

Consonants of English

MJC - 06

Unit 1 (C)

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When we describe a consonant, we have to indicate

1. Whether the sound is **voiced** or **voiceless**, that is, whether the vocal cords vibrate or not.

Examples

voiced: /b, d, g, v, z, m, n, l/

voiceless: /p, t, k, f, s, h/

2. Whether the soft palate is raised or lowered, that is, whether the air-stream passes through the mouth only (as for **oral** sounds like /p, b, t, d, k, g, f, v, s, z, l or through the nose only (as for **nasal** like /m, n/);
3. the place of articulation, that is, where in the mouth the closure or narrowing takes place; and
4. the manner of articulation, that is, the kind of closure or narrowing, and the nature of the sound produced

to continue

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