

# PHONETICS



# What is Phonetics?

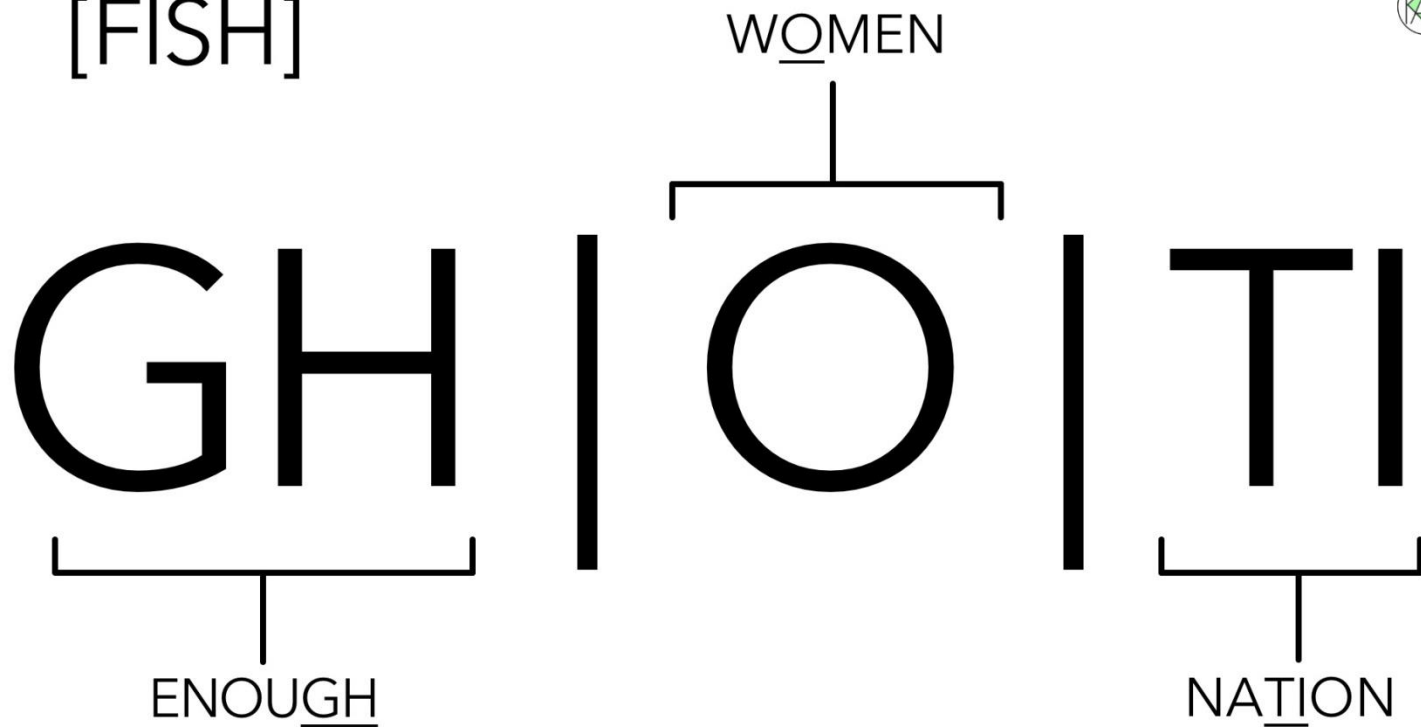
**Phonetics** from the Greek *-phōnē*, 'sound, voice') is a branch of linguistics that comprises the study of the sounds of human speech

# 1. English not a phonetic Language

- In English one to one Correspondence between letters and sounds does not exist
- In most of the Indian languages the one letter in writing stands for one sound in speech, one sound in speech stands for one letter in writing
- “Indian Languages are Phonetic”
- English is an unphonetic language

# FISH = GHOTI

[FISH]



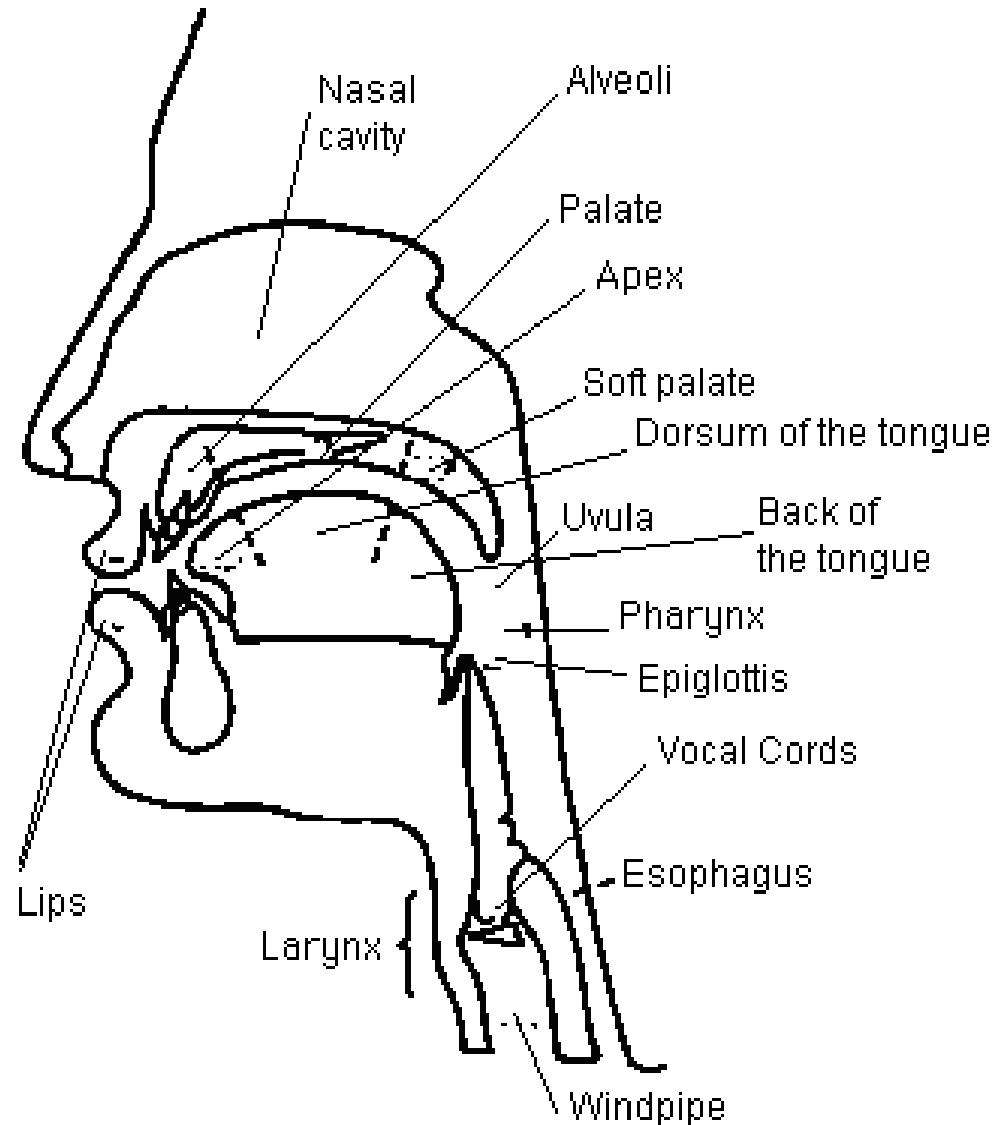
- PIZZA = /pɪtʒə/
- Paparazzi = /ˌpɑː.pɑːˈrɑːt.si/
- Examination = /ɪgˌzæmɪˈneɪʃn/
- Entrance = /entrəns/
- Pronunciation = /prəˌnʌnsiˈeɪʃən/
- Student = /stjuːdnt /

# Phoneme

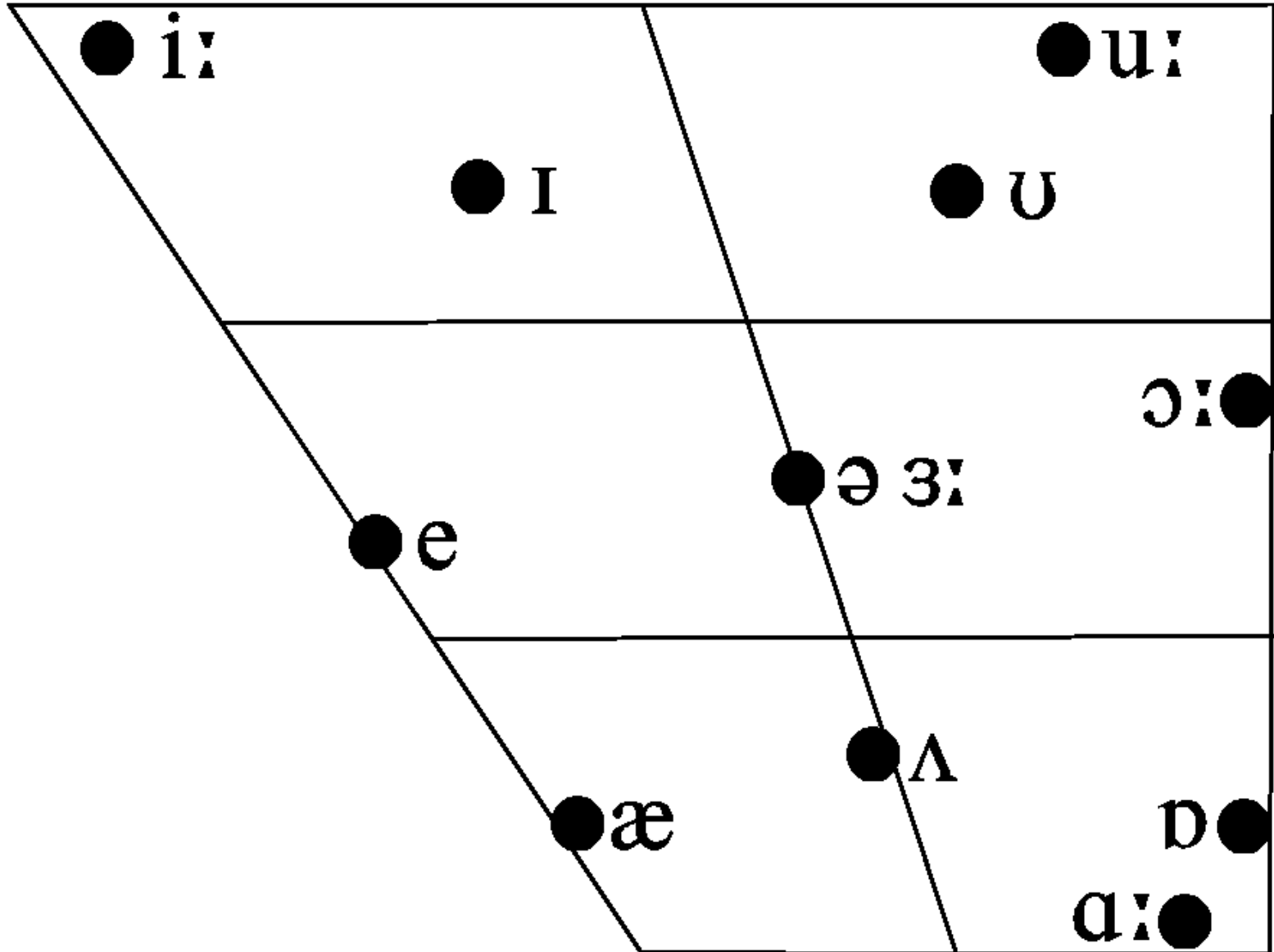


- A **phoneme** is a basic unit of a language's phonology, which is combined with other phonemes to form meaningful units
- "The smallest contrastive linguistic unit which may bring about a change of meaning"
- Eg. Kiss-Kill, put- pit-pat-pot,

# Diagram of the speech organs



# Vowel Chart





# Vowels

i:

sheep

ɪ

ship

ʊ

good

u:

shoot

e

bed

ə

teacher

ɜ:

bird

ɔ:

door

æ

cat

ʌ

up

ɑ:

far

ɒ

on

# Diphthongs

ɪə

here

eɪ

wait

ʊə

tourist

ɔɪ

boy

əʊ

show

eə

hair

aɪ

my

aʊ

cow

# TABLE OF ENGLISH CONSONANTS

## Place of Articulation

Front



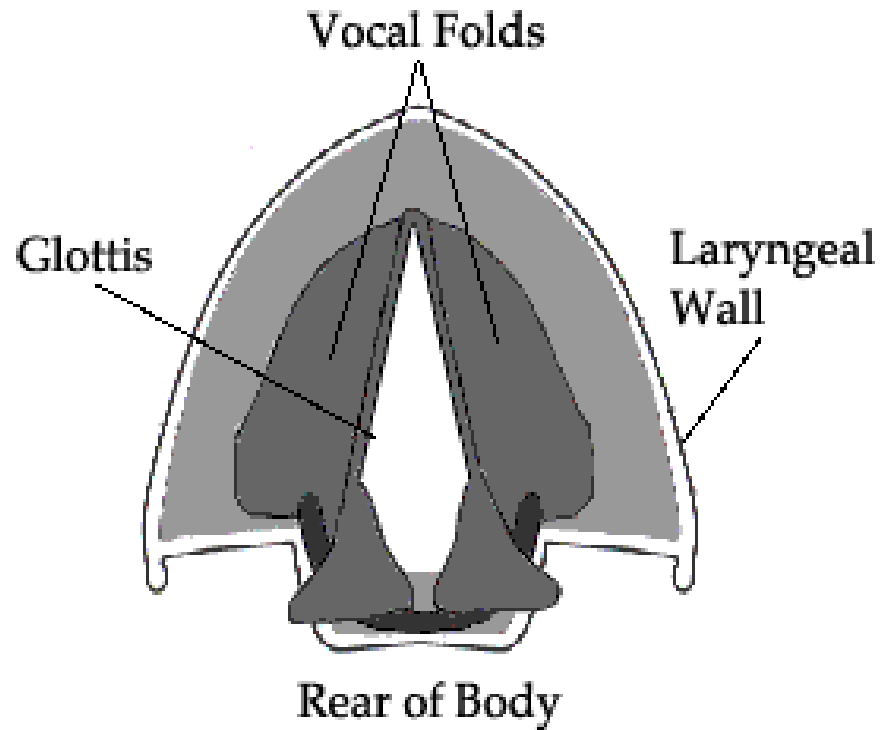
Back

Manner of Articulation

	Bilabial	Labio-dental	Dental	Alveolar	Palato-alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glotal
Plosive	<b>p</b> <b>b</b>			<b>t</b> <b>d</b>			<b>k</b> <b>g</b>	
Affricative					<b>tʃ</b> <b>dʒ</b>			
Fricative		<b>f</b> <b>v</b>	<b>θ</b> <b>ð</b>	<b>s</b> <b>z</b>	<b>ʃ</b> <b>ʒ</b>			<b>h</b>
Nasal	<b>m</b>			<b>n</b>			<b>ŋ</b>	
Lateral				<b>l</b>				
Approximant	<b>(w)</b>				<b>r</b>	<b>j</b>	<b>w</b>	

Unvoiced phonemes are on shaded background. Voiced phonemes are normal

# The Vocal Folds or Vocal Cords



ɪ READ	ɪ SIT	ʊ BOOK	uː TOO	ɪə HERE	eɪ DAY		
e MEN	ə AMERICA	ɜː WORD	ɔː SORT	ʊə TOUR	ɔɪ BOY	əʊ GO	
æ CAT	ʌ BUT	ɑː PART	ɒ NOT	eə WEAR	aɪ MY	ɑʊ HOW	
p PIG	b BED	t TIME	d DO	tʃ CHURCH	dʒ JUDGE	k KILO	g GO
f FIVE	v VERY	θ THINK	ð THE	s SIX	z ZOO	ʃ SHORT	ʒ CASUAL
m MILK	n NO	ŋ SING	h HELLO	l LIVE	r READ	w WINDOW	j YES

# Syllable

- One or more letters representing a unit of spoken language consisting of a single uninterrupted sound
- A sound produced in a single puff of breath
- **syllable** (from the Greek , *syn* = 'co, together' + *labe* = 'grasp', thus meaning a handful [of letters]) is a unit of organization for a sequence of speech sounds.
- Syllables are often considered the phonological "building blocks" of words.
- They can influence the rhythm of a language, its prosody, its poetic meter and its stress patterns.

- A word that consists of a single syllable is called a **monosyllabic**- red, dog, love
- Similar terms include **disyllable** (and *disyllabic*) for a word of two syllables – “En-*g*lish”, Bi-*b*le, is-*l*and, scien-*t*ist, through-*o*ut
- **trisyllable** (and *trisyllabic*) for a word of three syllables – in-*t*er-*v*al, In-*d*i-*a*n, ca-*p*i-*t*al, a-*b*an-*d*oned
- **Tetrasyllabic**- four Syllables: e-*c*o-*n*o-*m*y, pub-*l*i-*c*i-*t*y

# Standard English

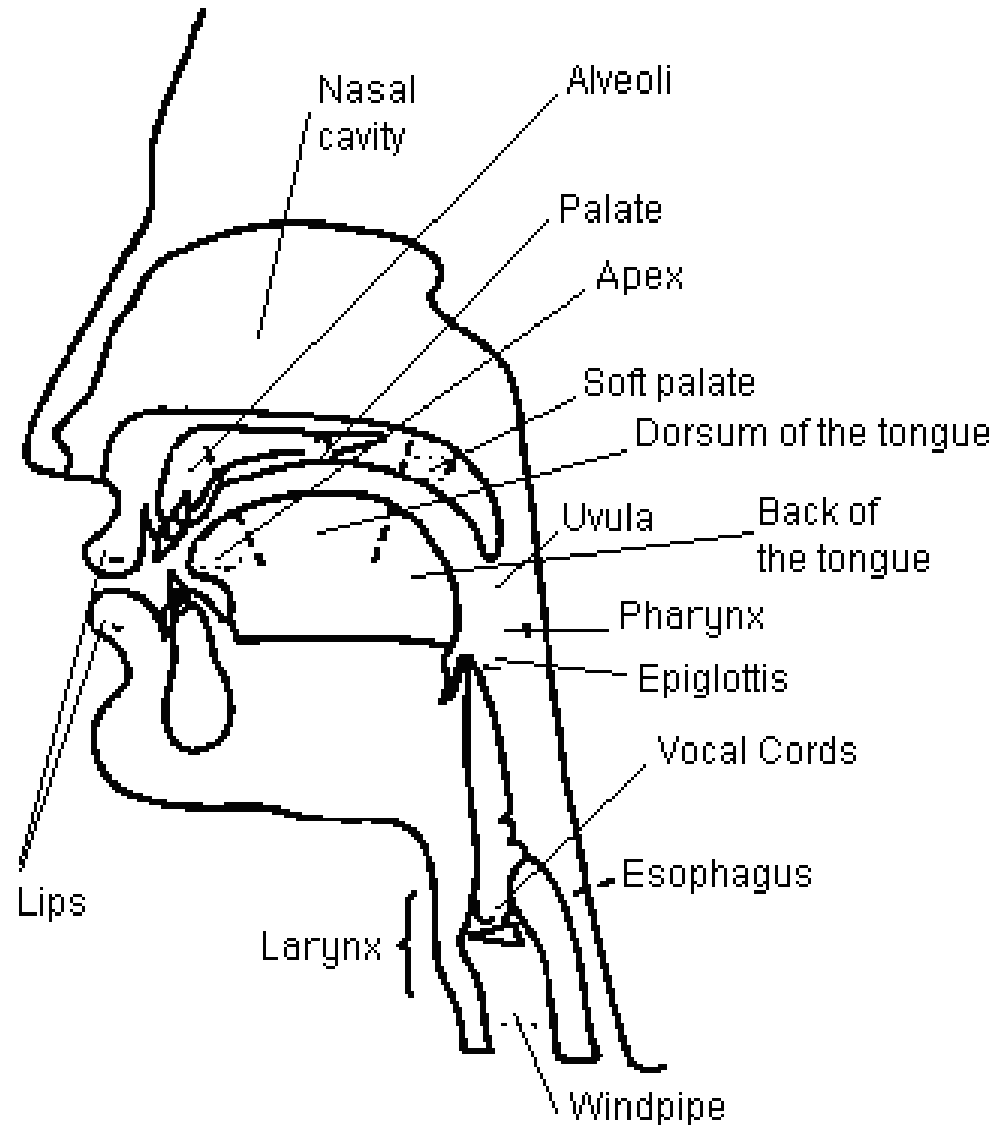
- **Standard English** (often shortened to **SE** within linguistic circles refers to whatever form of the English language is accepted as a national norm in any English-speaking country.
- It encompasses grammar, vocabulary, and spelling.
- In the British Isles, particularly in England and Wales, it is often associated with: the "**Received Pronunciation**" accent
- In Scotland the standard is **Scottish Standard English**.
- In the United States it is generally associated with the **General American accent** and in Australia with **General Australian**
- Unlike the case of other standard languages, however, no official or central regulating body defines Standard English.



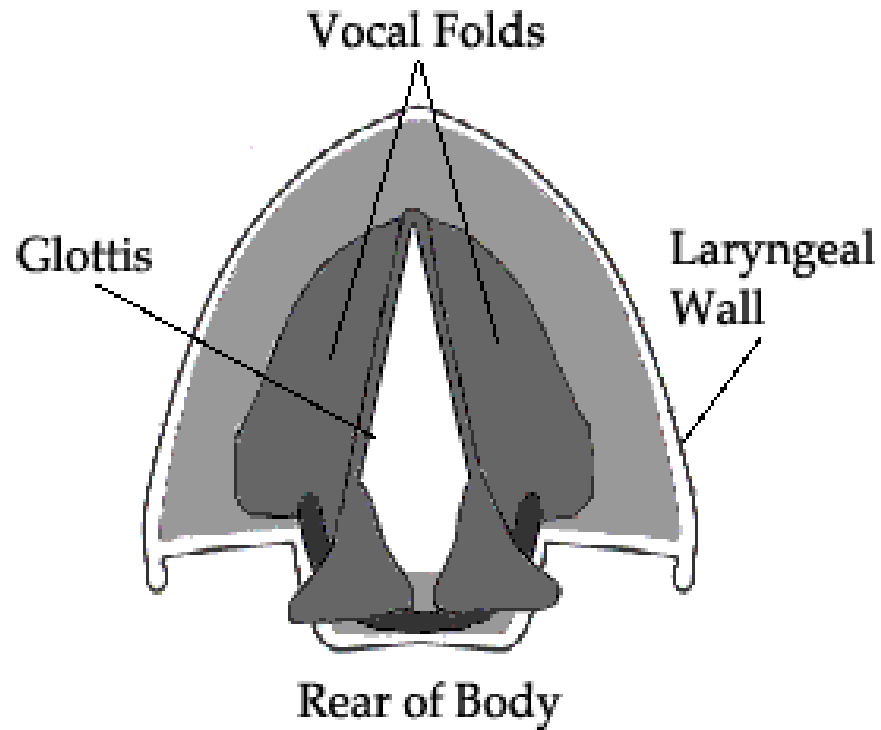
# “Received Pronunciation” accent(RP)

- **Received Pronunciation (RP)** is regarded as the standard accent of Standard English in the United Kingdom
- RP is defined in the *Concise Oxford English Dictionary* as "the standard accent of English as spoken in the south of England although it can be heard from native speakers throughout England and Wales.
- Peter Trudgill estimated in 1974 that 3% of people in Britain were RP speakers.

# Diagram of the speech organs



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