

Phonetics and Phonology
First Year 20
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Lesson 6

English Consonants(Continued)

 **States of the glottis.**

There are four states of the vocal cords. They take four positions.

1. **Wide apart:** vocal cords are wide apart for normal breathing and during the production of voiceless consonants.
2. **Narrow glottis.** The glottis is narrow during the production of the voiceless glottal fricative sound /h/.
3. **Position for vocal fold vibration:** when the edges of the vocal folds are touching each other(or nearly touching each other). The air passing through the glottis will cause the vocal cords to vibrate during the production of voiced consonants and vowels. The opening and closing of the glottis happens during the production of voiced sounds. See page(23) in English Phonetics and Phonology by Peter Roach.
4. **Vocal folds are tightly closed** during the production of the glottal stop or glottal plosive /ʔ/.

Voicing or phonation: the sound that results from the vibration of the vocal folds.

The subglottal pressure: it refers to the air below the vocal folds or below the

glottis.

Chart for the Description of English Consonant Phonemes

Chart of English Consonant Phonemes									
		VOICING	PLACE of Articulation						
			BILABIAL	LABIO-DENTAL	DENTAL	ALVEOLAR	POST-ALVEOLAR	PALATAL	VELAR
MANNER of Articulation	PLOSIVE (STOP)	Voiced	b			d			g
		Voiceless	p			t			k
	FRICATIVE	Voiced		v	ð	z	ʒ		
		Voiceless		f	θ	s	ʃ		h
	AFFRICATE	Voiced					ʤ		
		Voiceless					tʃ		
	NASAL	Voiced	m			n			ŋ
		Voiceless							
	LATERAL APPROXIMANT	Voiced				l			
		Voiceless							
	APPROXIMANT (SEMI-VOWEL)	Voiced	W				r	j	
		Voiceless							

DESCRIPTION OF CONSONANTS:

Consonants are described according to the following:

1. Voicing(voiced or voiceless).
2. Place of articulation.(which organ of speech is used for the consonant articulation or production , where the sound is produced)
3. Manner of articulation.(It refers to the way the consonant is produced; how the consonant is produced).
4. The state of the velum: raised or lowered. The velum is raised during the production of oral sounds. It is lowered during the production of nasal sounds.(m,n,ŋ).

Examples:

/b/. It is **voiced**, **bilabial**, **stop (plosive)**. The velum is **raised**.

/p/. It is **voiceless**, **bilabial**, **stop(plosive)**. The velum is **raised**.