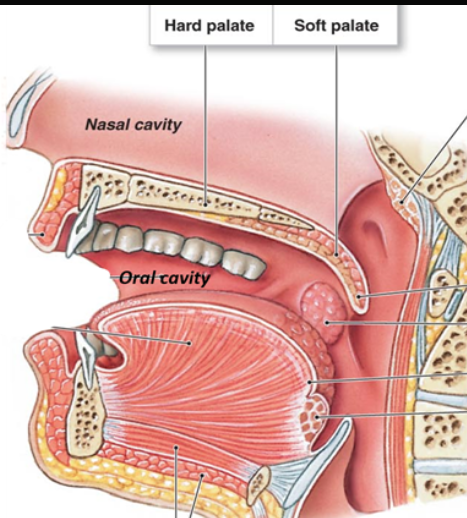
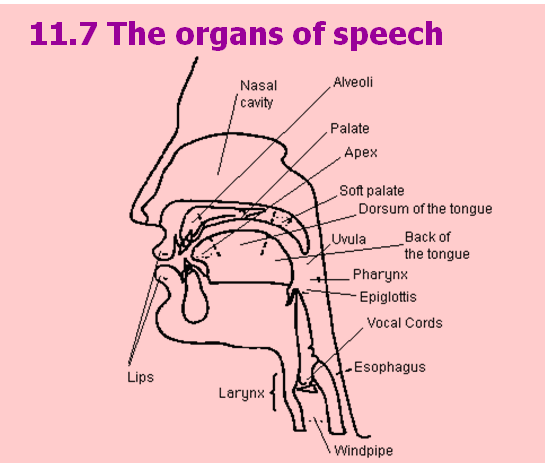
**General Tips.**

**The organs of speech.**





palate: 上颚

**Punctuation**

' : apostrophe 0027 + Alt\_x

diphthong: 双元音

**Hotkeys of phonetic aphabet**

ʊ: “028a” and “Alt+x”. Firstly, input 028A and then press Alt+x.

ʌ : 028c + “Alt + x”

ɔ : 0254 + “Alt + x”

ᴂ : 1d02 + Alt + x

ɑ : 0251 + Alt\_x

ɒ : 0252 + Alt\_x

ɪ : 026a + Alt\_x

ə : 0259 + Alt\_x

ɜ : 025c + Alt\_x

ŋ : 014b + Alt\_x

**N.B. The following notes are specified on the pronunciation of British English.**

**Vowels (Monophthongs)**

**1, /s/ and /z/**

/s/   
**Tongue Position:**

The tip of blage of your tongue is close to(but not touching) the alveolar ridge.

Air Flow

You force air through the narrow space between the tongue and the bridge.

For /s/ Only air flow. No voice.

/z/

For /z/ Air flows and your vocal cords vibrate.

**2. /i:/, /i/ and /I/**

  
To articulate //It is a long vowel. Your mouth is streched to each side as you are smiling. That’s many people say cheese when they are taken photographs.

fee, bee, tea

// is the shorter vowel of /i:/.

// Note that // is not the shorter sound of //; your tongue is slightly lower than that of // and /i/. It is a short and tense sound. Your mouth is not streched and just open naturally.

bit, fit, fish.

**3. /u:/, /u/ and /ʊ/**

/u:/ Your tongue is back and high in your mounth and your lips are round when articulating the long sound /u:/. It sounds like “tu(兔)” in Chinese, but in modern English the tongue moves slightly forward so it is not as same as “tu(兔)” any more.

For example, screw, pool.

/u/ It is the short vowel of /u:/.

/ʊ/ Note that /ʊ/ is not the short vowel of /u:/. Your tongue is slightly lower and more forward than that of /u:/ and /u/. Your mouth is also round but you should relax and it is not so round. Don’t move your lips too forward. There is not any equivalent sound in Chinese.

For instance, book, look, good, took, bush, would.

Compare, pool /pu:l/ and pull /pʊl/.

**4. /e/ and /ᴂ/**

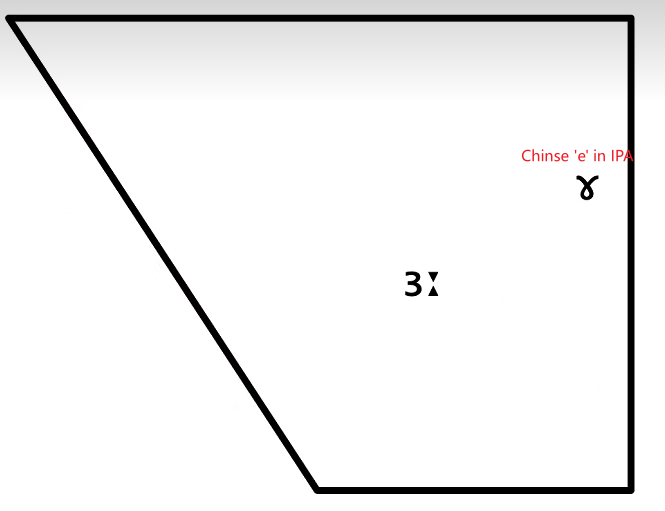
/e/ is a short vowel. Your tongue is higher than when you pronounce /ᴂ/.

/ᴂ/ is also a short vowel. When articulating it, your tongue shoule be higher than // but lower than /e/.

**5. /ə:/ /ɜ:/ and /ə/**

/ə:/ is in IPA63 and /ɜ:/ is in IPA88; they are the same.

1. /ɜ:/ is a central vowel. It is not like the Chinese ‘e’; the position of it is more forward and lower than the Chinese ‘e’. ;



In American English, to articulate the coloured vowel needs you to wrap the tip of your tongue, which is like the Chinese “er”.

(2) /ə/ is schwa. You should NOT wrap your tongue when you’re articulating itRealx and don’t round your lips; your tongue is vertically and horizontally in the middle of your tongue.

**6. /ʌ/**

When you articulate // your tongue is slightly higher than when you articulate Chinese “a”.

**7 /ɔ:/**

To articulate /ɔ:/ you should put your tongue backward and rise it high but not too high. Its short vowel is /ɔ/, but NOT /ɒ/. It is higher than when you articulate /ɒ/.

For instance, caught /kɔ:/, bought /bɔ:/, law /lɔ:/, saw /sɔ:/, door /ɔ:/

**7 /ɑ:/**

It is actually the Latin α (alpha). Your tongue is more backward than when you articulate the Chinese “a”.

car /kɑ:/

**8 /ɒ/**

ɒ is the ɑ rotated by 180 degrees.

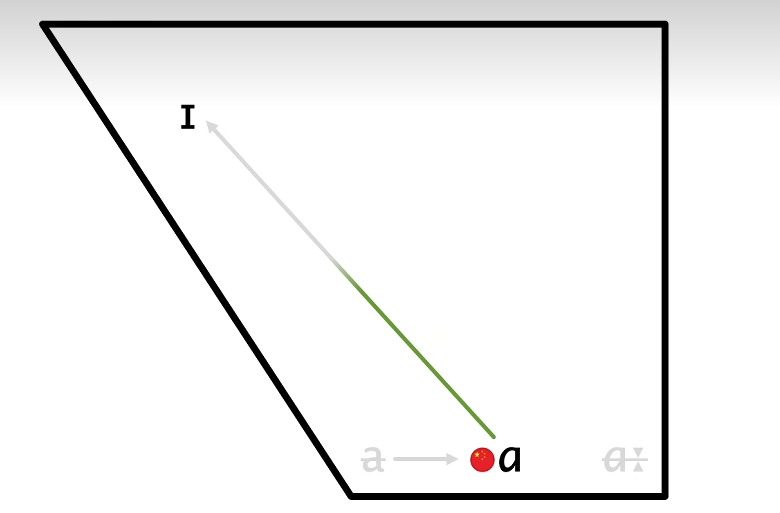
Note that it is not the /ɔ/, which is the short version of /ɔ:/. Your tongue is lower than /ɔ:/.

For example, top /ɒ/.

**Diphtongs**

**1 /aɪ/**

1. Note that /a/ is the printing “a” not ɑ and “a” can not be used as a single vowel; it is only appears in double vowels with another vowel, such as /aɪ/ and /aʊ/.
2. When you articulate /a/, your tongue is the front and bottom of your mouth and is more forward than when you articulate /ɑ:/. Whereas, when articulate /aɪ/, your tongue should be put backward than /a/(like the Chinese “ɑ”) and then pronounce from /a/ to /ɪ/ seamlessly.
3. The sound of /aɪ/ is richer or resonant than the Chinese /ɑɪ/ so you should open your mouth more widely.



**2 /aʊ/**

It is like /aɪ/ except that /ɪ/ is replaced by /ʊ/.

**3 /ʊə/**

In /ʊə/ the stress falls on /ʊ/. It is the same when it is articulated with constants. For instance, in “lure /lʊə/” the stress falls on /lʊ/.

**4 /ɪə/**

The stress also falls on the first vowel /ɪ/ while the /ə/ is pronounced more slightly.

**Wrong Pronunciation:**  
Note that Chinese speakers always wrongly articulate “yi e”, or many people wrap their tongues to pronounce “er” as in Chinese.

Whereas /ɪ/ is a short vowel and /ə/ is schwa not Chinese “e”. See the notes of /ə/.

Examples: dear /dɪə/ fear /fɪə/

**Consonants**

**General Tips**

1. How to articulate voiced consotants?

The voice consotants are different from Chinese consotants. For instance, book /bʊk/ is different because in English to articulate /b/ you vocal cords should vibrate first and then the sound comes out as you open your lips; it is a plosive consotant. Whereas, the Chinese “b” is a voiceless consotant. The “不可(bu ke)” does not need your vocal cords to vibrate before you open you mouth since the sound of “bu” actually from “u”.

N.B. There is not any voiced consotant in Chinese; the /b/, which not as same as /b/ in English, is acutually a voiceless consotant.

(2) Three stages to articulate consonants.

Let’s take /p/ as an example

Catch: Close your lips before send air from your lung.

Hold: Send air and hold your lips.

Release: Open your lips immediately.

1. **/p/ and /b/**
2. /p/

There are three kinds of /p/ in English. So are /t/, /k/.

1, Aspirated /p/.

When there is a vowel after ‘p’, it is an aspirated and standard pronunciation of /p/, such as peak /pi:k/.

2, Unaspirated /p/.

When ‘p’ is preceded by ‘s’, it is an unaspirated consotant. It is quite like the Chinse b in “bo” which is actually a voiceless consotant in Chinese Pinyin.

Attention should be paid is that it is not true that there is no air coming out from your mouth, but less air that the aspirated /p/.

A mistake is that ‘p’ in words like speak /spi:k/ is wrongly pronounced /b/ in English, which is not correct.

3, No audible release.

For example, in trapdoor /trᴂpdɔ:/ the /p/ is articulated without any voice or air coming from your mounth, but your mouth should be opened.

Another example is “help me”.

1. /b/

Note that the Chinese “b” in “bo” is a voiceless consonant. It is like the /p/ in speak /spi:k/.

1. **/m/, /n/ and /ŋ/**

/m/  
To articulate it, your tongue is placed naturally in your mouth and let the air come through your nasal cavity.

/n/

When articualting /n/, your tongue should touch the alveoli(上齿龈) and then let the sound pass through your nasal cavity.

/ŋ/

When pronouncing /ŋ/, the back of your tongue touch the soft palate and the air passes though you nasal cavity. At the end of the pronunciation, it sounds like a weak /g/.

1. **/s/ and /z/**

/z/ is not the Chinese “z”; contrary to popular belief, the Chinese is actually a voiceless consotant which is much more like the /dz/ in English; that’s why most Chinese speakers always articulate it as they do when speaking Chinese.

but the Chinese “z” is voiceless while the /dz/ is voiced.

Another mistake made by Chinese speakers is that /s/ and /z/ is always being articulated /si/ and /zi/, respectively. In Enlish, there two consotants must be articulate quickly. For example, peace /pi:s/.

1. **/ʃ/ and /ʒ/**

/ʃ/

It is a voiceless consotant.

When articulating /ʃ/, your tongue is placed between the upper alveoli and the hard palate and then move the tongue downwards to let the air come throught the gap between your tongue and upper palate.

Note that the pronunciation of /ʃ/ is different from the Chinese “sh”; to articulate the Chinese “sh”, your tongue is more bakcward than when you pronunce /ʃ/, or you should wrap your tongue a bit more.

/ʒ/

It is actually the voiced /ʃ/. But it is different from the Chinese “ri”. Your tongue more backwards than /ʒ/.

For both of them, Chinese speakers often wrongly pronounce them by adding “i” at the end of the sound. Form instance, /ʃ/ is articulated “shi” and /ʒ/ is “ri”.

Please pay attention to them and don’t make the same mistakes.

1. **/tʃ/ and /dʒ/**

Don’t add “i” to the end of them. They are not pronounced “shi” and “zhi” as in Chiese, respectively.

You must articulated them directly without moving the the vowel /i/ in Engish.

1. **/h/**

The international phonetic notation of /h/ is /x/ which is as same as the one in German.

Note that the English /h/ sounds like the Chinese “h”, but they are slightly different. The Chinese “h” is articulate with your soft palate and tongue and the air comes through the gap between them.

Whereas, when your are articulating the English /h/ the sound comes from your vocal cords. The sound of /h/ is more backward than the Chinese “h”

 The Chinese “h”

 The English /h/.

1. **/r/**

You need round your lips when you are pronouncing /r/.

It is different with the Chinese “r”; to articulate the Chinese “r” needs you to round you tongue more backward.