

Introduction to Phonetics

Phonetics · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. What is the branch of linguistics that studies the physical properties of speech sounds?

- A) Syntax
- B) Semantics
- C) Phonetics**
- D) Morphology

2. Which organ is primarily responsible for the vibration that creates voiced sounds?

- A) Lungs
- B) Vocal folds**
- C) Teeth
- D) Tongue

3. Which of the following is considered a 'nasal' sound in the English language?

- A) /m/**
- B) /t/
- C) /s/
- D) /p/

4. What is the term for a speech sound produced without significant obstruction in the vocal tract?

- A) Consonant
- B) Plosive
- C) Vowel**
- D) Fricative

5. Which part of the body is used to articulate 'labial' sounds?

- A) Teeth
- B) Tongue
- C) Lips**
- D) Nose

6. What is the technical term for the IPA?

- A) International Phonetic Alphabet**
- B) Internal Phonetic Association
- C) International Phonic Agreement
- D) Inter-continental Phonetic Agency

7. Which sound is produced by forcing air through a narrow constriction, such as /f/ or /s/?

A) Nasal

B) Fricative

C) Plosive

D) Liquid

8. What is the process of producing speech sounds called?

A) Articulation

B) Phonology

C) Grammar

D) Syntax

9. Which of these sounds is produced by momentarily stopping the airflow?

A) /z/

B) /p/

C) /h/

D) //

10. Where are the vocal folds located?

A) Mouth

B) Larynx

C) Nose

D) Chest

11. Which term refers to sounds produced with the tongue against the teeth?

A) Dental

B) Labial

C) Velar

D) Glottal

12. What is the primary source of air for producing speech sounds?

A) Stomach

B) Heart

C) Lungs

D) Diaphragm

13. In phonetics, what is a 'voiceless' sound?

A) A sound made without vocal fold vibration

B) A whisper

C) A sound made with no air

D) A silent letter

14. Which of these is a 'velar' sound, articulated against the soft palate?

A) /k/

B) /m/

C) /p/

D) /t/

15. What do phoneticians call the study of the movement of the tongue, lips, and jaw during speech?

A) Acoustic phonetics

B) Articulatory phonetics

C) Auditory phonetics

D) Mental phonetics