

THE PRODUCTION OF SPEECH

1/ *The speech chain:*

3 stages

a/ Psychological: linguistic formulation of the sentence will take place in the brain.

b/ Physiological/Articulatory: the nervous system transmits the message to the organs of speech.

c/ Physical/Acoustic: the movement of organs of speech will create disturbances in the air.

[**d/ Interpretive**: the reception of the sound waves by the ears of the listeners and the transmission of the information along the nervous system to the brain where the linguistic interpretation of the message takes place.]

2/ *The speech mechanism:*

— The most usual source of energy for our vocal activities is provided by an air stream expelled from the lungs. We are obliged to pause in articulation in order to refill our lungs with the air.

_ The airstream provided by the lungs passes through the larynx, causes the vocal cords to vibrate or not.

_ The air stream goes out through the pharynx or the nose or the mouth forming the speech sounds.

For more information follow this link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Ky7Gse5VI8&list=PL2D2C98A429A6BC1C>

3/ The states of the vocal cords:

There are 4 states of the vocal cords:

=> *Wide apart*: the result is voiceless consonants.

=> *Narrow glottis*: the result is a fricative sound or a voiceless glottal fricative.

=> *Vocal cord vibration*: when the edges of the vocal cords are touching or nearly touching, air passing through the glottis will usually cause vibration which results in voiced sound.

=> *Vocal cords tightly closed*: the result is glottal stop/plosive.

The production of speech sounds

- ❖ **The production of any speech sound involves the movement of an air stream.**
- ❖ **Most speech sounds are produced by pushing the air out of the lungs through the mouth (oral) and sometimes through the nose (nasal).**