

Phonetics & Presentation:
Session 5: Starting of IPA – Consonant Sound 3

Session 5:
Liquid and Glider Sounds
/l/, /r/, /w/, /y/, /θ/, /ð/)

Here are the English Phonemes [44]:

Vowels				diphthongs										
i:	I	ʊ	u:	Iə	eɪ									
feed	igloo	cook	boots	beard	hay									
e	ə	ɜ:	ɔ:	ʊə	ɔɪ	əʊ								
egg	love	bird	sport	picture	toy	boat								
æ	ʌ	ɑ:	ɒ	eə	aɪ	aʊ								
apple	umbrella	car	octopus	chair	pie	cow								
							consonants							
p	b	t	d	tʃ	dʒ	k	g							
pig	banana	tiger	dog	cheese	jam	cat	girl							
f	v	θ	ð	s	z	ʃ	ʒ							
fish	violin	math	this	sun	zebra	fish	vision							
m	n	ŋ	h	l	r	w	j							
monkey	nose	sing	horse	lion	zabbit	whale	yoyo							
short sounds	long sounds	voiced consonants	unvoiced consonants											

The 44 unique phonemes

ARTICULATION OF /l/ & /r/

ALVEOLAR LIQUIDS - LATERAL /l/ & RHOTIC /r/

Alveolar: Tongue tip is near or touches the alveolar ridge (behind upper teeth). /l/ uses lateral airflow.
Rhotic: Retracted or bunched tongue tip creating a specific resonant sound. Airflow can be lateral or central.

/l/ - LATERAL

VOICED - AIRFLOW IS LATERAL AROUND THE TONGUE

Tongue tip against alveolar ridge.

Sides of tongue lowered, creating lateral channels.

Airstream divided into lateral flow.

Tongue channel near hard-boundary.

Vocal cords are **CLOSED** (vibrate).



How to feel /l/:

Place your hand near your mouth, to the side. You will feel a **cool lateral air stream**.

Examples: light /laɪt/, hall /hɔ:l/, color /'kʌlər/

/r/ - RHOTIC

VOICED - COMPLEX TONGUE POSITION WITH CENTRAL AIRFLOW

Tongue tip retracted & bunched.

Central concave tongue channel.

Complex, resonant central air stream.

Vocal cords are **CLOSED** (vibrate).



How to feel /r/:

Place your hand in front of your mouth. You will feel a **complex, buzzy buzz** and neck vibration (buzz).

Examples: red /rɛd/, car /kɑ:r/, every /'evri:/

/l/ as in light /laɪt/

জিহবার অগ্রভাগ উপরের দাঁতের মাড়িতে স্পর্শ করে বলুন।

/r/ as in right /raɪt/

জিহবার অগ্রভাগ তালুতে হালকাভাবে স্পর্শ করে বলুন।

Pair 8: The Liquids /l/ and /r/

/l/ (Light L and Dark L)

- Bangla Equivalent:** Close to ল, but English end-L is "darker" and heavier.

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- Extensive Examples:

- **Initial (Light L):** Light, Love, Long, Lamp, Fly, Blue
- **Medial:** Hello, Yellow, Balloon, Collect, Society
- **Final (Dark L):** Ball, Feel, Tall, Milk, Table, World

- Exceptions/Spelling Rules:

- 'L' is silent after A, O, U before 'k' or 'm': Walk, Talk, Half, Should, Could, Salmon, Almond.

/r/ (English R)

Bangla Equivalent: None. Must avoid the rolled Bengali - র.

- Extensive Examples:

- **Initial:** Red, Run, Right, Rabbit, Rope
- **Medial:** Very, sorry, carry, arrive, tree (tr- blend)
- **Final (American English):** Car, Door, Sister, Water

- Exceptions/Spelling Rules:

- 'R' is silent before consonants and at the end of words in British English: Car, Park, Hard, Word. (Americans pronounce it, British don't).
- **'Wr'** at the start of a word is silent /r/: Write, Wrong, Wrist, Wreck.
- **'Rh'** sounds like /r/: Rhyme, Rhythm, Rhinoceros.

ARTICULATION OF /θ/ & /ð/

DENTAL FRICATIVES - VOICELESS /θ/ & VOICED /ð/

Dental: The sound is made with the tongue tip at the upper teeth.

Fricative: The airstream is compressed through a narrow channel, creating friction (noise).

/θ/ - DENTAL FRICATIVE

VOICELESS - NO VOCAL CORD VIBRATION

Tongue tip creates narrow channel at upper teeth.

Back of tongue raised toward velum.

Airstream compressed for strong friction.

Vocal cords are **OPEN** (no vibration).



How to feel /θ/:

Place your hand in front of your mouth. You will feel a strong, sustained flow of air.

Examples: thanks /θæŋks/, with /wɪθ/, cloth /kloth/

/ð/ - DENTAL FRICATIVE

VOICED - VOCAL CORD VIBRATION

Tongue tip creates narrow channel at upper teeth.

Velum raised, closing nasal port.

Airstream compressed for sustained buzz.

Vocal cords are **CLOSED** (vibrate).



How to feel /ð/:

Place your hand in front of your mouth. You will feel a **weaker air flow** but **neck vibration** (buzz).

Examples: these /ði:z/, other /'ʌðər/, bath /bæθ/

/θ/ as in thesis - /'θi:sis/

জিহ্বার অগ্রভাগ দুই দাঁতের পাটির মাঝে
রেখে বলুন।

/ð/ as in this is - /ðɪsɪz/

জিহ্বার অগ্রভাগ দুই দাঁতের পাটির
মাঝে রেখে বলুন।

Pair 9: The "TH" Sounds - /θ/ (Voiceless) and /ð/ (Voiced)

/θ/ (Voiceless TH)

- Bangla Equivalent:**

None. (Do not use থ, ত, or স).

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Extensive Examples:

Initial: Think, Thin, Thumb, Thunder, Thursday

Medial: Bathroom, Author, Nothing, Wealthy, Earthquake

Final: Bath, Math, Tooth, Health, Death, Both

Exceptions/Spelling Rules:

Very rare. Usually always spelled 'th'.

/ð/ (Voiced TH)

- **Bangla Equivalent:** None. (Do not use দ, ড, or জ).

Extensive Examples:

Initial: This, That, The, There, Then, They

Medial: Mother, Father, Brother, Weather, Together

Final: Bathe, Breathe, Smooth, Clothe, Teethe

Exceptions/Spelling Rules (The Grammar Rule):

- We use /θ/ (voiceless) for Nouns (Thing, Bath, Truth, Youth).
- We use /ð/ (voiced) for Verbs and Function Words (This, The, They, Bathe, Soothe, Breathe).

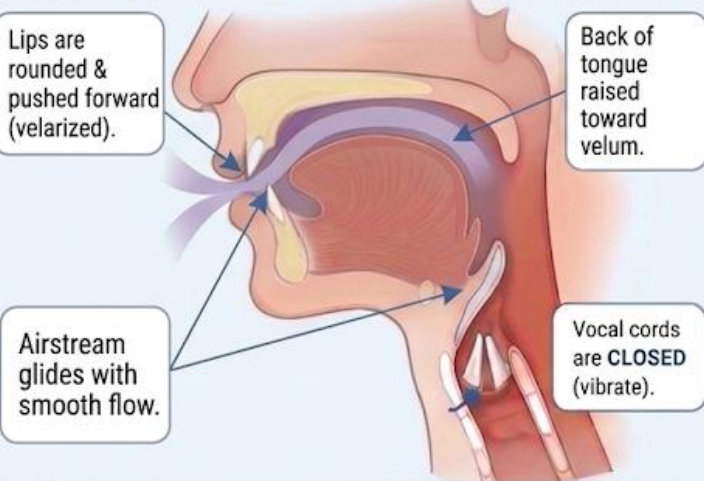
ARTICULATION OF /w/ & /j/

ALVEOLAR LIQUIDS - VELATAL /j/ & RHOTIC /j/

Approximant: A sound produced with a relatively open vocal tract, like vowels but with a closer constriction.
Glides: A type of approximant that involves a smooth glided movement from one sound to another.

/w/ - VELARIZED BILABIAL

VOICED - COMPLEX BILABIAL & VELAR CONstriction



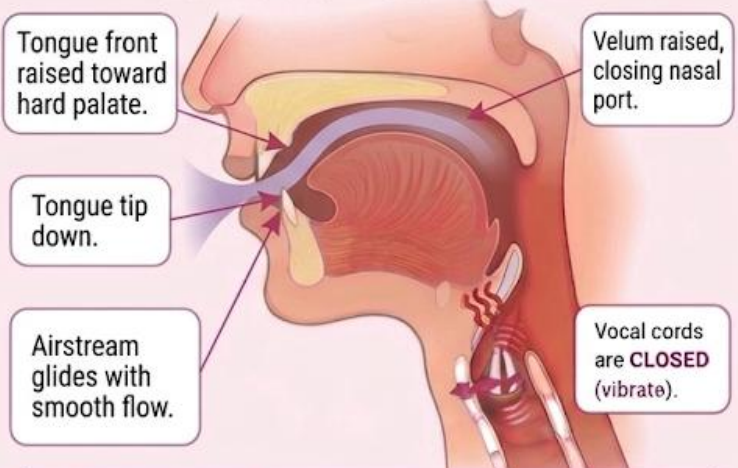
How to feel /w/:

Place your hand in front of your mouth.
 You will feel a strong, smooth buzz on your hand.

Examples: win /wɪn/, away /ə'weɪ/, warm /wɔ:rm/

/j/ - PALATAL

VOICED - CONstriction AT PALATE



How to feel /j/:

Place your hand in front of your mouth.
 You will feel a **buzz** and **neck vibration** (buzz).

Examples: yes /jɛs/, music /'mju:zɪk/, you /ju:/

/w/ as in willed /wɪld/

দুই চোঁট গোল করে বলুন।

/j/ as in yield /ji:ld/

জিহ্বার মধ্যভাগ তালুতে হালকা স্পর্শ করে বলুন।

Pair 10: The Glides - /w/ and /j/

/w/

- Bangla Equivalent:**

None. (Do not use ব).

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Extensive Examples:

Initial: Water, Woman, Win, Walk, Week

Medial: Away, Reward, Network, Always

Spelling variants: One, Once, Choir, Quick (the 'u' makes the /w/ sound).

Exceptions/Spelling Rules:

- 'W' is silent before 'r' at the start of words: Write, Wrap, Wrist.
- 'W' is silent in some words: Sword, Two, Answer, Who, Whose.

/j/

Bangla Equivalent:

Close to য় (j) but softer, no friction.

Extensive Examples:

Initial: Yes, You, Year, Yellow, Young

Medial: Million, Beyond, Onion, Lawyer

Spelling variants: U- (use, union), Eu- (europe), ew (few, new).

Exceptions/Spelling Rules:

- In words ending in "-ture" or "-sure", it often becomes /y/:
Nature, Picture, Procedure, Measure (in some dialects).

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Homework / Extensive Practice List

Tongue Twisters for Daily Practice:

/r/ vs /l/:

Red leather, yellow leather.

Rural ruler. Really rarely right.

/w/: Wristwatches want warm winter weather.

/θ/ vs /ð/:

The thirty-three thieves thought that they thrilled the throne throughout Thursday.

The Ultimate /l, r, w, θ, ð/ Challenge:

"Whether the weather is warm, [আবহাওয়া উষ্ণই হোক,]

whether the weather is hot, [কিংবা আবহাওয়া গরমই হোক,]

we must weather the weather whatever the weather,

[আবহাওয়া যেমনই থাকুক না কেন, আমাদের সেই আবহাওয়া মানিয়ে চলতেই হবে]

whether we like it or not." [— আমরা তা পছন্দ করি আর নাই করি।]

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Paragraph Reading (Focus on bold words):

"**Y**esterday, the **w**ea**th**er **w**as very **w**arm. A rich **y**oung **w**oman **w**alked to the **r**iver to **r**ead a book. She **s**aw a **l**ittle **b**ird **w**ith a **b**roken **w**ing. I **t**hink** she **w**anted to help **i**th**e**m. She **c**alled her **m**oth**e**r, **w**ho **r**an over **r**ight away. **T**o**g**eth**e**r, **t**h**e**y **w**rapp**e**d the **b**ird in a **w**arm **t**ow**e**l. **T**he **b**ird quickly **r**eco**v**er**e**d and **f**lew **a**way, **f**ree and happy."

Home Practice

Read these pairs aloud.

1. /w/ vs /b/: Wine / Bine | West / Best | Wipe / Bipe (Wait, Bipe isn't a word! Use Wipe / Pipe).
2. /y/ vs /j/: Yield / Jield (Use: Yellow / Jello) | Yoke / Joke | Yet / Jet.
3. /θ/ vs /t/: Think / Tink (Write: Think / Tink) | Thick / Tick | Math / Mat.
4. /ð/ vs /d/: This / Dis (Write: This / Diss) | They / Day | Bathe / Bade.
5. /l/ vs /r/: Light / Right | Collect / Correct | Fly / Fry.