Phonetics and Phonology First Year Dr. Hazim Al Dilaimy Head of English Department (HOD)

Lesson 12: Fortis-Lenis/ Description of other consonants

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- Fortis Consonants: are the consonants that need some effort to be produced. *All voiceless* consonants are termed as *Fortis* or *strong*. They are produced with open glottis (the vocal folds are separated).
- Lenis consonants: Is a term that refers to voiced consonants (weak) that do not need much effort in their production.

The plosive phonemes of English can be presented in the form of a table as shown here:

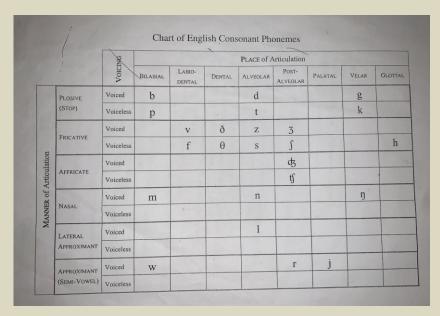
	Alveolar	Velar
р	t	k
	d	g

Table 1: The plosive phonemes

The Fricatives of English can be presented in the form of a table as shown here:

Place of Articulation							
	Labiodental	Dental	Alveolar	Post-alveolar	Glottal		
Fortis(voiceless)	f	θ	S	ſ	h		
Lenis(voiced)	V	ð	Z	3			

Table 2: The Fricative Phonemes



♣ Pronunciation of (nk)&(ng) in the middle of words:

Rule1: in words that are divided into elements or morphemes (nk) & (ng) are pronounced $/\eta/$ as in singer $/\sin\theta/$, sing $/\sin\theta/$.

Rule2: with words that are not divided into elements or morphemes /g/ is added after /ŋ/as in finger /fɪŋgə/, anger /æŋgə/.

Rule3: with comparative and superlative forms of adjectives /g/ is used after /ŋ/ as in longer /lɒŋgə/, longest / lɒŋgəst/.

Question

Transcribe the underlined consonants using phonemic symbols.

fi <u>ng</u> er.	/ ŋg/
a <u>ng</u> er.	/ŋg/
si <u>ng</u> er.	/ŋ/
ha <u>ng</u> er .	/ŋg/
lo <u>ng</u> est .	/ ŋg /
si <u>ng</u> ing .	/ŋŋ/
si <u>ng</u> .	/ ŋ/
writi <u>ng</u> .	/ŋ/
playi <u>ng</u> .	/ ŋ/
. ha <u>ng</u> i <u>ng</u> .	/ŋŋ/
	finger. anger. singer. hanger. longest. singing. sing. writing. playing. hanging.