

Places of Articulation

Lecture 2

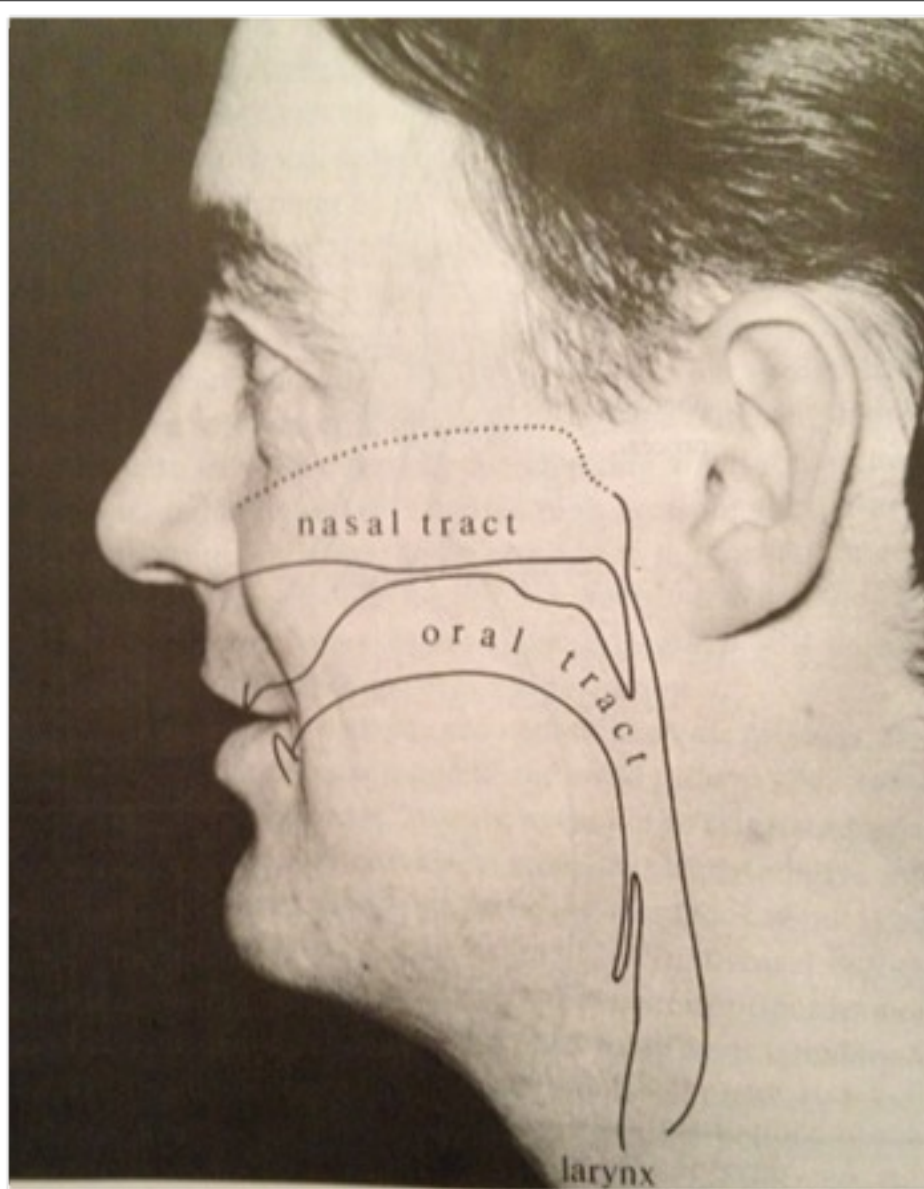
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Introduction

The **parts** of the **vocal tract** that can be used to form sounds are called **articulators**.

In order to form **consonants**, the airstream through the vocal tract must be **obstructed** in some way.



The Vocal Tract

Introduction

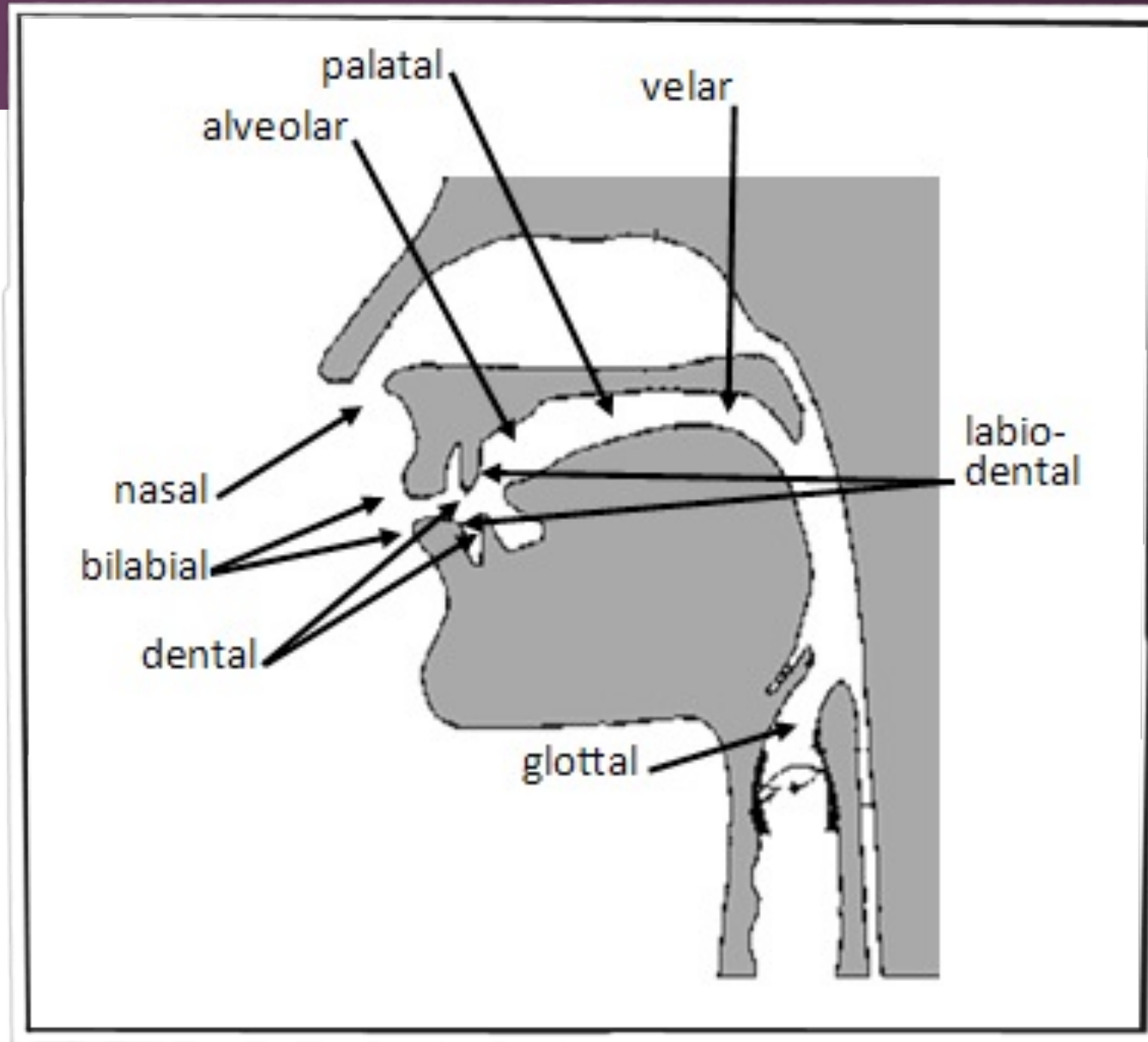
Consonants can be classified according to the **place** and **manner** of this obstruction.

The primary articulators that can cause an obstruction in most languages are the **lips**, the **tongue tip & blade**, and the **back of the tongue**.

Introduction

- Speech movements using the **lips** are called **labial** articulations.
- Those using the **tip of the tongue** are called **coronal** articulations.
- Those using the **back of the tongue** are called **dorsal** articulations.

Places of Articulation

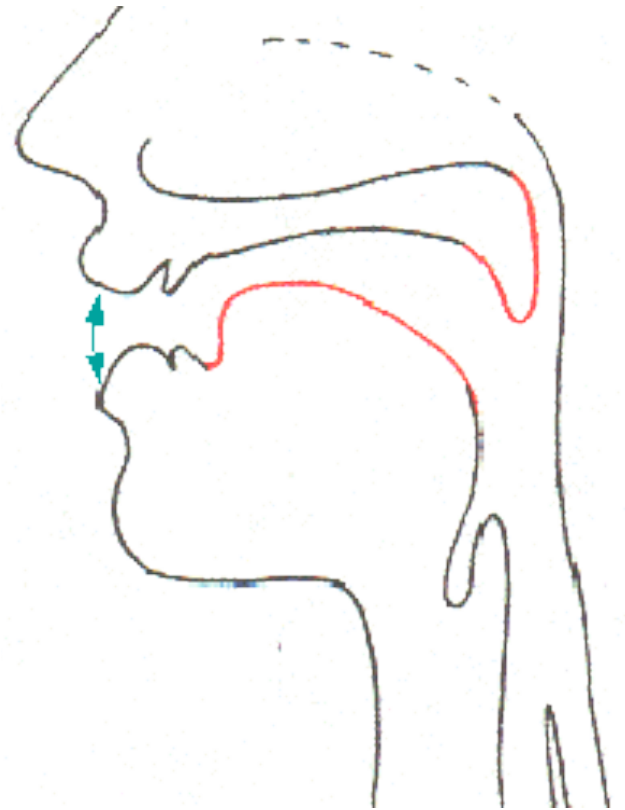


1. Bilabial

Bilabials are made with two lips.

Examples:

pie , buy , my

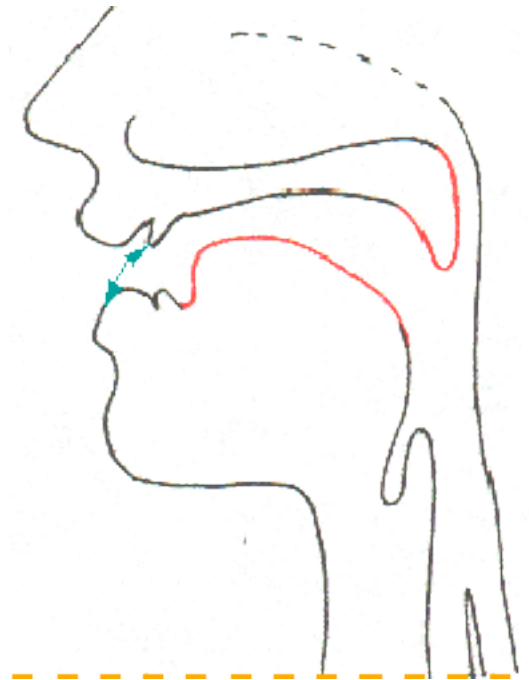


2. Labiodental

Labiodental is made with the **lower lip** and the **upper front teeth**.

Examples:

fie , vie

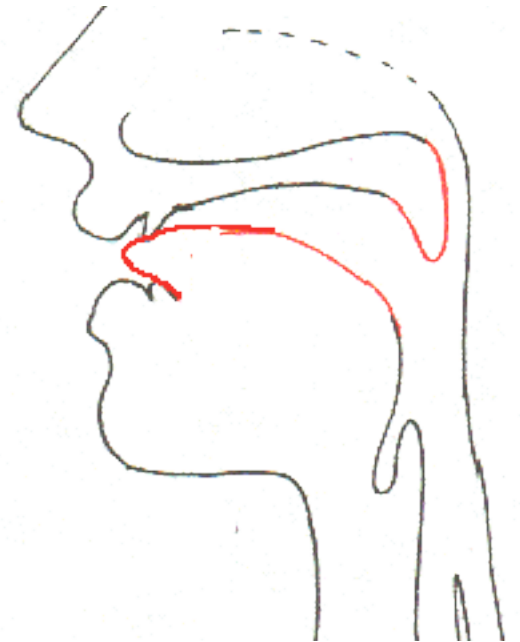


3. Dental

Dentals are made with the tongue tip or blade and upper front teeth.

Examples:

thing , thy

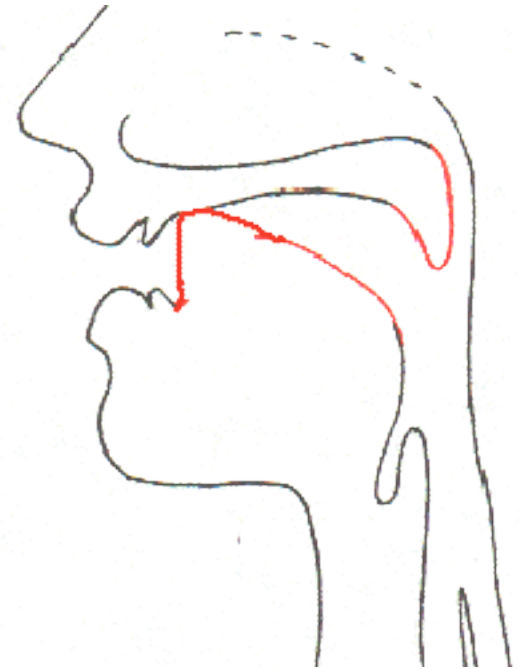


4. Alveolar

Alveolars are made with the **tongue tip or blade** and the **alveolar ridge**.

Examples:

tie, die, sigh, zeal, lie



5. Retroflex

Retroflex is made with the **tongue tip** and the **back of alveolar ridge**.



5. Retroflex

Some English speakers do not use retroflex sounds at all. But some speakers begin words such as *rye*, *row*, *ray* with retroflex sounds.

Speakers who pronounce r at the ends of words may also have retroflex sounds with the tip of the tongue raised in *hour* and *air*.

6. Palato-Alveolar

Palato-Alveolar is made with the **tongue blade** and the **back** of the alveolar ridge.

Examples:

shy, show, she

6. Palato-Alveolar



A palato-alveolar sound: the first sound in *ship*

7. Palatal

Palatal is made with the **front** of the **tongue** and the **hard palate**

Examples:

you , yes



Palatal

8. Velar

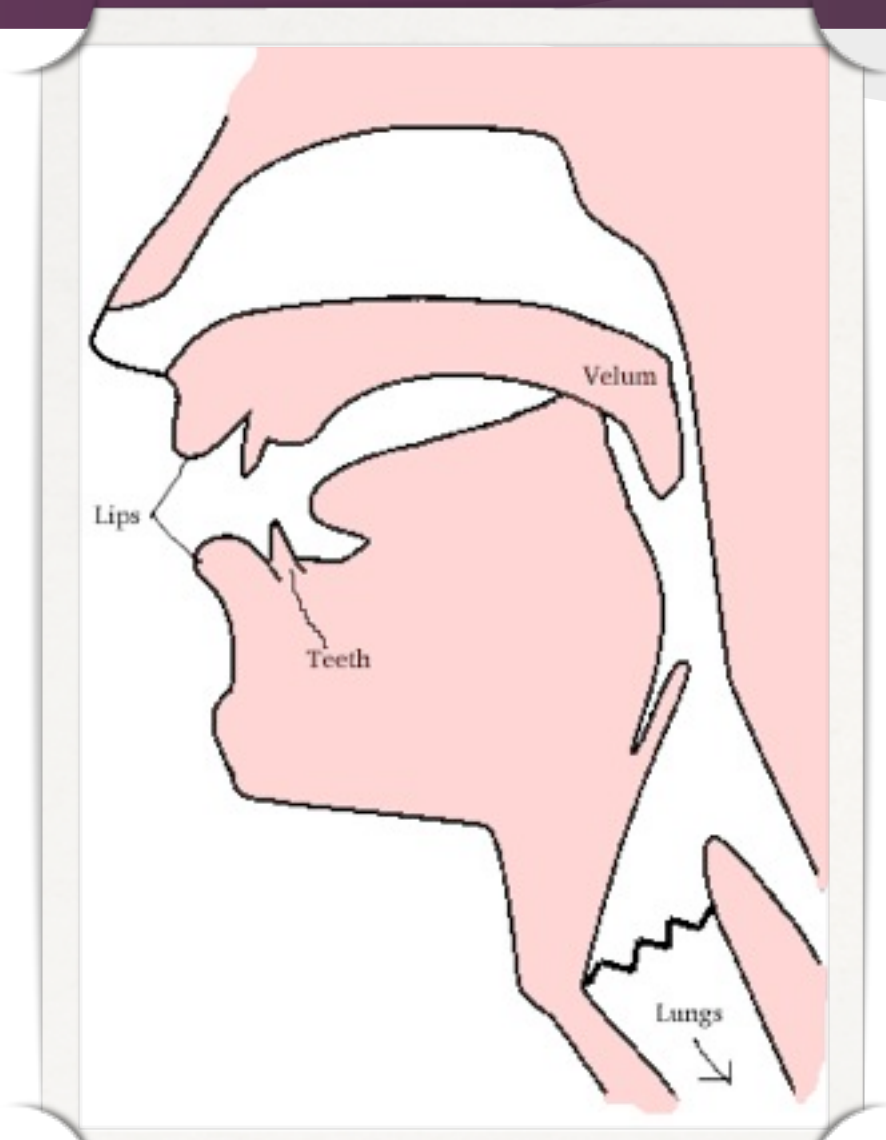
Velar is made with the **back of the tongue** and the **soft palate**

Examples:

hack , hag, hang

The **back of the tongue** is raised so that it touches the **velum**.

8. Velar



9. Nasal

The air is prevented to go through the mouth but is able to go through the **nose** because the **soft palate or velum is lowered.**

Examples:

ran, ram, rang

9. Nasal

Oral sounding speech



Nasal sounding speech

