech sounds accurately

Objective 4: they will be able to describe, define, and transcribe English sounds accurately

References

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Brief Content

The basic concepts of Phonetics

The phonatory structure

The Speech Sounds of English

Producing, Describing and Defining Speech Sounds

Broad Phonetic Transcription

Preliminaries

Language is naturally oral.

This oral feature is called speech

Sound is the basic variable of speech.

Regular practice of speech sounds guarantees a better communicative competence and performance

What is Phonetics?

- ❖ Phonetics is the **scientific study of speech sounds (phones)**.
- ❖ The phonetician studies all speech sounds occurring during talks and interactions, that is the sounds of the speech chain.
- ❖ S/he investigates **what sounds of speech are; how they are produced by the speaker; how they are processed by the listener; as well as the disorders or pathologies that may occur.**



Importance of Phonetic Study in EFL

enough through thorough thought bough

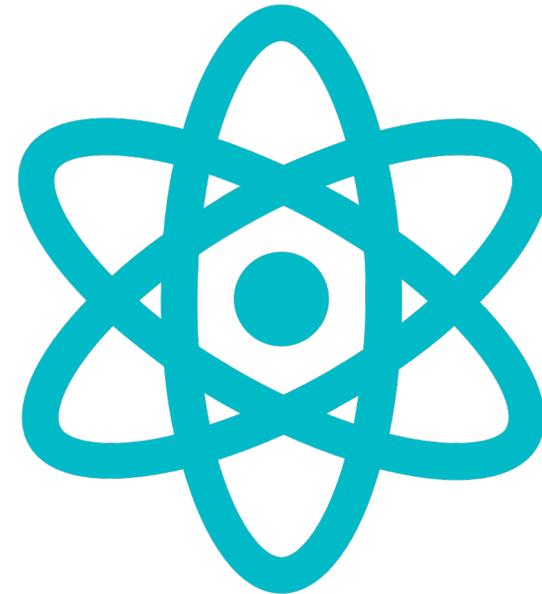
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put rude but

The Phonatory Structure



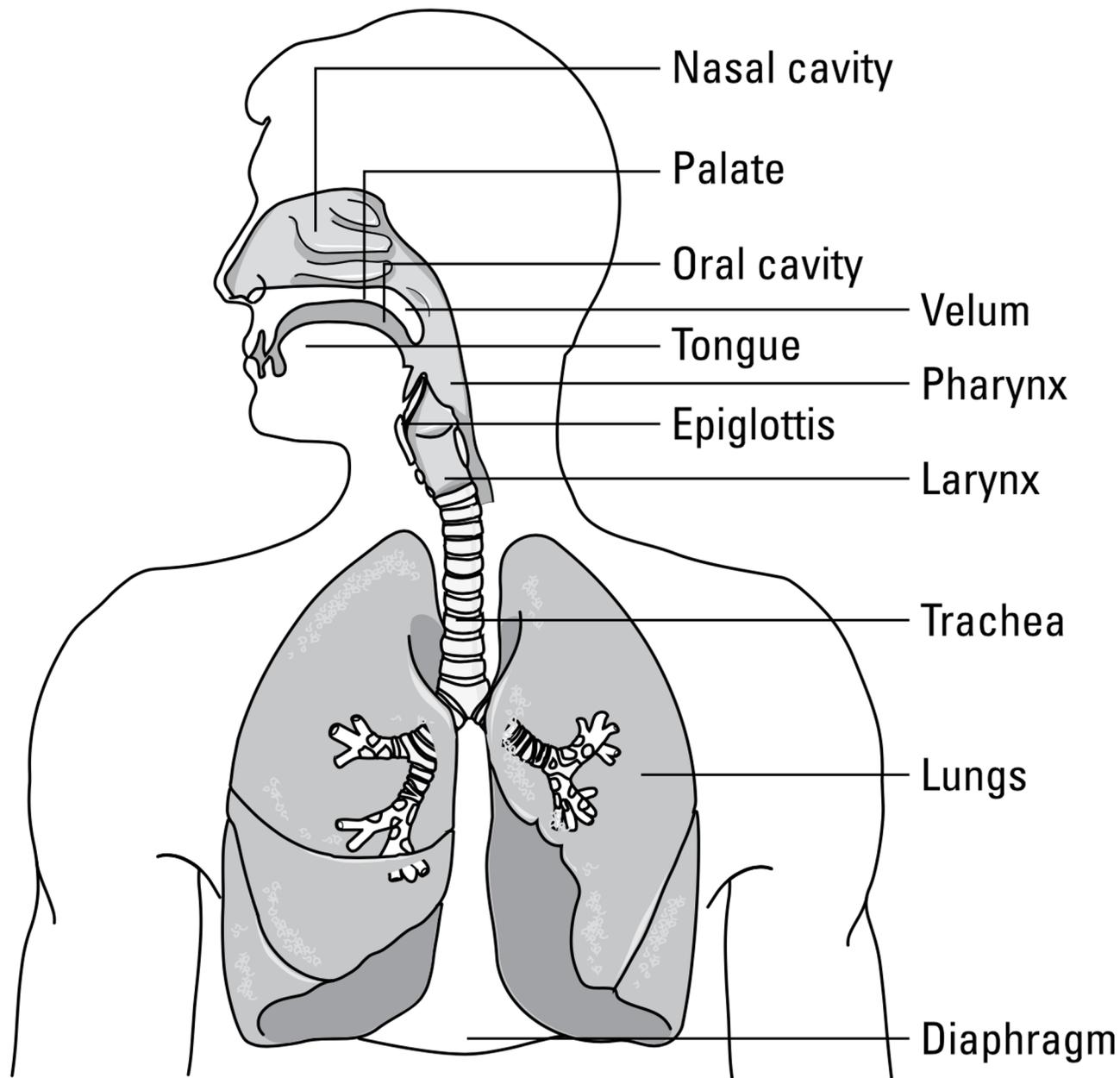


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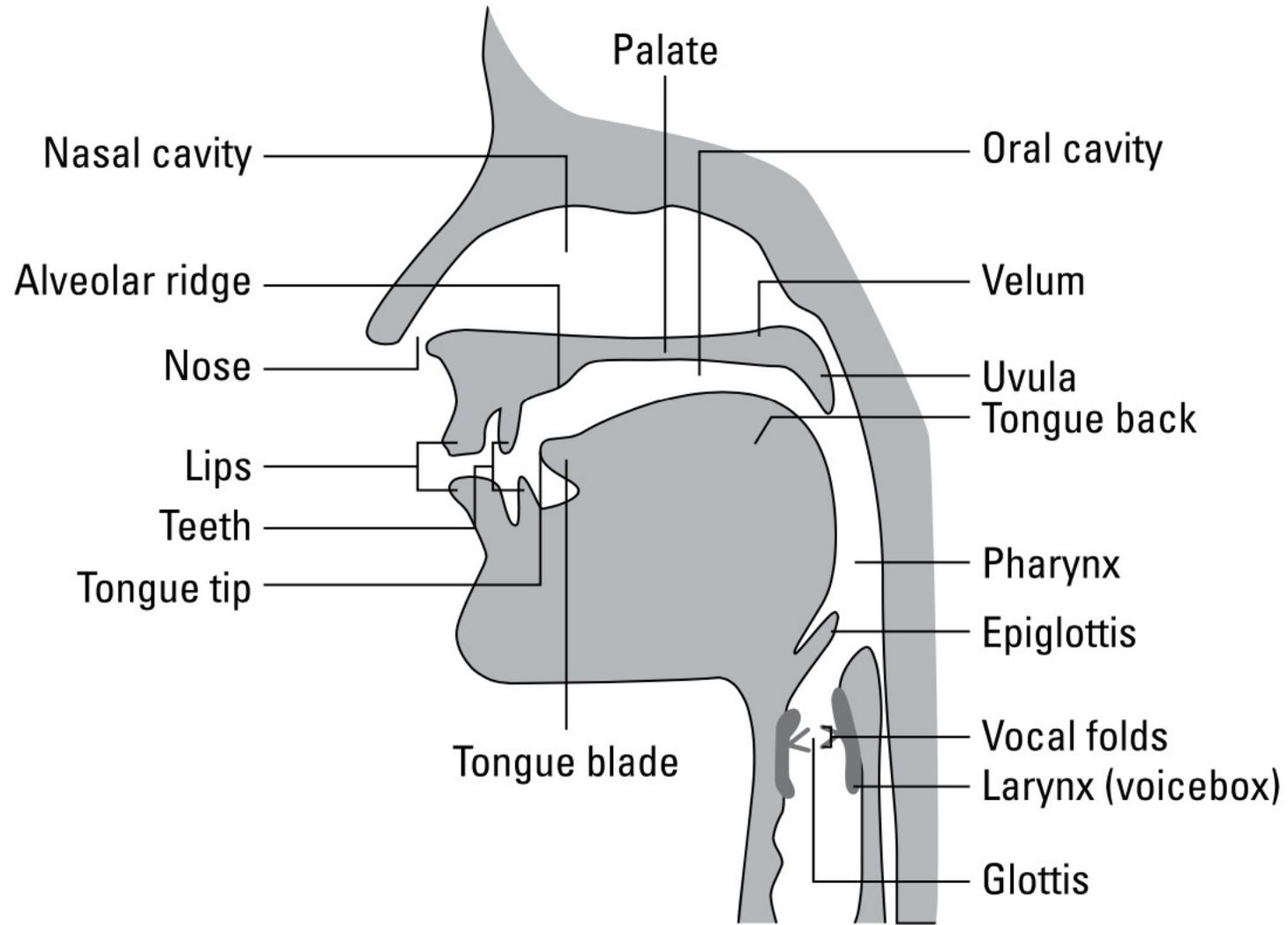
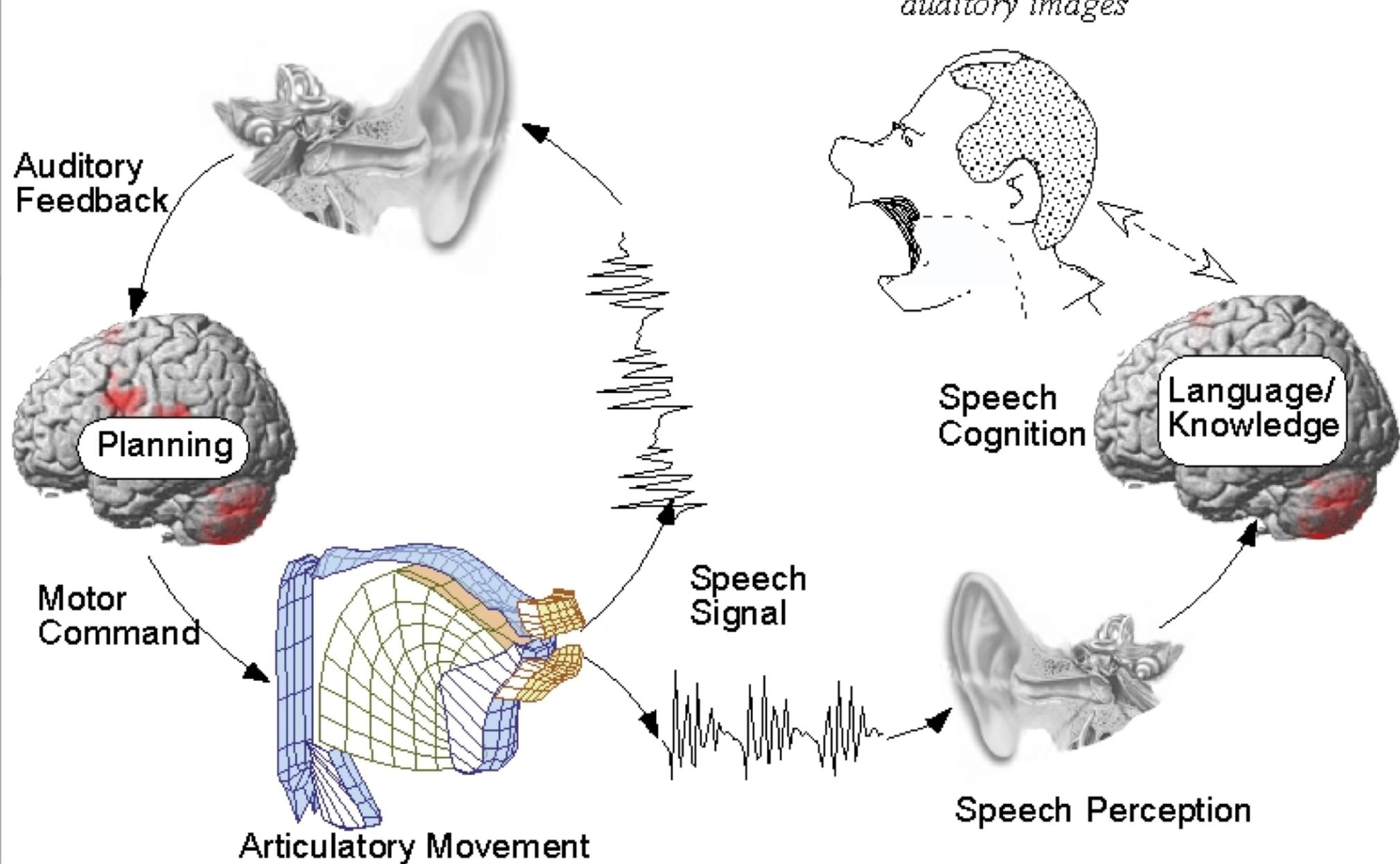


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The Branches of Phonetics

Auditorily-guided speech production

Articulatorily-induced auditory images



Phonetics is divided into three main branches:

Articulatory phonetics or the physiology of speech **sound production**: deals with how the human organs produces speech sounds (brain/mind to speech organs)

Auditory Phonetics or the Aural Dynamics of Speech **sound perception**: deals with how the human auditory system perceives, processes and decodes speech sounds (auditory system to brain/mind)

Acoustic Phonetics or the Physics of Speech sounds: is concerned with describing the different kinds of **acoustic signals** that the activity of the vocal organs produces.

The Individual Sounds of English



Consonants

	Bilabial	Labio-dental	Dental	Alveolar	Palato-alveolar (Post-alveolar)	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
<i>Unvoiced (-V)</i> <i>Voiced (+V)</i>	-V +V	-V +V	-V +V	-V +V	-V +V	-V +V	-V +V	-V +V
Stops (Plosives)	p b			t d			k g	ʔ ¹
Fricatives		f v	θ ð	s z	ʃ ʒ			h
Affricates					tʃ dʒ			
Nasals	m			n			ŋ	
Lateral (approximant)				l				
Approximant	w ²			r		j	w ²	

Defining Consonants



THE + VOICE + PLACE OF
ARTICULATION + MANNER OF
ARTICULATION +
CONSONANT SOUNDS



Practice.



[r] [ʒ] [w] [v] [b] [ʃ] [θ]

Vowels

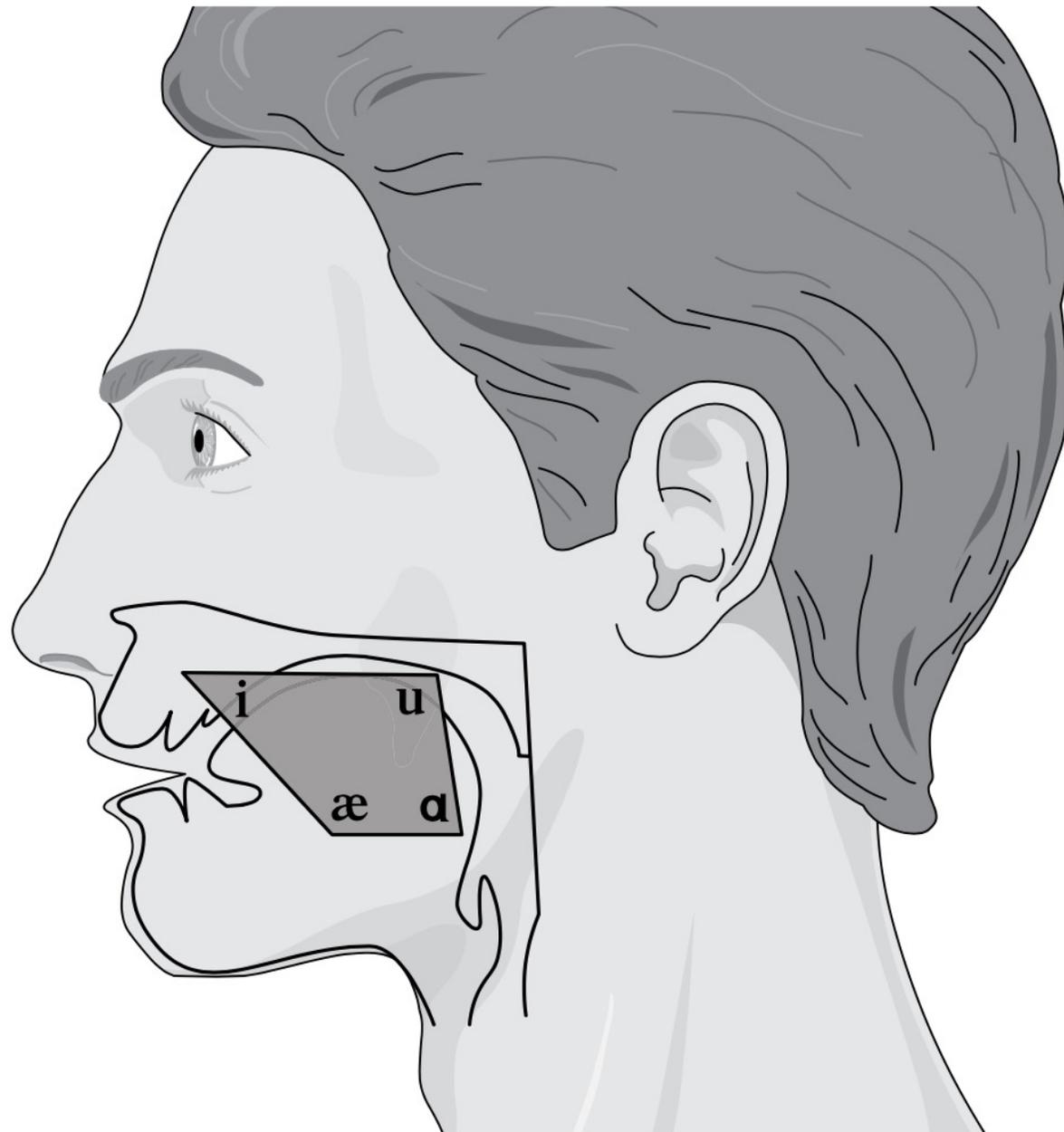
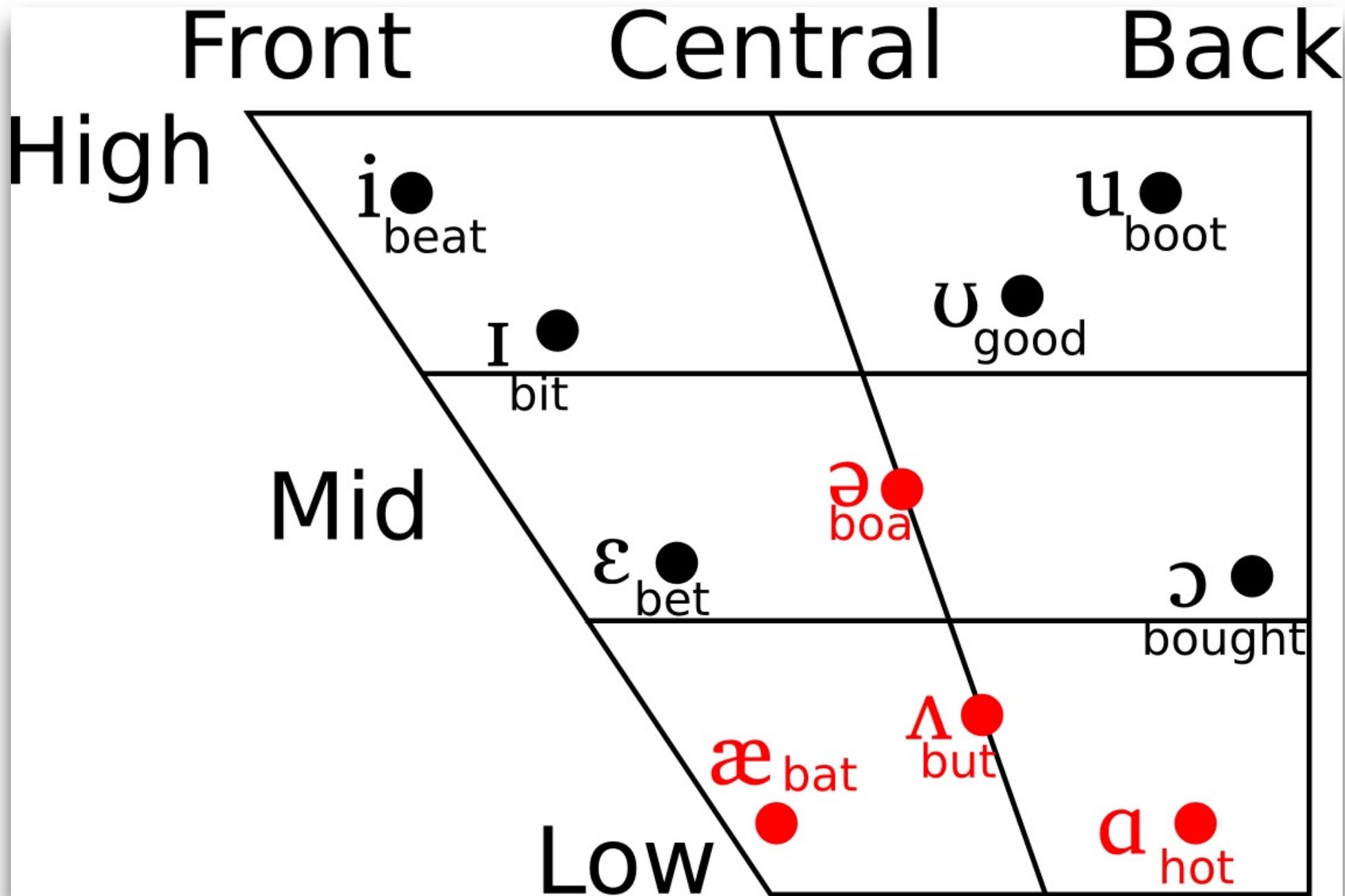


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Vowels (BR):

Front

Central

Back

High

i:

u:

ɪ

ʊ

e

Mid

ə

ɛ

ʌ

ɔ:

Low

a

ɑ: ɒ

Vowels (AM):

	Front		Central		Back
High	i				u
		ɪ		ʊ	
Mid	e		ə		o
	ɛ				ɔ
Low		æ		ɑ	

Defining vowel sounds



THE + HIGH/LOW (or
CLOSE/OPEN) + FRONT/BACK +
TENSE/LAX +
ROUNDED/UNROUNDED +
VOWEL SOUND



Practice.



[ɛ] [ə] [ɑ:] [æ] [ɒ] [ʊ]
[ɜ:]

Consonants	Vowels
p <i>pen, copy, happen</i>	ɪ <i>kit, bid, hymn, minute</i>
b <i>back, baby, job</i>	e <i>dress, bed, head, many</i>
t <i>tea, tight, button</i>	æ <i>trap, bad</i>
d <i>day, ladder, odd</i>	ɒ <i>lot, odd, wash</i>
k <i>key, clock, school</i>	ʌ <i>strut, mud, love, blood</i>
g <i>get, giggle, ghost</i>	ʊ <i>foot, good, put</i>
tʃ <i>church, match, nature</i>	i: <i>fleece, sea, machine</i>
dʒ <i>judge, age, soldier</i>	eɪ <i>face, day, break</i>
f <i>fat, coffee, rough, photo</i>	aɪ <i>price, high, try</i>
v <i>view, heavy, move</i>	ɔɪ <i>choice, boy</i>
θ <i>thing, author, path</i>	u: <i>goose, two, blue, group</i>
ð <i>this, other, smooth</i>	əʊ <i>goat, show, no</i>
s <i>soon, cease, sister</i>	aʊ <i>mouth, now</i>
z <i>zero, music, roses, buzz</i>	ɪə <i>near, here, weary</i>
ʃ <i>ship, sure, national</i>	eə <i>square, fair, various</i>
ʒ <i>pleasure, vision</i>	ɑ: <i>start, father</i>
h <i>hot, whole, ahead</i>	ɔ: <i>thought, law, north, war</i>
m <i>more, hammer, sum</i>	ʊə <i>poor, jury, cure</i>
n <i>nice, know, funny, sun</i>	ɜ: <i>nurse, stir, learn, refer</i>
ŋ <i>ring, anger, thanks, sung</i>	ə <i>about, common, standard</i>
l <i>light, valley, feel</i>	i <i>happy, radiate, glorious</i>
r <i>right, wrong, sorry, arrange</i>	u <i>thank you, influence, situation</i>
j <i>yet, use, beauty, few</i>	ŋ <i>suddenly, cotton</i>
w <i>wet, one, when, queen</i>	l <i>middle, metal</i>
ʔ <i>(glottal stop)</i> <i>department, football</i>	' <i>(stress mark)</i>

Practice

pat	part	port	pot	putt	put	poot	pert	Pete	pit	pout
cat	cart	court	cot	cut		coot	Kurt	skeet	kit	scout
hat	heart		hot	hut		hoot	hurt	heat	hit	
bat	bart	bort	bot	but		boot		beat	bit	bout
at	art	ought						eat	it	out
æ	ɑ:	ɔ:	ɒ	ʌ	ʊ	u:	ɜ:	i:	ɪ	aʊ

|

Find examples

[æ]

[ɛ]

[aɪ]

[eɪ]

[ɔɪ]

[ɪə]

[ʊə]

[ɜː]

Practice [h]

heat	eat
hill	ill
hat	at
hit	it
hot	ought
heart	art
hear	ear
hair	air
had	add
hall	all

Beware! there is a SILENT [h] in the following words:

honor, honorable, honored, honoring ...

hour, hourly, hourlong, hourglass

honest, honesty, honestly

heir, heiress, heirdom, heirless, heir-at-law, heirship, heirloom

herb (some US speakers)

Practice [θ] and [ð]

[θ] : path; thin; thirst;

[ð]: the; this; than; that; those...

Practice [r]

Rich; rat; route; raining; rest;
arrest; pirate...

Practice [i:] and [ɪ]

[i:] : feel; seat; deal; kneel; eat

[ɪ]: fill; sit; dill; nil; it

Practice [ə]

A man; about; approve; allow; thee cat;
sistere; bettere...

Broad phonetic transcription

Broad transcription consists in writing down the fundamental – usually segmental – units of a word a sentence, a paragraph, or a text.

Although we generally do not include details such as prosodic features, we may add some stress units or breaks.

Remember: PHONETIC TRANSCRIPTION ARE PUT BETWEEN SQUARE BRACKET ‘[]’ . SLANTS (/ /) MAY BE ALLOWED FOR BROAD TRANSCRIPTION.

Examples

**Cold [kəʊld] , part [pɑ:t] , storks [stɔ:ks] , church [tʃɜ:tʃ] or [tʃɜtʃ] ,
language [lɑŋgwɪdʒ]**

The end

