

Application Task: Classifying Consonants

Instructions: Consonants are a class of sounds that are formed when the airstream is obstructed in some way. They can be further classified according to their place and manner of articulation and whether or not they are voiced. Follow these steps to complete the chart below.

First Pass: Voicing

1. Read the whole word aloud. Then isolate the highlighted consonant sound and repeat it.
2. Place your finger on your larynx (adam's apple / voice box) and repeat the sound several times.
3. If you feel a vibration as you pronounce the sound, classify it as VOICED. If there is no vibration, classify it as VOICELESS.

	Word and Consonant	Voicing	Place	Manner
1	P art	Voiceless		Plosive
2	f a se	Voiceless	:)	Fricative
3	C hild	Voiceless		Fricative
4	F a vorite	Voiced		Fricative
5	S tart	Voiceless		Plosive
6	T hink	Voiceless		Fricative
7	San F rancisco	Voiceless		Fricative
8	W ish	Voiceless		Fricative
9	T hose	Voiced		Plosive
10	P l ease	Voiced		Fricative
11	J ustice	Voiced		Affricate
12	B ored	Voiced		
13	R eality	Voiced		
14	C osta Rica	Voiceless		
15	Z oo	Voiced		
16	D ark	Voiced		

Second Pass: Manner of Articulation

1. Read the whole word aloud. Then isolate the highlighted consonant sound and repeat it.
2. Pay close attention to how the sound is articulated.
3. Use the chart below to decide which manner of articulation is used and write it in the chart.

Plosive	The airstream is completely stopped and then released.
Fricative	The obstruction allows the airstream to pass but it causes a friction that gives the escaping air vibrating or hissing sound (<i>s/seo</i>).
Affricate	A combination of a plosive and a fricative. The airstream is completely stopped and then released in a way that causes friction.
Nasal	The airstream is blocked in the oral cavity and exits through the nose instead.
Approximant	The articulators are farther apart than with a fricative and the escaping air does not have any noticeable friction.

Third Pass: Place of Articulation

4. Read the whole word aloud. Then isolate the highlighted consonant sound and repeat it.
5. Pay close attention to what parts of your vocal tract are used to produce this sound.
6. Use this chart to help you remember the technical terms. Write the technical name for the place of articulation in the chart.

Place	Active Articulator(s)	Passive Articulator(s)
Bilabial	Lower Lip	Upper Lip
Labio-dental	Lower Lip	Upper Front Teeth
Dental	Tongue Tip	Upper Front Teeth
Alveolar	Tongue Tip	Alveolar Ridge
Post-Alveolar	Tongue Tip	Rear of Alveolar Ridge
Palato-alveolar	Tongue Tip, Blade, and Front	Alveolar Ridge and Hard Palate
Palatal	Front of Tongue	Hard Palate
Velar	Back of Tongue	Soft Palate