

University of Basrah
College of Arts
Dept., of Translation

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Stop Consonants

By

Lect. Israa Mahmood Salman
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Stops definition

- In stop consonant, the breath is completely stopped at some point in the mouth, by the lips or tongue-tip or tongue-back, and then released with a slight explosion.
- There are four pairs of phonemes containing stops /p,b/, /t,d /, /k ,g/, and / **tʃ**, **dʒ**/
- Like the friction consonants one of each pair is strong and the other weak.

Important points

- /p/ is a strong stop consonant and has aspiration and /b/ is a weak one and has no aspiration .

/p/ is a strong sound just like /f, / θ /, /s/ , /ʃ/ but it has a special features which these sounds do not have? Explain

/p/ causes the following sound to lose some of the voicing which it would otherwise have .example" pool".

- **Aspiration** :The short period after the explosion of /p , t , k/ when air leaves the mouth without voice.

The production of /p , b/

- 1-The lips are closed firmly and the soft palate is raised so that the breath cannot get out of either the nose or the mouth but is trapped for a short time.
- 2-When the lips are opened suddenly the breath rushes out with a slight explosion .
- 3- Before the lips are opened, the rest of the mouth takes up the position for the following sound ,a vowel position if a vowel follows as in "pool;", or a consonant position if a consonant follows as in "play".

/t/ and /d/

- /t/ is a strong consonant and /d/ is a weak one. The position of the organs of speech is as follows:
 - 1-The tip of the tongue is firmly against the middle of the alveolar ridge .
 - 2- The soft palate is raised so the breath cannot escape through either the nose or the mouth, but is trapped for a short time.
 - 3-The sides of the tongue are firmly against the sides of the palate.
 - 4-When the tongue-tip is lowered suddenly from the teeth ridge the breath rushes out with a slight explosion •

/k/ and /g/

- **/k/** is a strong consonant , has aspiration and **/g/** is a weak, has no aspiration . The position of the organs of speech is as follows:
- **1-**The back of the tongue is in firm contact with the soft palate and the soft palate is raised so that the breath is trapped for a short time.
- **2-**When the tongue is lowered suddenly from the soft palate , the breath rushes out of the mouth with a slight explosion.

/ tʃ/ and ,/ dʒ/

- They are stop consonants of a special kind. The air is trapped as for all the stop consonants, but it is released with definite friction of the /ʃ, ʒ/.

Place of articulation of / tʃ/ and ,/ dʒ/

- 1-The tongue-tip touches the back part of the alveolar ridge, and the soft palate is raised so that the breath is trapped for a short time.
- 2-The rest of the tongue is in the /ʃ, ʒ/ position .
- 3-The tongue-tip moves away from the • alveolar ridge a little away , and the whole tongue is then in //ʃ, ʒ/positions , so that a short period of this friction is heard

The End •