



SAE 2

Now compare the words 'true' and 'tea'. In which word is the tongue contact further forward in the mouth? Most people make contact with the tip or blade of the tongue on the alveolar ridge when saying 'tea', but slightly further back in 'true'. Try to distinguish the differences in other consonant sounds such as those in 'sigh' and 'shy' and those in 'fee' and 'thee'.

'sigh' and 'shy' _____

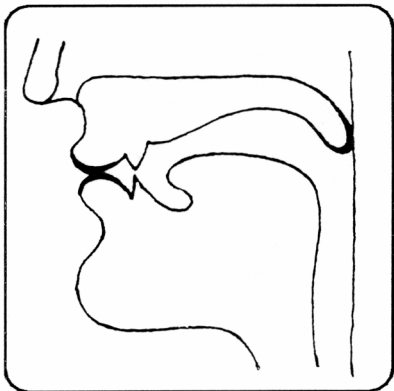
'fee' and 'thee' _____



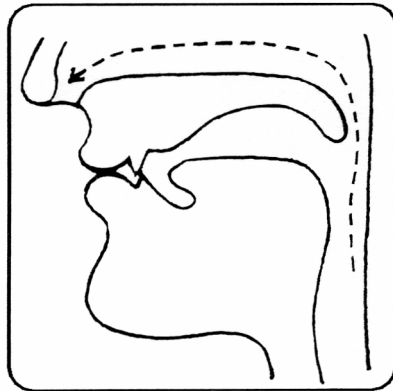
Places of Articulation

In order to form consonants, the airstream through the vocal tract must be obstructed in some way. Consonants can therefore be classified according to the place and manner of this obstruction. The principal terms for these particular types of obstruction, all of which are required in the description of English, follow:

BILABIAL



/p, b/



/m/

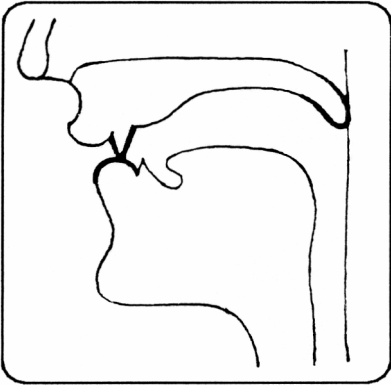
Made with the two lips.

Say words such as 'pie, buy' and 'my' and note how the lips come together for the first sound in each of these words. Note the bilabial consonants in initial, mid and final positions and transcribe them. As you transcribe each one say it out loud noticing the lip positions.



SAE 3

- | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|
| peak _____ | bride _____ | more _____ | blaze _____ |
| labour _____ | shabby _____ | marmalade _____ | hums _____ |
| grab _____ | rope _____ | come _____ | flame _____ |

LABIODENTAL

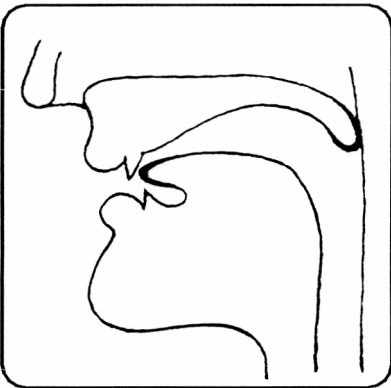
/f, v/

Lower lip and upper front teeth.

Most people when saying words such as 'feel', 'veal' raise the lower lip until it nearly touches the upper front teeth. Note the labiodental consonants in initial, mid and final positions and transcribe them. As you transcribe each one, say it out loud noticing the lip and teeth positions.

**SAE 4**

ferry _____ vole _____ few _____
 vile _____ suffer _____ proving _____
 offer _____ reviews _____ halve _____
 half _____ off _____ of _____

DENTAL

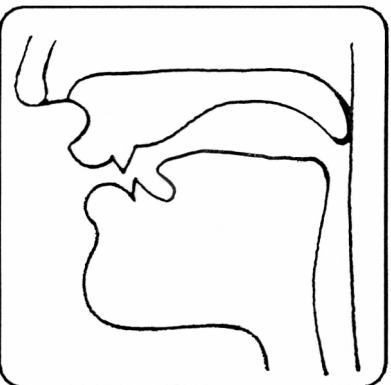
/θ, ð/

Tongue tip or blade and upper front teeth.

Say the words 'thigh, thy'. Some people have the tip of the tongue protruding below the upper front teeth, others have it close behind the upper front teeth. Both these kinds of sounds are normal in English and both may be called dental. Note the dental consonants in initial, mid and final positions and transcribe them. As you do so say each one out loud noticing the tongue and teeth positions.

**SAE 5**

thin _____ this _____ thought _____
 those _____ earthy _____ other _____
 father _____ nothing _____ tooth _____
 moth _____ smooth _____ loathe _____

GLOTTAL

/h/

Since English /h/ occurs only in syllable initial, pre-vocalic positions, it may be regarded as a strong, voiceless onset of the vowel it precedes. Note the glottal fricative /h/ in initial and mid positions and transcribe the words listed saying each one aloud as you do so.

**SAE 6**

heat _____ who _____ hallo _____
 whom _____ behave _____ abhor _____
 behind _____ how _____ spearhead _____
 ham _____ harm _____ hall _____