

# Speech Mechanism

What is the definition of speech mechanism?

Speech Mechanisms the conventional term for the system of psycho-physiological prerequisites that enable a human being to make meaningful utterances and to understand another's speech.

# Psychophysiology

Psychophysiology is the branch of physiology that is concerned with the relationship between mental (psyche) and physical (**physiological**) processes; it is the scientific study of the interaction between mind and body.

prerequisites

a thing that is required as a prior condition for something else to happen or exist.

# System

System of organs that works for producing a sound or sounds.

The functions of organs in producing a sound or sounds.

# Speech Organs

The various organs which are involved in the production of speech sounds are called **SPEECH ORGANS**.

They are also known as **Vocal Organs**.

The study of speech organs helps us to decide the role of each organ in the production of speech sounds.

# The Organs of Speech



The Lungs



The Vocal Cords



The Tongue



The Teeth

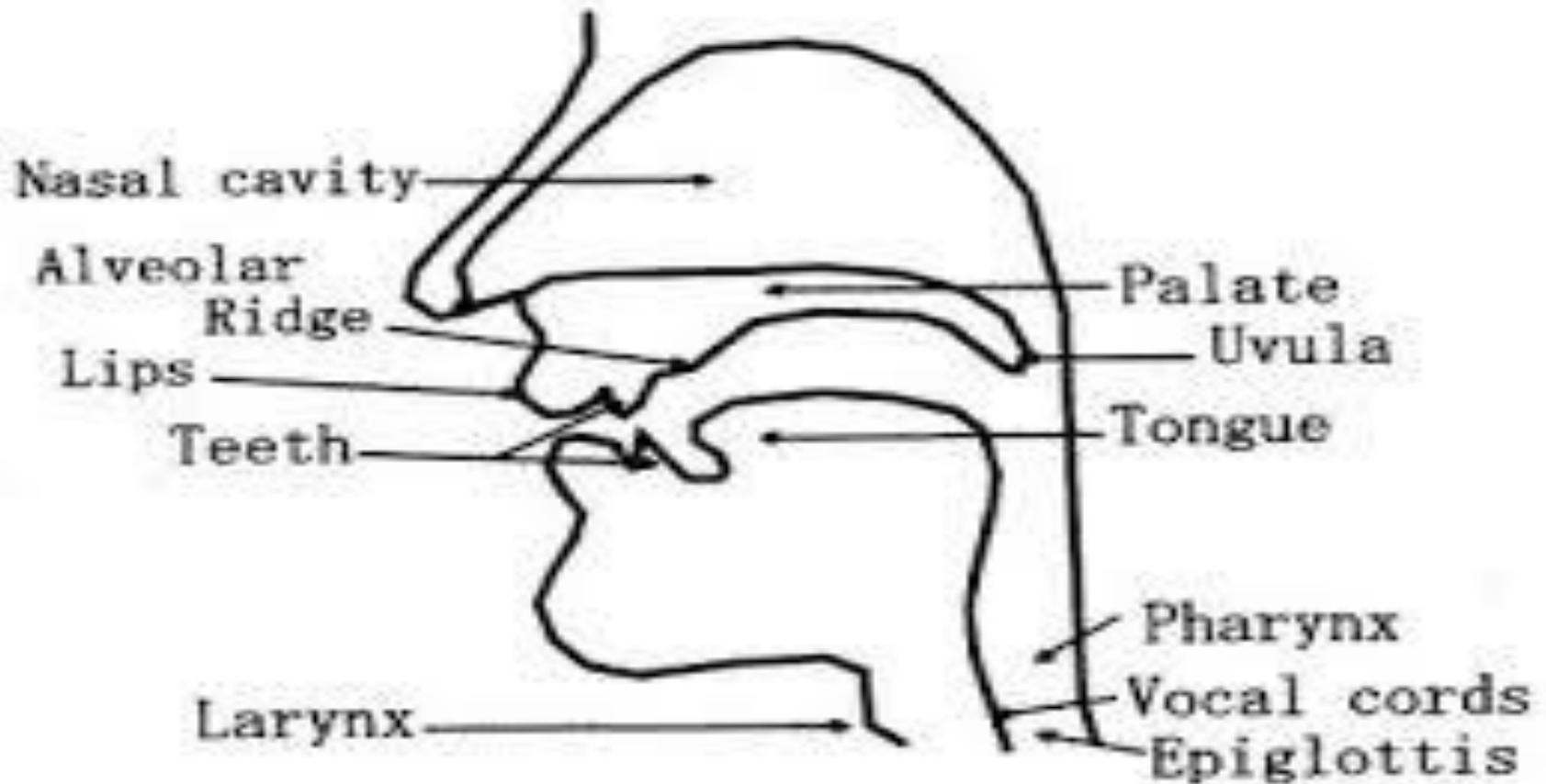


The Lips



The Palate

# Diagram of Speech Mechanism



# The Vocal cords

Also known as vocal folds.

The vocal folds are located within the larynx at the top of the windpipe.

The larynx contains two small bands of elastic tissues.

The inner edges of vocal cords can be moved towards each other.

# The Vocal Cords.

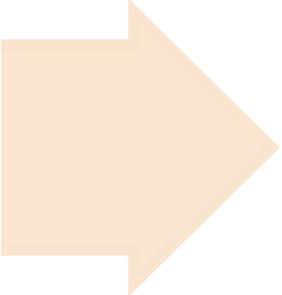
- So they meet each other and they can be drawn apart.
- Closed position and open position.
- When they are drawn apart so that there is a gap between them.
- The gap is known as the glottis.
- Closed position and Open position.
- When the vocal cords in a closed position, the air from the lungs pushes them apart and makes its way

# The Vocal Cords

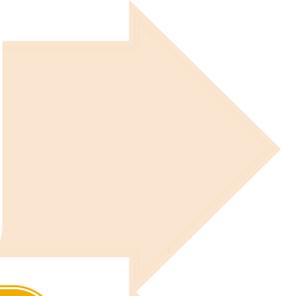
- Vibration of vocal cords
- Voiced sound
- When they are wide apart, no vibration.
- Voiceless sound.
  - In short
- Voiced sounds and voiceless sounds depend upon the position of vocal cords.
- /b/, /d/, /v/, /m/ are voiced sounds
- /p/, /t/, /k/, /f/ are voiceless sounds.

# The Palate

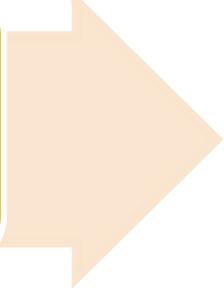
Forms the roof of the mouth.



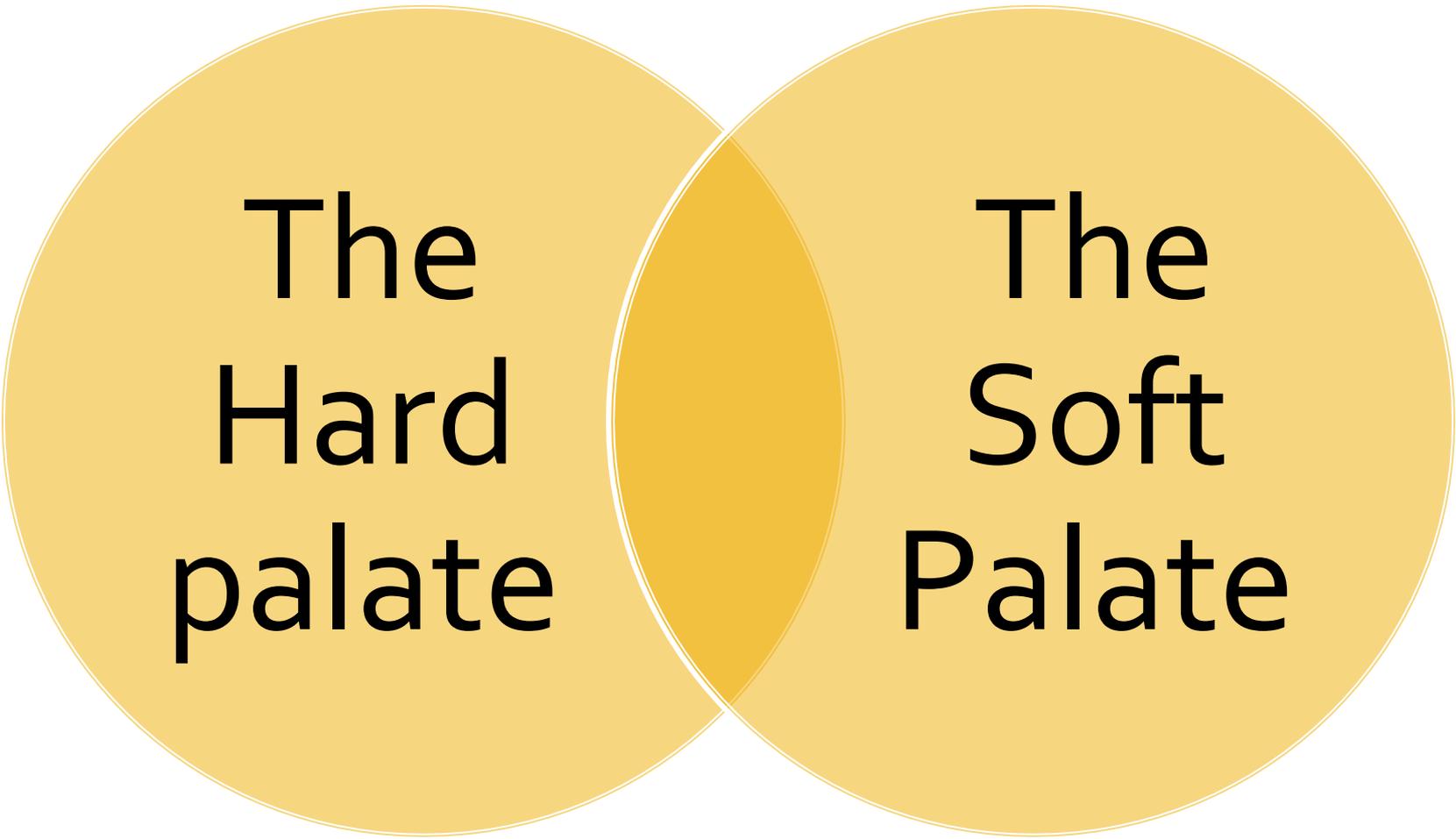
Separates mouth cavity  
from nasal cavity.



The palate is divided into two  
parts



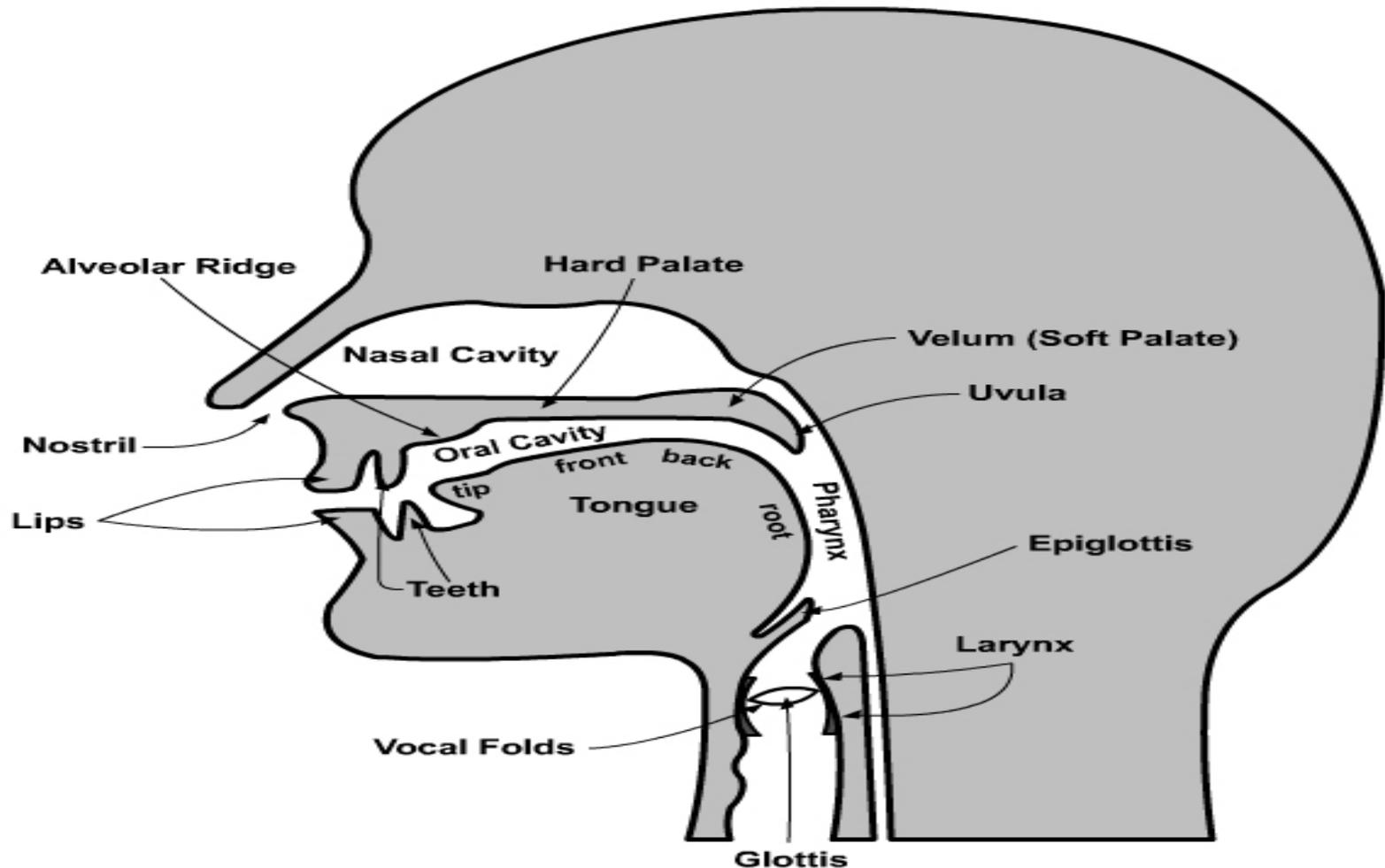
# The Hard Palate



The  
Hard  
palate

The  
Soft  
Palate

# The Hard Palate is fixed against the front of the tongue



# The Hard Palate

The hard  
palate is  
divided into  
two  
sections

The alveolar  
ridge  
And  
The Hard  
Palate

# The Alveolar Ridge

- Immediately behind the upper front teeth.
- The hard palate is the highest part of the palate between the alveolar ridge and the soft palate.
- The alveolar ridge is very important because the consonant sounds like /t, d, n, l, r, s, z/ are made with the touching or close to the alveolar ridge.