



IIT Madras

BSc Degree

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Articulation of Vowel and Consonant Sounds in English

Rajesh Kumar

Articulation of Vowel Sounds

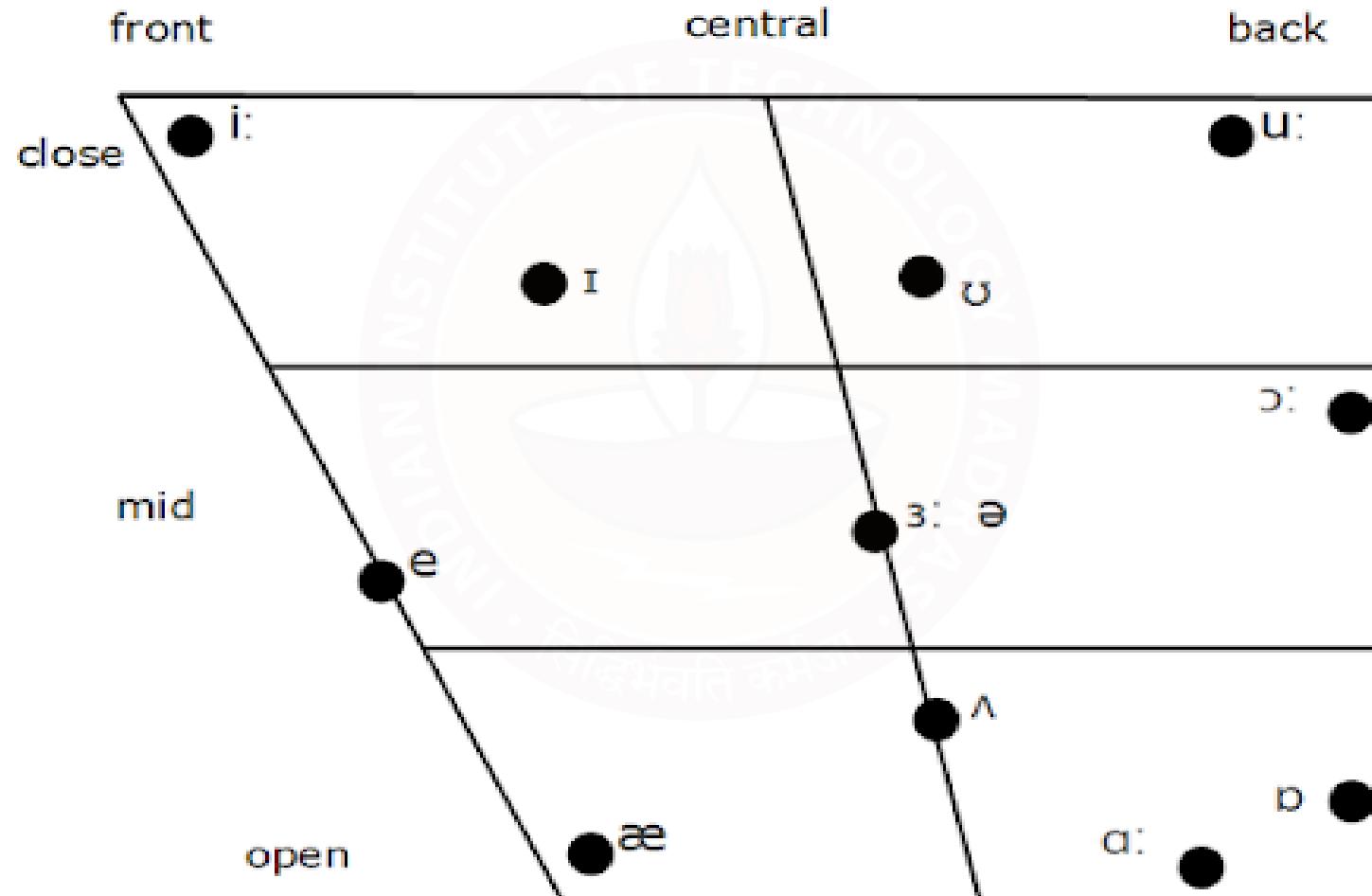
| | | | | |
|----|---------|--------|-------|-------|
| a | up, | cup | | |
| aa | father, | sound, | round | |
| i | in, | ink, | sink, | drink |
| ii | clean, | seat, | beat, | feet |
| u | book, | cook, | look, | |
| uu | zoo, | boot, | room | |

Vowels Sounds in English

Vowels

| | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|---------------------|
| i | <u>pit</u> | ɔ: | <u>b<u>om</u></u> |
| e | <u>pet</u> | u: | <u>bo<u>n</u></u> |
| æ | <u>pat</u> | aɪ | <u>b<u>ite</u></u> |
| ɒ | <u>pot</u> | eɪ | <u>b<u>ait</u></u> |
| ʌ | <u>but</u> | ɪ | <u>b<u>oy</u></u> |
| ʊ | <u>book</u> | əʊ | <u>to<u>e</u></u> |
| ə | <u>mother</u> | aʊ | <u>h<u>ous</u>e</u> |
| i: | <u>bean</u> | ʊə | <u>p<u>oor</u></u> |
| ɜ: | <u>burn</u> | ɛə | <u>ea<u>r</u></u> |
| a: | <u>b<u>am</u></u> | eə | <u>ai<u>r</u></u> |

Understanding vowel sounds

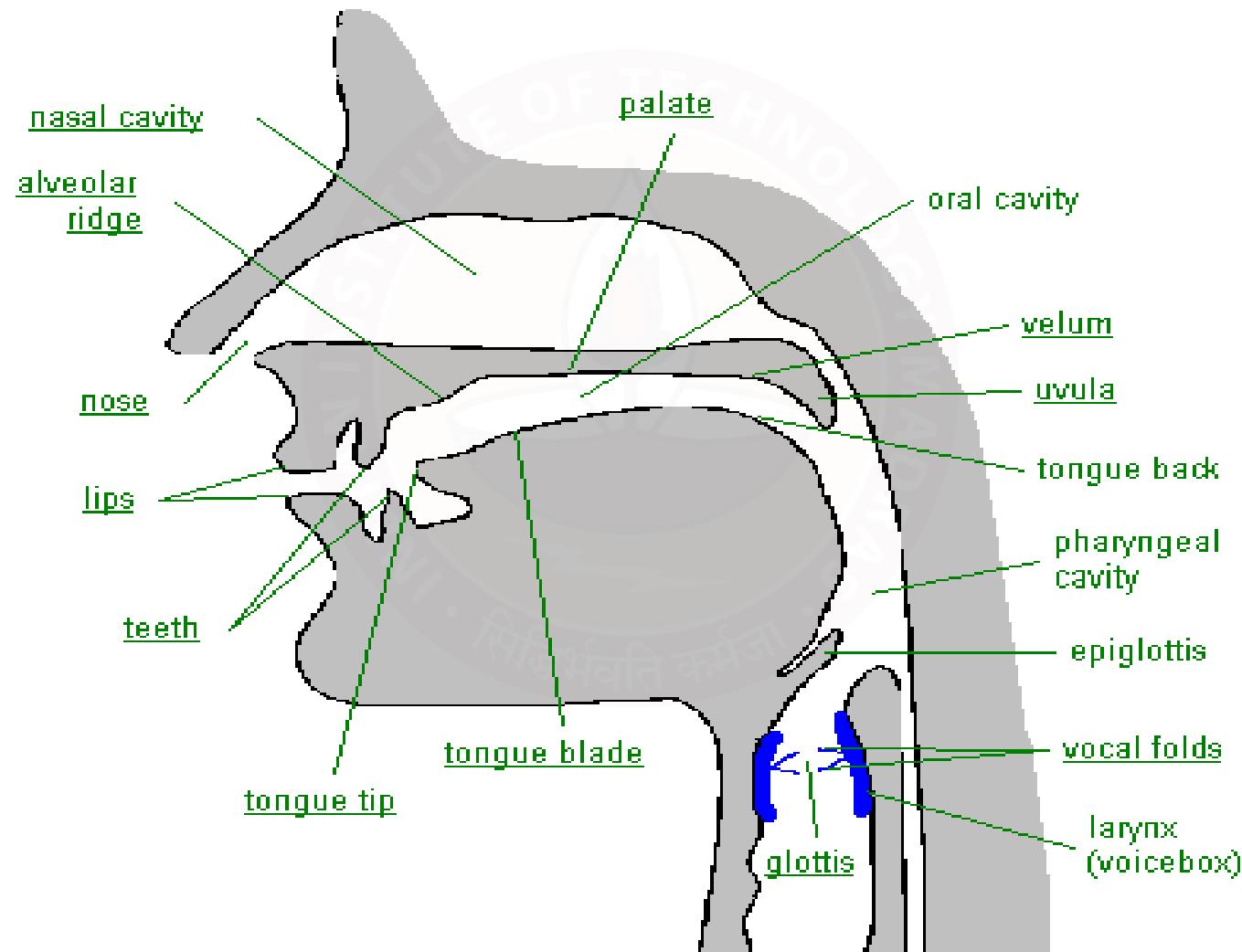


English vowels. The figure represents the mouth

Articulation of Consonant Sounds

| Oral Sounds | | | | Nasal Sounds | |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------------|----|
| | -asp | +asp | -asp | +asp | |
| | -voice | -voice | +voice | +voice | |
| Velar | k | kh | g | gh | ng |
| Palatal | c | ch | j | jh | ny |
| Retroflex | T | Th | D | Dh | N |
| Dental | t | th | d | dh | n |
| Labial | p | ph | b | bh | m |

Articulators



| | bilabial | labio-dental | dental | alveolar | post-alveolar | palatal | velar | glottal |
|---------------------|----------|--------------|--------|----------|---------------|---------|-------|---------|
| stop | p b | | | t d | | | k g | ? |
| nasal | | m | | | n | | | ŋ |
| flap | | | | | r | | | |
| fricative | | f v | θ ð | s z | ʃ ʒ | | | h |
| approximant | | | | | x | | j | |
| lateral approximant | | | | | l | | | |

Consonant Sounds in words

- | | | | |
|----------|------------|-----------|-----------------|
| 1. /p/- | pit | 13. /h/- | hot |
| 2. /b/- | bit | 14. /V/- | lad |
| 3. /t/- | tab | 15. /r/- | red |
| 4. /d/- | dab | 16. /w/- | wed |
| 5. /k/- | cab | 17. /θ/- | thought |
| 6. /g/- | gab | 18. /ð/- | them |
| 7. /f/- | fan | 19. /s/- | shy |
| 8. /v/- | van | 20. /ʒ/- | treasure |
| 9. /s/- | sad | 21. /tʃ/- | chime |
| 10. /z/- | zoo | 22. /dʒ/- | jam |
| 11. /m/- | man | 23. /j/- | yum |
| 12. /n/- | not | 24. /ŋ/- | sing |

Some specific features of English Sounds

- s
- sh
- z
- j
- f
- ph