



Definitions



- **Phonetics** - it focuses on speech sounds, describing the sounds that we use while speaking
- **Phonology** - it focuses on how **phonemes** function in language, and the relationships amongst different phonemes.
- **Phoneme: Phoneme** - a unit within a set of units as the basis of our speech. If we put one of these units in the place of one of the others, we can change the meaning of the word.

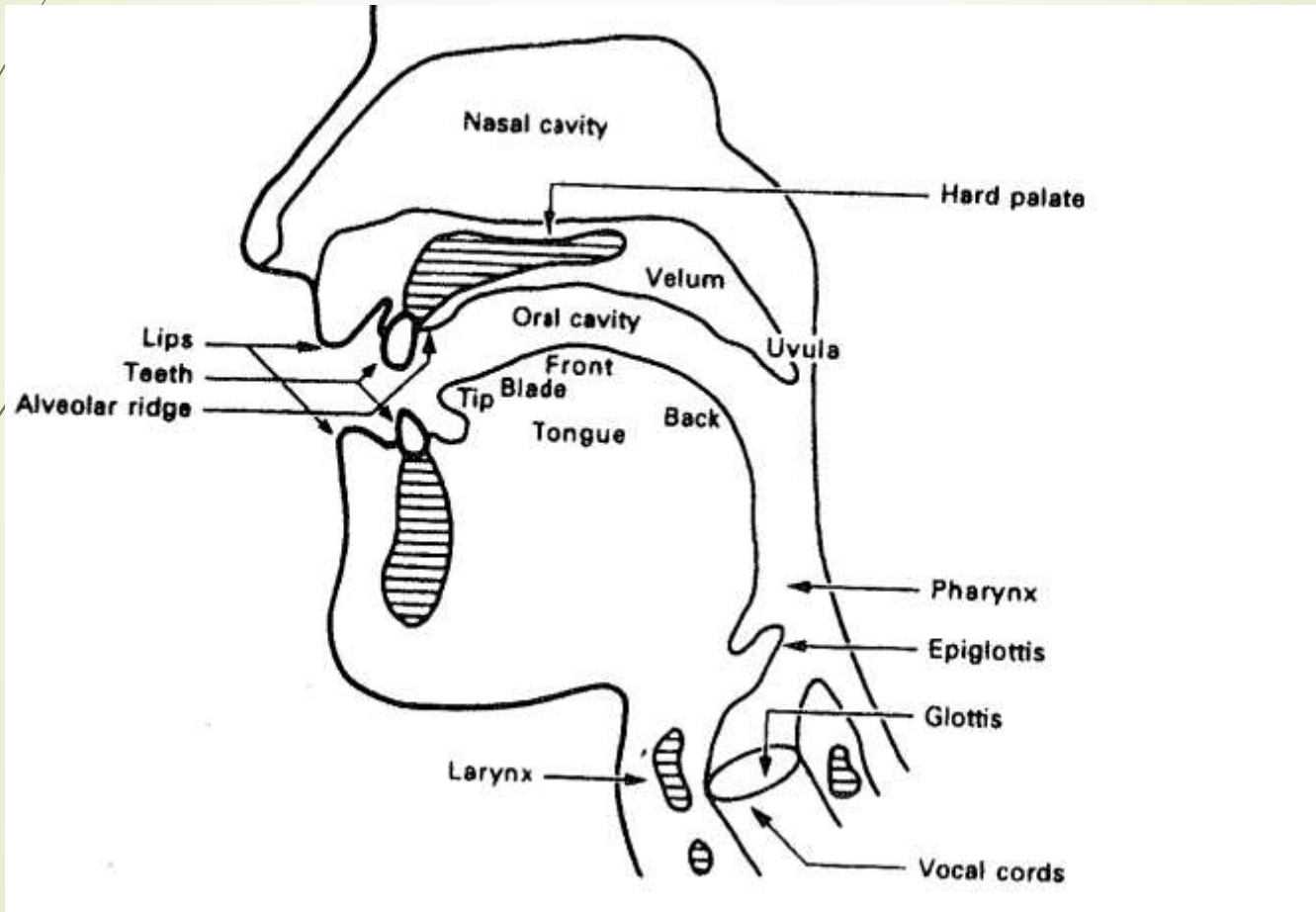


Phonetics vs Phonology

“una delle parti principali della linguistica, che studia i suoni del linguaggio, i foni, dal punto di vista fisico, cioè della loro realizzazione materiale...” (F. Casadei, *Breve dizionario di fonetica*, Roma, Carocci 2001)

“Una delle parti principali della linguistica, che studia i suoni linguistici ... per la funzione che hanno all'interno di un sistema linguistico...” (F. Casadei F., *cit.*)

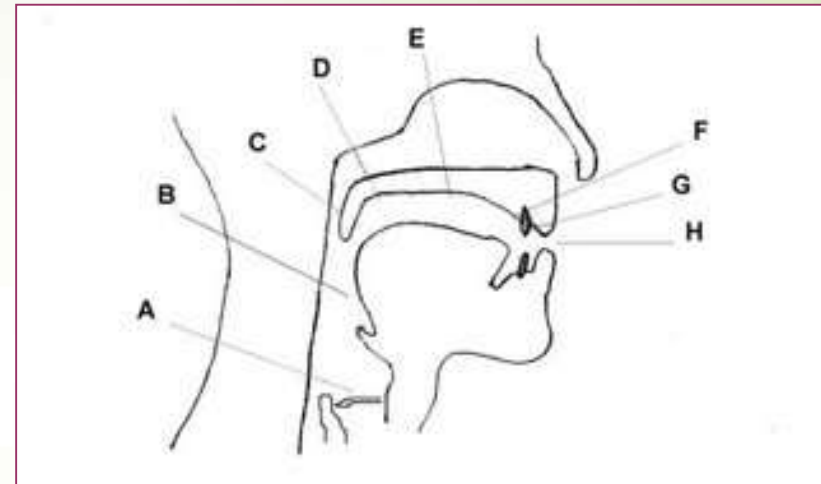
Organs of speech



Articulatory phonetics


- labbra
- denti
- arcata alveolare
- palato
- velo
- faringe
- laringe
- naso

lips
teeth - dental
alveolar ridge
palate
soft palate / velum
pharinx
larynx
nose





Graphemes and phonemes

- ▶ The grapheme refers to a letter of the alphabet.
 - ▶ A phoneme is a distinctive sound in a language capable of creating a distinction in meaning between two words.
- 



The minimal unit of Phonetics and Phonology is the **PHONEME**.

PHONEMES are underlying sounds, unreal sounds, abstract concepts.

Every language has its own PHONEME INVENTORY.





Phonemes



- ▶ With the exception of the indefinite article *a* [ə] and the present indicative plural of the verb 'to be' *are* [ɑ:], discrete units of sound, such as [b] or [u], do not have any intrinsic meaning. Meaning can be attributed to them only when they come with other sounds to make up words. These sounds are called phonemes.
- ▶ In *bar* we have two phonemes /b/ and /ɑ:/



Minimal pairs

- ▶ A minimal pair is a set of different words consisting of all the same sounds except for one.
- ▶ If we replace the phoneme /d/ in *dog* [dɒg] with /l/, we obtain the word *log* [lɒg].



Practice

➤ <http://www.shiporsheep.com/>

Test

➤ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZXc7QCGBjdo>



Phonetic transcription

- By convention, phoneme symbols are enclosed within slant brackets /.../, whereas the phonetic transcription of words is enclosed in square brackets [...].



Terminologia di base

- GRAFEMI: segni alfabetici indipendentemente dalla loro pronuncia (sono racchiusi tra < >)
- FONI: suoni come tali indipendentemente dal loro ruolo nel sistema fonologico di una data lingua (sono racchiusi tra [])
- FONEMI: unità capaci di costituire opposizioni significative all'interno del sistema di una data lingua (sono racchiusi tra //)