



جامعة الأنبار

الكلية / الآداب

قسم او الفرع / اللغة الانكليزية

المرحلة / الثانية

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اسم المادة باللغة العربية : الصوت

اسم المادة باللغة الإنكليزية : Phonetics

أسم المحاضرة الأولى باللغة العربية: الاصوات الانفية و الصحيحة الاخرى (الجزء الاول)

أسم المحاضرة الأولى باللغة الانكليزية: Nasals and other Consonants (Part 1)

محتوى المحاضرة الثانية عشر

➤ **Nasals**

- The basic characteristic of a **nasal consonant** is that the air escapes through the nose.
- To produce the **nasal consonants**, the soft palate must be lowered, and thus, the air does not pass through the mouth; it is prevented by a complete closure in the mouth at some point.
- The **three types of closure** are: bilabial (lips), alveolar (tongue blade against alveolar ridge) and velar (back of tongue against the palate).
- This set of places produces three **nasal consonants** - *m, n, ŋ* - which correspond to the three places of articulation for the pairs of plosives *p b, t d, k g*.
- The consonants *m, n* are simple and straightforward with distributions quite similar to those of the plosives.
- However, *ŋ* is a different matter.
- The place of articulation of *ŋ* is the same as that of *k, g*.
- It is a useful rehearse to practise making a continuous *ŋ* sound.
- It is very important not to produce a *k* or *g* at the end - pronounce the *ŋ* like *m* or *n*.

Listen to AU7 (CD 1), Exs 1 & 2

Some ways in which the distribution of ŋ is unusual

- i. In **initial** position we find m, n occurring freely, but **ŋ** never occurs in this position. With the possible exception of **ʒ**, this makes **ŋ** the only English consonant that does not occur initially.
- ii. **Medially**, **ŋ** occurs quite frequently, but there is in the **BBC** accent a rather complex and quite interesting rule concerning the question of when **ŋ** may be pronounced without a following plosive.

A	B
'finger' fɪŋgə	'singer' sɪŋə
'anger' æŋgə	'hanger' hæŋə

- The important difference is in the way the words are constructed - their **morphology**.
- The words of column B can be divided into two grammatical pieces: 'sing' + '-er', 'hang' + '-er'. These pieces are called **morphemes**.

- We can summarise the position so far by saying that (within a word containing the letters 'ng' in the spelling) **ŋ** occurs without a following g if it occurs at the end of a morpheme;
- While if it occurs in the middle of a morpheme it has a following g.
- At the ends of words ending orthographically with 'ng'. We find that these always end with **ŋ**; this **ŋ** is never followed by a g.
- **Example words**: 'sing' /sɪŋ/ ; 'hang' /hæŋ/ ; 'song' /sɒŋ/; 'long' /lɒŋ/.
- The main exception to the morpheme-based rule concerns the comparative and superlative suffixes '-er' and '-est'.
- The adjective 'long' which is pronounced /lɒŋ/, will be pronounced:
 - /lɒŋgə/ if we add the suffix '-er' (longer); and
 - /lɒŋgɛst/ if we add the suffix '-est' (longest).

iii. A third way in which the distribution of **ŋ** is unusual is the small number of vowels it is found to follow. It rarely occurs after a diphthong or long vowel, so only the short vowels **ɪ e æ ʌ ɒ ʊ ə** are regularly found preceding this consonant.

- In sum up, the velar nasal consonant **ŋ** is phonetically simple (it is no more difficult to produce than m or n) but phonologically complex (it is, as we have seen, not easy to describe the contexts in which it occurs).