

Fundamentals of Phonetics

Linguistics · Answer Key · 18 Questions

1. Which organ of the body is primarily responsible for articulation in human speech?

- A) The lungs
- B) The tongue**
- C) The ears
- D) The nose

2. What is the term for speech sounds produced without any obstruction of the airflow in the vocal tract?

- A) Consonants
- B) Fricatives
- C) Vowels**
- D) Plosives

3. Which international standard uses symbols to represent the sounds of all human languages?

- A) IPA**
- B) ISO
- C) ASCII
- D) Unicode

4. How are speech sounds that require a complete closure of the airflow, followed by a sudden release, classified?

- A) Nasals
- B) Liquids
- C) Glides
- D) Plosives**

5. Which part of the vocal anatomy contains the vocal cords and is known as the voice box?

- A) Pharynx
- B) Larynx**
- C) Trachea
- D) Epiglottis

6. What defines a 'voiced' sound in phonetics?

- A) Airflow through the nose
- B) The vibration of vocal cords**
- C) High-pitched frequency
- D) Strong breath pressure

7. Which term describes the study of how speech sounds are physically produced by the vocal organs?

- A) Acoustic phonetics
- B) Auditory phonetics
- C) Articulatory phonetics**
- D) Phonology

8. In phonetics, what are sounds like 'm', 'n', and 'ŋ' called?

- A) Nasals**
- B) Affricates
- C) Laterals
- D) Trills

9. Which sound is produced by forcing air through a narrow channel formed by the articulators?

- A) Stop
- B) Fricative**
- C) Tap
- D) Approximant

10. What is the scientific term for the study of the physical properties of sound waves as they travel through the air?

- A) Articulatory phonetics
- B) Acoustic phonetics**
- C) Auditory phonetics
- D) Morphology

11. Which speech sound is typically produced by vibrating the tip of the tongue against the alveolar ridge?

- A) Alveolar trill**
- B) Bilabial stop
- C) Velar nasal
- D) Glottal fricative

12. What do phoneticians call the 'b' sound in the word 'bat'?

- A) Voiceless velar stop
- B) Voiced bilabial stop**
- C) Voiced alveolar nasal
- D) Voiceless labiodental fricative

13. The term 'bilabial' refers to speech sounds produced by using which articulators?

- A) Teeth and lips
- B) Tongue and teeth
- C) Both lips**
- D) Tongue and soft palate

14. Which of these sounds is classified as a 'voiceless' consonant?

- A) z
- B) v
- C) s**
- D) d

15. What is the IPA symbol for the sound at the beginning of the word 'house'?

- A) h**
- B) x
- C) ?
- D) h

16. Which process involves the movement of air from the lungs through the vocal tract?

- A) Ingressive airstream
- B) Egressive airstream
- C) Pulmonic initiation
- D) Both b and c**

17. Where is the point of articulation for the 'k' sound in the word 'kite'?

- A) Velum**
- B) Alveolar ridge
- C) Hard palate
- D) Lips

18. What is the primary difference between a phone and a phoneme?

- A) Phones are written, phonemes are spoken
- B) Phones are physical sounds, phonemes are units of meaning**
- C) Phones are vowels, phonemes are consonants
- D) There is no difference