

Introduction to Phonetics

Phonetics · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. What is the scientific study of the physical sounds of human speech called?

A) Phonetics

B) Geology

C) Botany

D) Astronomy

2. What does the acronym IPA stand for in the context of linguistics?

A) Internal Phonic Association

B) International Phonetic Alphabet

C) Integrated Pronunciation Area

D) International Poetry Agency

3. Which part of the throat contains the vocal cords used to create voiced sounds?

A) Esophagus

B) Tonsils

C) Larynx

D) Palate

4. What is the term for a speech sound produced using both lips, such as /p/ or /b/?

A) Bilabial

B) Velar

C) Alveolar

D) Dental

5. Which of these is the most common vowel sound in the English language, often represented by the symbol /ə/?

A) Omega

B) Delta

C) Alpha

D) Schwa

6. In phonetics, what is a sound called when the airflow is completely blocked and then suddenly released?

A) Fricative

B) Approximant

C) Plosive

D) Liquid

7. Which type of speech sound is produced without any significant obstruction of the air flowing from the lungs?

A) Consonant

B) Vowel

C) Click

D) Affricate

8. What is the term for a complex vowel sound that begins in one position and moves to another, such as in the word 'boy'?

A) Diphthong

B) Monophthong

C) Syllable

D) Glottal stop

9. Which of these sounds is classified as a 'nasal' sound because the air escapes through the nose?

A) /s/

B) /t/

C) /f/

D) /m/

10. Which IPA symbol represents the 'sh' sound heard at the beginning of the word 'shoe'?

A) /ʃ/

B) /ʃ/

C) /ð/

D) /ʃ/