

Phonetics & Presentation:

Session 3: Starting of IPA – Consonant Sound 1

Session 3:

Consonants – Stop Sounds /p/, /b/, /t/, /d/, /k/, /g/, /f/, /v/

IPA আসলে কী? (What is IPA?)

-সহজ ভাষায় বলতে গেলে, IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet) হলো পৃথিবীর সব ভাষার সব রকম সাউন্ডকে লিখে প্রকাশ করার একটি ইউনিভার্সাল সাইন ল্যাপ্সয়েজ।

আমরা অনেক সময় একটা ইংরেজি শব্দের স্পেলিং বা বানান দেখে কনফিউজড হয়ে যাই যে এটার সঠিক উচ্চারণ কী হবে। যেমন ধরুন:

Put (পুট) কিন্তু But (বাট)—বানানের প্যাটার্ন এক হলেও উচ্চারণ আলাদা!

আবার Chef-এ 'Ch' এর উচ্চারণ 'শ' (ʃ), কিন্তু Chair-এ 'Ch' এর উচ্চারণ 'চ' (tʃ)।

এই কনফিউশন দূর করার জন্যই তৈরি হয়েছে IPA।

ইংরেজিতে অ্যালফাবেট বা লেটার ২৬টি, কিন্তু এই ২৬টি লেটার মিলে মোট ৪৪টি সাউন্ড (Phonemes) তৈরি করে!

IPA আমাদের শেখায় সেই ৪৪টি ইউনিক সাউন্ড কীভাবে উচ্চারণ করতে হয়।

ভুল উচ্চারণের কারণে প্রফেশনাল লাইফে অনেক সময় ভুল বোঝাবুঝি বা Miscommunication তৈরি হয়। IPA আপনাকে কোনো ফেক অ্যাকসেন্ট (Accent) শেখাবে না, বরং এটি আপনাকে দেবে **Neutral, Clear** এবং **Confident Global English Pronunciation**, যা একজন বাংলাদেশী প্রফেশনাল হিসেবে আপনাকে সবার থেকে আলাদা করে তুলবে।

এছাড়া আরেকটি গুরুত্বপূর্ণ Point হলো

Phonemic Transcription: (স্ল্যাশের মধ্যে, যেমন /t/ — এটি শুধু অর্থ-পার্থক্যকারী মূল ধ্বনিগুলো দেখায়)

বনাম

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Phonetic Transcription: 3rd ব্র্যাকেটের মধ্যে, যেমন [t^h] – এটি উচ্চারণের সূক্ষ্ম খুঁটিনাটি, যেমন aspiration, পর্যন্ত দেখায়।

শুরুর পর্যায়ে শিক্ষার্থীদের জন্য Phonemic Transcription শেখাই যথেষ্ট ও ব্যবহারিক।

Here are the English Phonemes [44]:

Vowels				diphthongs										
i:	I	ʊ	u:	Iə	eɪ									
feed	igloo	cook	boots	beard	hay									
e	ə	ɜ:	ɔ:	ʊə	ɔɪ	əʊ								
egg	love	bird	sport	picture	toy	boat								
æ	ʌ	ɑ:	ɒ	eə	aɪ	aʊ								
apple	umbrella	car	octopus	chair	pie	cow								
				consonants										
p	b	t	d	tʃ	dʒ	k	g							
pig	banana	tiger	dog	cheese	jam	cat	girl							
f	v	θ	ð	s	z	ʃ	ʒ							
fish	violin	math	this	sun	zebra	fish	vision							
m	n	ŋ	h	l	r	w	j							
monkey	nose	sing	horse	lion	zabbit	whale	yoyo							
short sounds	long sounds	voiced consonants	unvoiced consonants											

The 44 unique phonemes

The 44 unique phonemes

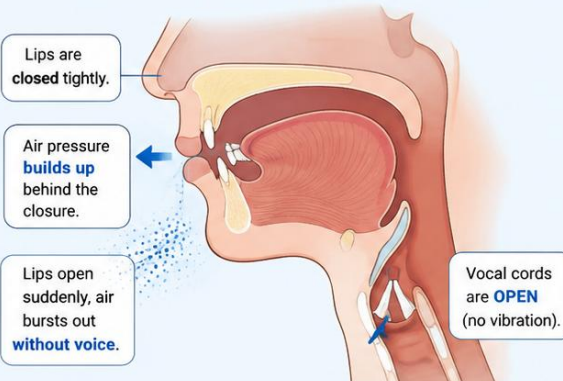
ARTICULATION OF /p/ & /b/

BILABIAL PLOSIVES – VOICELESS /p/ & VOICED /b/

Bilabial: Both lips (bi = two, labial = lips)
Plosive: A complete closure is made and then air is released suddenly.

/p/ – VOICELESS

NO VOICE – AIR IS RELEASED WITHOUT VIBRATION

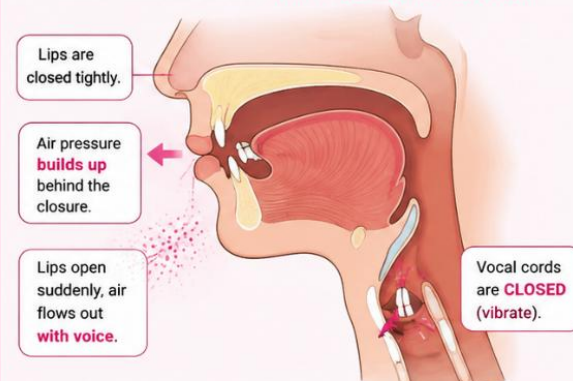


How to feel /p/
Place your hand in front of your mouth. You will feel a burst of air.

Examples: pen /pen/, play /pleɪ/, pawn /pɔːn/

/b/ – VOICED

VOICE – AIR IS RELEASED WITH VOCAL CORD VIBRATION



How to feel /b/
Place your hand in front of your mouth. You will feel vibration (buzz).

Examples: ball /bɔːl/, big /bɪɡ/, boy /bɔɪ/

/p/ as in pad /pæd/ দুই ঠোঁট বন্ধ করে হঠাৎ বাতাস বের করে বলুন।	/b/ as in bad /bæd/ দুই ঠোঁট বন্ধ করে উচ্চারণ করুন।
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Pair 1: /p/ (Voiceless) vs /b/ (Voiced)

For /p/, release a puff of air. For /b/, vocal cords vibrate.

- Bangla Equivalent: /p/ is a soft প; /b/ is ব.
- Extensive Examples:
 - Initial: /p/ - Pen, Park, Pot, Pin / /b/ - Ben, Bark, Bot, Bin
 - Medial: /p/ - Ha**pp**y, Pa**pp**er, Co**pp**er / /b/ - Ra**bb**it, Ru**bb**er, Ro**bb**er
 - Final: /p/ - Ca**p**, Cu**p**, Ro**p**e / /b/ - Ca**b**, Cu**b**, Ro**b**e
- Exceptions/Spelling Rules:
 - 'P' is silent in words starting with Ps- or Pt-: Psychology, Pterodactyl, Receipt.
 - 'B' is silent after 'M' & 'B' at the end of words: Lamb, Climbing, Thumb, Debt, Doubt, Subtle, Debtor, Undoubted.

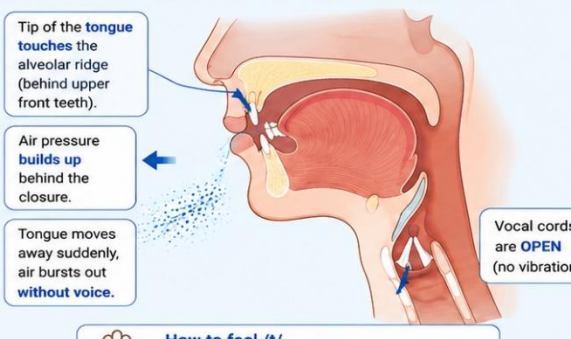
ARTICULATION OF /t/ & /d/

BILABIAL PLOSIVES – VOICELESS /t/ & VOICED /d/

Bilabial: Both lips (bi = two, labial = lips)
Plosive: A complete closure is made and then air is released suddenly.

/t/ – VOICELESS

NO VOICE – AIR IS RELEASED WITHOUT VIBRATION



Tip of the tongue touches the alveolar ridge (behind upper front teeth).

Air pressure builds up behind the closure.

Tongue moves away suddenly, air bursts out without voice.

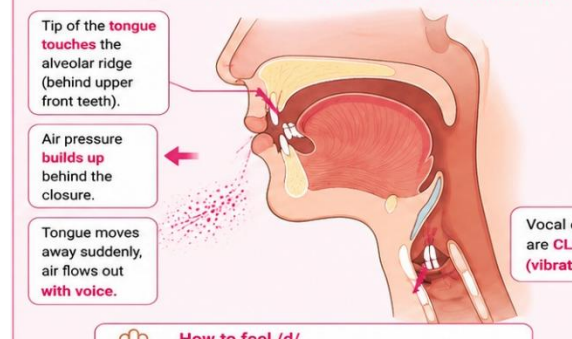
Vocal cords are **OPEN** (no vibration).

How to feel /t/
Place your hand in front of your mouth. You will feel a burst of air.

Examples: top /tɒp/, tea /ti:/, ten /ten/, cat /kæt/

/d/ – VOICED

VOICE – AIR IS RELEASED WITH VOCAL CORD VIBRATION



Tip of the tongue touches the alveolar ridge (behind upper front teeth).

Air pressure builds up behind the closure.

Tongue moves away suddenly, air flows out with voice.

Vocal cords are **CLOSED** (vibrate).

How to feel /d/
Place your hand on your throat. You will feel vibration (buzz).

Examples: day /deɪ/, dog /dɒg/, door /dɔ:/, bed /bed/

/t/ as in time /taɪm/

জিহ্বার আগভাগ উপরের দাঁতের মাড়িতে স্পর্শ করে
বলুন এবং দ্রুত বাতাস বের করে বলুন।

/d/ as in dime /daɪm/

জিহ্বার অগ্রভাগ উপরের দাঁতের মাড়িতে স্পর্শ করে বলুন।

Pair 2: /t/ (Voiceless) vs /d/ (Voiced)

Bangla Equivalent:

Neither ত/দ nor ট/ড. It's a sound in between.

Extensive Examples:

Initial: /t/ - Ten, Top, Tie, Town / /d/ - Den, Dot, Die, Down

Medial: /t/ - Water, Better, Letter / /d/ - Rider, Leader, Puddle

Final: /t/ - Cat, Hat, Foot / /d/ - Cad, Had, Food

Exceptions/Spelling Rules:

'T' is often silent in -stle and -ften: Castle, Listen, Whistle, Often.

'D' is silent in front of 'G' or 'J': Badge, Edge, Judge, Hedge.

Note: Past tense '-ed' is pronounced as /t/ after voiceless sounds (p, k, f, sh): Washed, Laughed, Walked. (It is pronounced /d/ after voiced sounds: Played, Called).

ARTICULATION OF /k/ & /g/

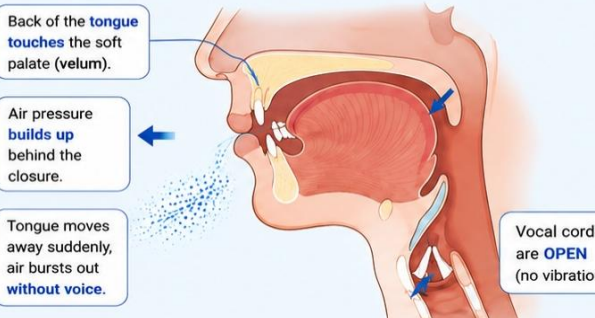
BILABIAL PLOSIVES – VOICELESS /k/ & VOICED /g/

Bilabial: Both lips (bi = two, labial = lips)

Plosive: A complete closure is made and then air is released suddenly.

/k/ – VOICELESS

NO VOICE – AIR IS RELEASED WITHOUT VIBRATION



Back of the tongue touches the soft palate (velum).

Air pressure builds up behind the closure.

Tongue moves away suddenly, air bursts out without voice.

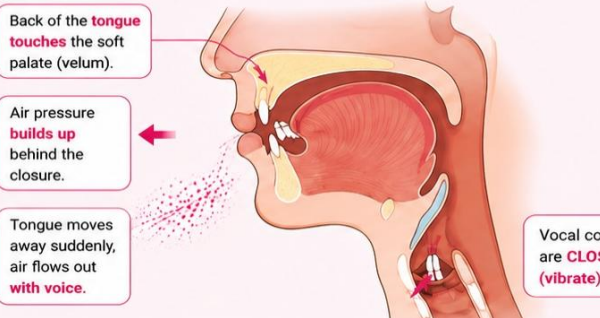
Vocal cords are **OPEN** (no vibration).

How to feel /k/
Place your hand in front of your mouth. You will feel a burst of air.

Examples: key /ki:/, cat /kæt/, come /kʌm/, cup /kʌp/

/g/ – VOICED

VOICE – AIR IS RELEASED WITH VOCAL CORD VIBRATION



Back of the tongue touches the soft palate (velum).

Air pressure builds up behind the closure.

Tongue moves away suddenly, air flows out with voice.

Vocal cords are **CLOSED** (vibrate).

How to feel /g/
Place your hand on your throat. You will feel vibration (buzz).

Examples: go /gəʊ/, game /geɪm/, gate /geɪt/, good /gʊd/

/k/ as in kill /kɪl/ জিহ্বার গোড়া নরমতালুতে স্পর্শকরে দ্রুত ও সজোরে বাতাস বের করে বলুন।	/g/ as in gill /gɪl/ জিহ্বার গোড়া নরমতালুতে স্পর্শকরে দ্রুত বলুন (অর্থাৎ গলার ভিতর থেকে)।
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Pair 3: /k/ (Voiceless) vs /g/ (Voiced)

- Bangla Equivalent:** /k/ is a soft ক; /g/ is গ.
- Extensive Examples:**
 - Initial: /k/ - Cat, Kite, Come, Cold / /g/ - Goat, Girl, Go, Gold
 - Medial: /k/ - Baking, Market, Pocket / /g/ - Tiger, Again, Beggar
 - Final: /k/ - Back, Leak, Duck / /g/ - Bag, Leg, Dig
- Exceptions/Spelling Rules:**
 - /k/ can be spelled 'C', 'K', 'ck', or 'ch' (School, Chemistry, Stomach).
 - 'C' sounds like /s/ before e, i, y (City, Center, Cycle).
 - 'K' is silent before 'N': Knee, Knife, Know, Knit.
 - 'G' is silent before 'N': Gnome, Sign, Gnaw. Also in '-gm': Diaphragm.
 - 'G' sounds like /dʒ/ (জ) before e, i, y: Giant, Gym, Page.



ARTICULATION OF /f/ & /v/



LABIODENTAL FRICATIVES - VOICELESS /f/ & VOICED /v/

Labiodental: Lower lip makes contact with the upper front teeth.

Fricative: The airstream is compressed through a narrow channel, creating friction (noise).

/f/ - VOICELESS

NO VOICE - AIR IS COMPRESSED WITHOUT VIBRATION

Upper teeth touch lower lip.

Airstream compressed into a narrow gap.

Narrow channel, no vocal cord vibration.

Vocal cords are **OPEN** (no vibration).

How to feel /f/:
Place your hand in front of your mouth. You will feel a **strong, sustained flow of air**.

Examples: face /feɪs/, coffee /'kɒfi:/, off /ɒf/

/v/ - VOICED

VOICE - AIR IS COMPRESSED WITH VOCAL CORD VIBRATION

Upper teeth touch lower lip.

Airstream compressed into a narrow gap.

Narrow channel, vocal cord vibration (buzz).

Vocal cords are **CLOSED** (vibrate).

How to feel /v/:
Place your hand in front of your mouth. You will feel a **sustained, buzzy flow of air** and neck vibration (buzz).

Examples: van /væn/, river /'rɪvə/, dive /daɪv/

/f/ as in **fan** **/fæn/**
 উপরের দাঁত নীচের ঠোঁটের সাথে মিশিয়ে বলুন।

/v/ as in **van** **/væn/**
 উপরের দাঁত নীচের ঠোঁটের সাথে মিশিয়ে বলুন।

Pair 4: /f/ (Voiceless) vs /v/ (Voiced)

- Bangla Equivalent: Does not exist. Must not use ফ or ভ.

Extensive Examples:

- Initial: /f/ - Fan, Fat, Fine, Feel /v/ - Van, Vet, Vine, Veal
- Medial: /f/ - Coffee, Suffer, Telephone /v/ - River, Cover, Never
- Final: /f/ - Calf, Half, Laugh, Cough /v/ - Save, Dove, Give, Have

Exceptions/Spelling Rules:

- /f/ can be spelled 'f', 'ff', 'ph', or 'gh': Phone, Physics, Rough, Enough.
- 'V' is never doubled in standard English (except in rare words like savvy).
- The word "Of" is a major exception! It is pronounced /əv/ (the 'f' becomes a /v/ sound).

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Homework / Extensive Practice List

Tongue Twisters for Daily Practice:

1. /p/ vs /b/: Please **p**rint the **p**age on **p**aper.
The **b**lue **b**us **b**roke down near the **b**ridge.
2. /t/ vs /d/: Two **t**iny **t**eens take two **t**axis to **t**own.
David **d**ecided to **d**ownload the **d**ocument.
3. /k/ vs /g/: Call the company to **c**ancel the **c**lass.
Gary forgot his **b**ag at the **g**ate.
4. /f/ vs /v/: Four **f**urious **f**riends **f**ought for the **p**hone.
We **v**iewed a **v**ery **v**aluable **v**ideo.

Paragraph Reading (Focus on bold words):

"**V**ictor and **h**is **b**rother **P**aul went **t**o the **p**ark to **p**lay a **g**ame. The **t**emperature was very **c**old, so they wore **b**ig **c**oats. They saw a **f**ast **d**og running **t**owards a **f**righ**t**ened **c**at. By the **t**ime they **g**ot there, the **d**og had **c**aught the **c**at's **t**ail. **F**ortunately, the **c**at **g**ot free and ran **b**ack home."