

Phonetics and Human Physiology

Phonetics · Practice Test · 8 Questions

1. Which organ is primarily responsible for the vibration that creates the source sound for voiced phonemes?

- A) The epiglottis
- B) The vocal folds
- C) The pharynx
- D) The soft palate

2. During the production of nasal consonants like /m/ and /n/, where is the velum positioned?

- A) Raised against the pharyngeal wall
- B) Lowered to allow air into the nasal cavity
- C) Tightly compressed against the teeth
- D) Retracted toward the tongue base

3. Which cranial nerve provides the primary motor innervation to the muscles of the larynx for speech production?

- A) Trigeminal nerve
- B) Facial nerve
- C) Vagus nerve
- D) Hypoglossal nerve

4. What is the primary function of the diaphragm during the respiratory phase of speech production?

- A) To filter saliva from the airway
- B) To modulate the pitch of the voice
- C) To control the subglottal air pressure
- D) To resonate the oral cavity

5. The articulation of dental consonants requires the tongue to make physical contact with which anatomical structure?

- A) The alveolar ridge
- B) The hard palate
- C) The posterior pharyngeal wall
- D) The upper incisors

6. Which anatomical structure acts as a valve to protect the airway from aspiration during swallowing, distinct from its role in phonation?

- A) The epiglottis
- B) The uvula
- C) The thyroid cartilage
- D) The arytenoid cartilages

7. In clinical phonetics, which condition describes the structural inability to produce speech sounds due to weakness or paralysis of the speech muscles?

- A) Dysarthria
- B) Aphasia
- C) Tinnitus
- D) Dysphagia

8. Which part of the vocal tract is known as the 'resonator' that significantly alters sound quality through changes in volume and shape?

- A) The trachea
- B) The oral and pharyngeal cavities
- C) The bronchi
- D) The esophagus