

Consonants

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Consonants

- Articulators are used to **interrupt, restrict or divert** the airflow in a variety of ways
- **Voiced** and **voiceless**

Place of Articulation



THE INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ALPHABET (revised to 2005)

CONSONANTS (PULMONIC)

© 2005 IPA

	Bilabial	Labiodental	Dental	Alveolar	Postalveolar	Retroflex	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyngeal	Glottal
Plosive	p b			t d		ʈ ɖ	c ɟ	k ɡ	q ɢ		ʔ
Nasal	m	ɱ		n		ɳ	ɲ	ŋ	ɴ		
Trill	ʙ			r					ʀ		
Tap or Flap		ⱱ		ɾ		ɽ					
Fricative	ɸ β	f v	θ ð	s z	ʃ ʒ	ʂ ʐ	ç ʝ	x ɣ	χ ʁ	ħ ʕ	h ɦ
Lateral fricative				ɬ ɮ							
Approximant		ʋ		ɹ		ɻ	j	ɰ			
Lateral approximant				l		ɭ	ʎ	ʟ			

Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a voiced consonant. Shaded areas denote articulations judged impossible.

Manner of Articulation

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MANNER OF ARTICULATION

PLOSIVES / STOPS

*complete closure in the vocal
tract*

[p] [t] [k]

[b] [d] [g]

PLOSIVES / STOPS

[p] 'pin' 'happen' 'cap'

[b] 'bin' 'cabbage' 'cab'

[t] 'to' 'hotter' 'hat'

[d] 'do' 'harder' 'had'

[k] 'cot' 'packet' 'pick'

[g] 'got' 'forget' 'pig'

PLOSIVES / STOPS

Inicial [p] [t] [k] sound

[p^h] [t^h] [k^h]

Inicial [pr] [tr] [kr] sound

[p^h_ɹ] [t^h_ɹ] [k^h_ɹ]

Inicial [p_l] [t_l] [k_l] sound

[p^h_l] [t^h_l] [k^h_l]

PLOSIVES / STOPS

‘pay’ [p^hej]

‘tie’ [t^haj]

‘cap’ [k^hæp]

‘close’ [k^hl_owz]

‘ice cream’ [ajsk^hrĩ:m]

‘I scream’ [ajskrĩ:m]

FRICATIVES

*Two organs close enough with
constant flow of air*

[f] [θ] [s] [ʃ] [h]

[v] [ð] [z] [ʒ]

FRICATIVES

[f] 'fan' 'cafe' 'belief'

[v] 'van' 'cover' 'above'

[θ] 'think' 'mathematics'
'bath'

[ð] 'the' 'father' 'bathe'

[s] 'sue' 'icy' 'this'

[z] 'zoo' 'lazy' 'these'

FRICATIVES

[ʃ] ‘**s**he’ ‘na**t**ion’ ‘fi**sh**’

[ʒ] ‘**g**enre’* ‘mea**s**ure’
‘be**i**ge’

[h] ‘**h**ello’ ‘be**h**ind’ ‘*no final position*’

* *Borrowed words only*

AFRICATES

*plosive + neighboring
(homorganic) fricative*

[tʃ]

[dʒ]

but not [ks] or [ps]

AFFRICATES

[tʃ] ‘church’ ‘nature’
‘church’

[dʒ] ‘judge’ ‘larger’
‘judge’

NASALS

soft palate is lowered and air escapes through nasal cavity

[m] [n] [ŋ]

NASALS

[m] 'more' 'camera' 'room'

[n] 'no' 'infant' 'on'

[ŋ] 'no initial position' 'singing'
'sing'

LATERAL

*airflow around the sides of
the tongue*

[l] [ɫ] (allophones) of /l/

[l] - before vowels

[ɫ] - after vowels

LATERAL

[1] ‘live’ ‘pulling’ ‘no final position’

[ɬ] ‘no initial position’ ‘multi’
‘pool’

APROXIMANTS

one articulator moves close to another, but not so close as to cause friction or to stop airflow

/r/* - [ɹ] [ɻ] (allophones)
[j] [w]

* In the IPA, /r/ refers to a trill, which does not exist in GA (General American) English

APROXIMANTS

/r/ ([ɹ] [ɻ]) ‘red’ ‘around’
‘car’

[j] ‘yes’ ‘few’ ‘day’*

[w] ‘wood’ ‘hallway’ ‘bow’*

* *diphthongs*

TAP / FLAP

*one articulator rapidly touches
another*

[ɾ]

TAP / FLAP

[ɾ] ‘to’* ‘water’ ‘got’*

* Only in connected speech

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PLACE OF ARTICULATION

BILABIAL

[p] [b]

[m]

[w]

LABIODENTAL

[f] [v]

DENTAL

[θ] [ð]

ALVEOLAR

[t] [d]

[n]

[r]

[s] [z]

[l] [ɭ]* (allophones)

* In [ɭ], the back of the tongue is also raised towards the soft palate (velum)

RETROFLEX

/r/ - [ɽ] [ɻ] (allophones)

PALATAL

[j]

[ʃ] [ʒ]

(IPA - *postalveolar*;
Kelly - *palatal-alveolar*)

[tʃ] [dʒ]

(palatal-alveolar)

VELAR

[k] [g]

[ŋ]

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GLOTAL

[h]

NAMING CONSONANTS:

(Voicing)

+

Place of Articulation

+

Manner of Articulation

NAMING CONSONANTS:

Voiceless bilabial plosive:

[p]

Voiced dental fricative:

[ð]

Palatal approximant:

[j]

NAMING CONSONANTS:

Voiced alveolar plosive:

[d]

Velar nasal:

[ŋ]

Retroflex approximant:

/r/ - [ɻ] [ɭ]

NAME THESE:

[p]

Voiceless bilabial plosive

[g]

voiced velar plosive

[tʃ]

Voiceless alveolar-palatal
affricate

NAME THESE:

[n]

Alveolar nasal

[w]

Bilabial aproximant

[h]

Glotal fricative

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