The Phonetics of English

A Chart of the English Consonants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Bilabial</th>
<th>Labiodental</th>
<th>Interdental</th>
<th>Alveolar</th>
<th>Palatal</th>
<th>Velar</th>
<th>Glottal</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>** Stops **</td>
<td>[p] [b]</td>
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<tr>
<td>** Fricatives **</td>
<td>[f] [v]</td>
<td>[θ] [ð]</td>
<td>[s] [z]</td>
<td>[ʃ] [ʒ]</td>
<td>[h]</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>** Affricates **</td>
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<td></td>
<td>[tʃ] [dʒ]</td>
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<td>** Nasals **</td>
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<td>[n]</td>
<td>[ŋ]</td>
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<td>** Liquids **</td>
<td>[n]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>[l] [r]</td>
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<td>** Glides **</td>
<td>[w]</td>
<td></td>
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<td>[y]</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
1. The glottal stop occurs in certain varieties of English, for example the Liverpool dialect of the Beatles /bi?lz/.
2. Is there really no bilabial fricative in English? What would a bilabial fricative sound like? Hint: sometimes it’s called the raspberry.
3. r is really an oversimplification. What are some of the different kinds of r’s you hear—or don’t hear—in English?
4. The velar nasal is the sound we typically make when we say words ending in –ing, for example, singing /sɪŋɪŋ/.

A Chart of the English Vowels

Front | Central | Back

- **Front**: i (beet), e (date), æ (cat), a (pasta)
- **Central**: ə (about), o (but), o (toe), o (ngt)
- **Back**: u (boot), o (foot), u (boot)

Round
Points of Articulation

not pictured: the lungs and diaphragm, located south of the neck.
English sounds are articulated using movements of the uvula (open = nasal; closed = oral)
the lips
the tongue
the vocal cords