

Practical 2

Classification of Consonant sounds

Definition: - A consonant has been defined as a speech sound where the air stream from the lungs is either completely blocked, partially blocked or where the opening is so narrow that the air escapes with audible friction.

Classification of consonant sounds - Consonant sounds can be classified on the basis of

- I) Manner of articulation
- II) Place of articulation
- III) Voice of articulation

Manner of articulation:- Manner of articulation refers to how the sound is produced and the way in which the air stream is modified as it passes through the vocal tract.

On the basis of manner of articulation consonant sounds can be classified into the following categories –

- I) Stop
- II) Fricative
- III) Affricative
- IV) Nasal
- V) Liquid
- VI) Glide

Place of articulation: - Place of articulation refers to which articulators are involved in the production of a particular sound.

On the basis of place of articulation consonant sounds can be classified into the following categories-

- I) Bilabial
- II) Labio- dental
- III) Lingua- alveolar
- IV) Lingua- palatal

V) Lingua-velar

VI) Glottal

Voice of articulation: - Voicing refers to whether the vocal folds are vibrating during the production of a consonant sound.

On the basis of voice of articulation consonant sounds can be classified as

I) Voiced

II) Voiceless

24 Consonants

p	t	tʃ	k	f	θ	s	ʃ
b	d	dʒ	g	v	ð	z	ʒ
m	n	ŋ	h	l	r	w	j

Examples

/p/ pet /pet/ paper /'peɪ.pə/ top /tɒp/

/b/ bet /bet/ trouble /'trʌ.bəl/ rub /rʌb/

/t/ Tim /tɪm/ better /'be.tə/ hot /hɒt/

/d/ dim /dɪm/ order /'ɔ:.də/ bad /bæd/

/k/ came /keɪm/ talking /'tɔ:.kɪŋ/ back /bæk/

/g/ game /geɪm/ bigger /'bɪ.gə/ bag /bæg/

/f/ fine /faɪn/ offer /'ɒf.ə/ off /ɒf/

/v/ vine /vaɪn/ saving /'seɪ.vɪŋ/ of /ɒv/

/s/ seal /si:l/ missing /'mi:sɪŋ/ face /feɪs/
/z/ zeal /zi:l/ crazy /'kreɪ.zi/ phase /feɪz/
/ʃ/ show /ʃəʊ/ pushing /'pu:ʃɪŋ/ rush /rʌʃ/
/ʒ/ measure /'meɪ.ʒə/ vision /'vi:ʒən/ asia /'eɪ.ʒə/
/tʃ/ choke /tʃəʊk/ watching /wɒ.tʃɪŋ/ catch /kætʃ/
/dʒ/ joke /dʒəʊk/ damage /'dæ.mɪdʒ/ large /lɑ:dʒ/
/θ/ thin /θɪn/ method /'me.θəd/ both /bəʊθ/
/ð/ then /ðen/ other /'ʌ.ðə/ with /wɪð/
/l/ love /lʌv/ follow /'fɒ:ləʊ/ well /wel/
/m/ mail /meɪl/ humour /'hju:mə/ some /sʌm/
/n/ nail /neɪl/ funny /'fl.ni/ fine /faɪn/
/ŋ/ sing /sɪŋ/ singer /'sɪ.ŋə/
/h/ heal /hi:l/ perhaps /pə'hæps/
/r/ real /ri:l/ correct /kə'rekt/
/j/ you /ju:/ beyond /bi'jɒnd/
/w/ we /wi/ showing /'ʃəʊ.wɪŋ/

Practical 3

Classification of Vowel sounds

Definition: - Vowel may be defined as a speech sound in the production of which there is no obstruction partial or complete of the air passage. Another quality of vowel is that vocal cords vibrate during their articulation.

Classification of vowel sounds:- Vowel may be classified on the basis of

1. Position of lips- According to the position of lips vowel may be classified as rounded and unrounded vowels.
2. The part of the tongue raised- According to the part of the tongue raised vowels may be classified as front, central and back vowels
3. The height to which is raised- According to the height to which the tongue is raised, vowels may be classified as open, closed, half open and half closed.

Types of Vowels: - Vowels can be classified in two types

- Monophthong (Pure vowel)
- Diphthong

Monophthong

monophthongs			
i: sheep	ɪ ship	ʊ good	u: shoot
e bed	ə teacher	ɜ: bird	ɔ: door
æ cat	ʌ up	ɑ: far	ɒ on

Examples with words

Vowel Sound	Example Words
/i:/	Me, these, need, be, keep, deep, sheep, Jeep, beep, eat, feel, see, meet, deal, read, beat, peak, seek, heap, leap, feet, seat, heel, keen, seen, teen, leave
/ɪ/	With, this, if, think, link, wink, rink, sink, big, six, live, since, miss, wrist, lift, pit, sit, pick, bill, fill, till, him, pin, tin, win, bid, did
/ʊ/	Put, Would, Look, Woman, Hook, Nook, Food, Fool, Cool, Hue, Ooze, Moose, Boot, Cook, Rook, Took, Good
/u:/	To, You, New, Who
/e/	Get, When, Well, Very, Bed, Said, Leg, Hell, Hem, Ben, Pen, Den, Ten, Men, Bend, Lend, Send, Bet, Met, Pet, Set, Mess, Wreck, Peck, Letter, Better
/ə/	The, About, Could, Us
/ɜ:/	Her, Work, Learn, Word, Burn, Turn, Firm, Bird, Curd, Curse, Curt, Shirt, Turk, Curl, Hurl, Earl, Pearl, Sir, Worm, worth, Fir, Stir, Sir, Occur, Purr
/ɔ:/	Or, Also, More, Call, All, Mall, Hall, Shall, Fall, Tall, Wall, Paul, War, Ward, Warm, Reward, Walk, Wart

/æ/	Have, That, As, Can, Sad, bad, Bag, Lag, Hal, Ham, Ban, Pan, Dan, Tan, Man, Band, Land, Sand, Bat, Mat, Pat, Sat, Mass, Rack, Pack, Latter, Batter
/ʌ/	But, Up, One, Much
/ɑ:/	Start, Ask, Large, After
/ɒ/	Of, On, From, Not

Diphthongs

Iə here	eɪ wait	
ʊə tourist	ɔɪ boy	əʊ show
eə hair	aɪ my	aʊ cow

/aɪ/ This diphthong creates sounds similar to "eye" and most often occurs with letter combinations that include /i/, /igh/, and /y. Examples: crime, like, lime

/eɪ/ This diphthong creates sounds similar to "great" and is most often used with letter combinations that include /ey/, /ay/, /ai/ and /a/. Examples: break, rain, weight

/əʊ/ This diphthong creates sounds similar to "boat" and most often occurs with letter combinations that include /ow/, /oa/ and /o/. Examples: slow, moan, though

/aʊ/ This diphthong creates sounds similar to “ow!” and most often occurs with letter combinations that include /ou/ and /ow/. Examples: brown, hound, now

/eə/ This diphthong creates sounds similar to “air” and most often occurs with letter combinations that include /ai/, /a/, and /ea/. Examples: lair, stair, bear

/ɪə/ This diphthong creates sounds similar to “ear” and most often occurs with letter combinations that include /ee/, /ie/ and /ea/. Examples: beer, near, pier

/ɔɪ/ This creates sounds similar to “boy” and most often occurs with letter combinations that include /oy/ and /oi/. Examples: oil, toy, coil

/ʊə/ This diphthong creates sounds similar to “sure” and most occurs with letter combinations that include /oo/, /ou/, /u/, and /ue/. Examples: lure, pure, fur

Viva Question

What is the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)? The IPA is set of symbols where each symbol represents a speech sound or tells us where the word stress is. The IPA for English has 44 symbols.