

Phonetics

First year

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Affricate Consonant Sounds (Affricates)

Affricate Consonants: consonant sounds produced by starting as a plosive and ending as a fricative.

This means that:

They are produced by first making a closure between two organs of speech, and then when opening the closure the air is released by making a narrow passage between the same two organs of speech. That narrow passage is enough for making friction.

When producing these consonants:

- ❖ They have the velum raised, so no air goes out of the nasal cavity and all goes out of the mouth.
- ❖ They are partially continuous.
- ❖ They are two sounds **/tʃ, dʒ/** and their symbol shows that they are the combination of two sounds. They are the only consonant sounds with two symbols each.

- ❖ Both Affricates have the same manner of articulation and the same place of articulation, but differ in voicing (one is voiced and the other is voiceless).
- ❖ Their combination is also the result of either two voiced sounds (/d/ and /ʒ/) to make /dʒ/, or two voiceless sounds (/t/ and /ʃ/) to make /tʃ/.
- ❖ The voiceless Affricate could be followed by aspiration because it is partly a plosive; but the aspiration is not as clear as in the case of plosives.

Description and Classification:

/tʃ/: consonant sound, affricate, post-alveolar, voiceless, so is fortis (strong) and long, and has a slight aspiration.

e.g.: **chat** /tʃæt/ , **butcher** /bʊtʃə / , **which** /wɪtʃ/

/dʒ/: consonant sound, affricate, post-alveolar, voiced, so is lenis (weak) and short, has no aspiration.

e.g.: **job** /dʒɒb/ , **major** /meɪdʒəl/ , **judge** /dʒʌdʒ/