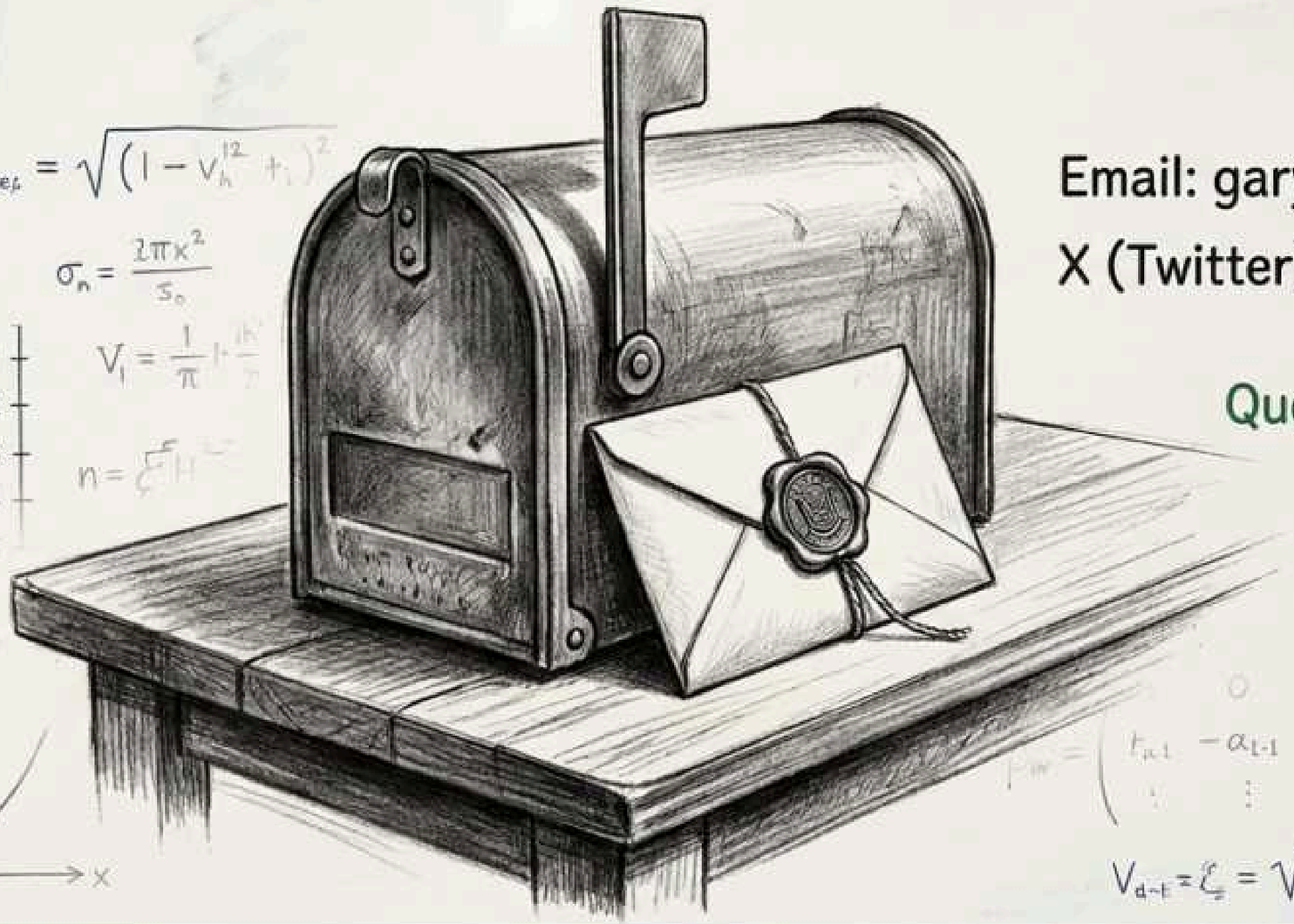
Welcome & Feedback

¶ 0.1



Email: garyanderson@mail.grokbot.com

X (Twitter): @garyanderson

Questions or feedback are always welcome.

The Course Formula

¶ 0.2

LING 150 B = Phonetics: Sounds & Symbols of Speech

B = Brief

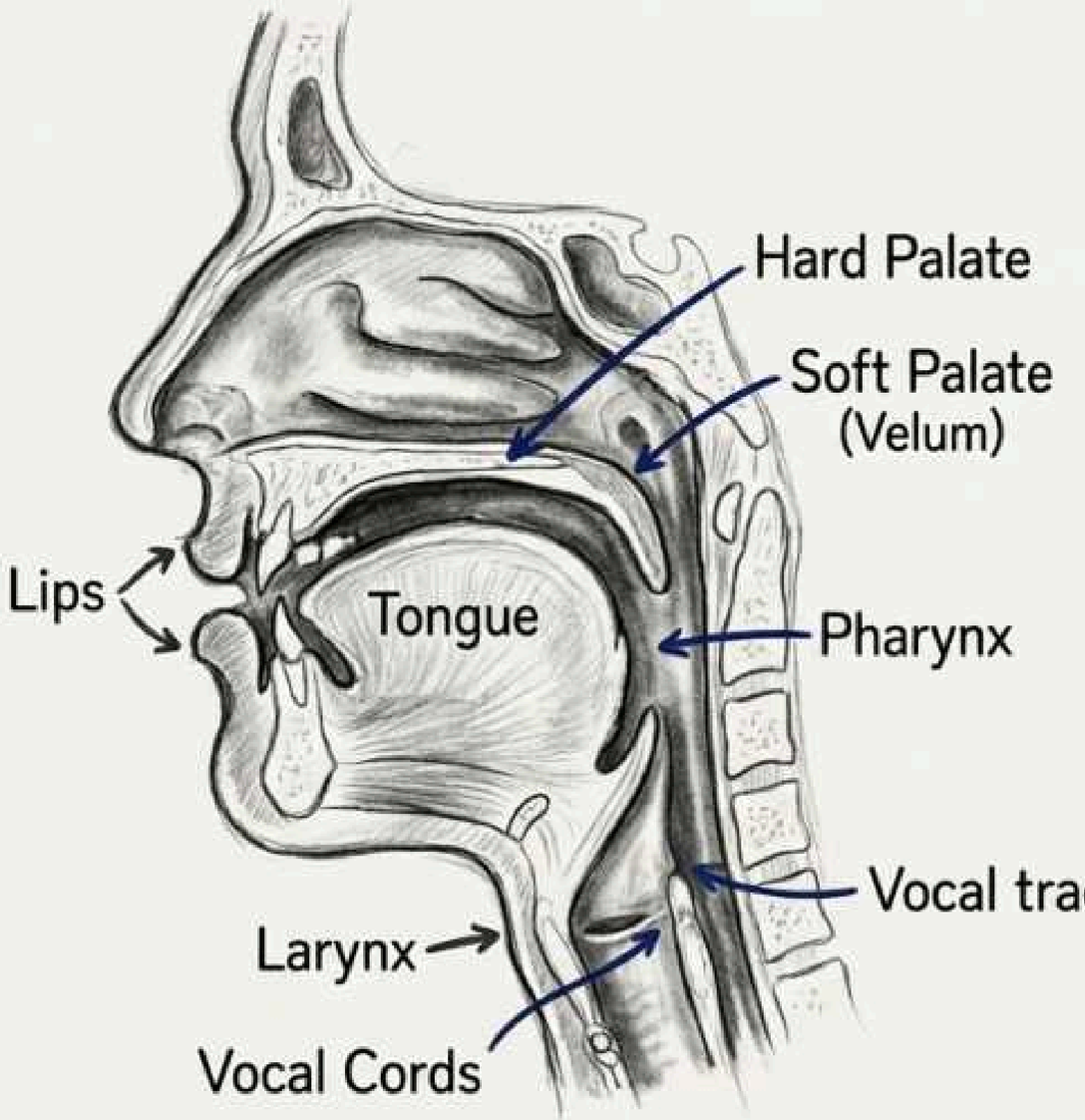
[1 Overview + 6 Short Lectures] ≈ 1 Hour Total

Welcome to Anderson Academy.

Gemini Notebook

What is Phonetics?

¶ 0.3



The science of the sounds we make when we talk.

1. Describe sounds by how they are made.

2. Read & write phonetic transcription (IPA).

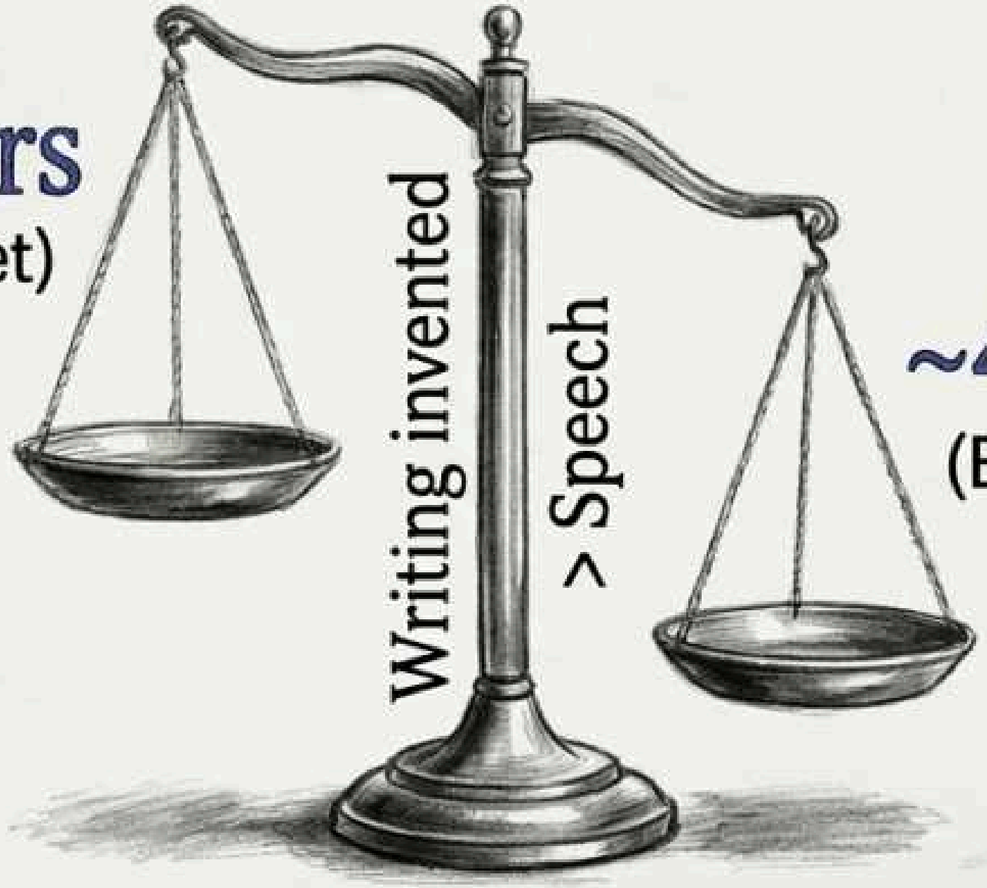
3. Explain English spelling anomalies.

Gemini Notebook

The Imbalance of English

¶ 0.4

26 Letters
(Our Alphabet)



~40 Sounds
(English Speech)

{ The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) = 1 Symbol per Sound. }

Gemini Notebook

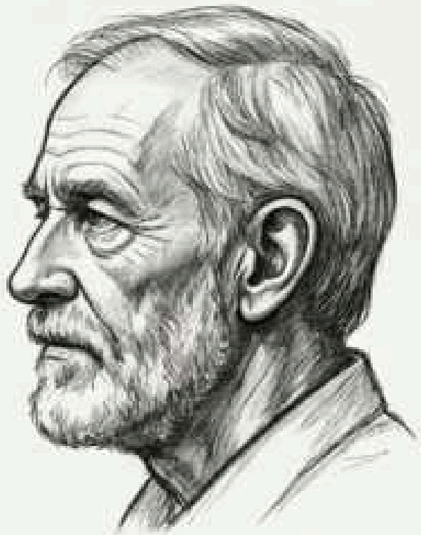
The Letter ‘A’ Paradox

¶ 0.5



cat

father



A

(Name = /eɪ/ ay)

about





cake

call



c

$m = (x^{-s}/x^{s})^{2}$

$t = [a * c]$

Letter names

≠

Letter sounds.

A

B

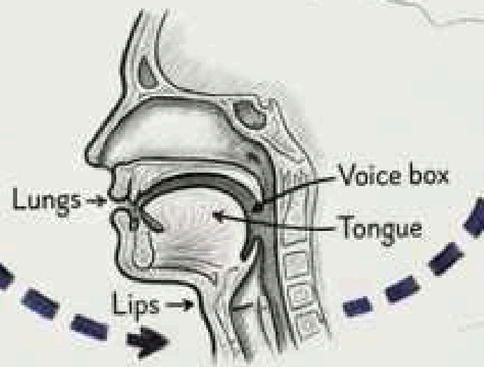
$x = \sqrt{2}$

Gemini Notebook

Course Map: Part 1

¶ 0.6

Lec 1: The Need for IPA



Lec 2: Anatomy of Speech
(Lungs, Voice box, Tongue, Lips)

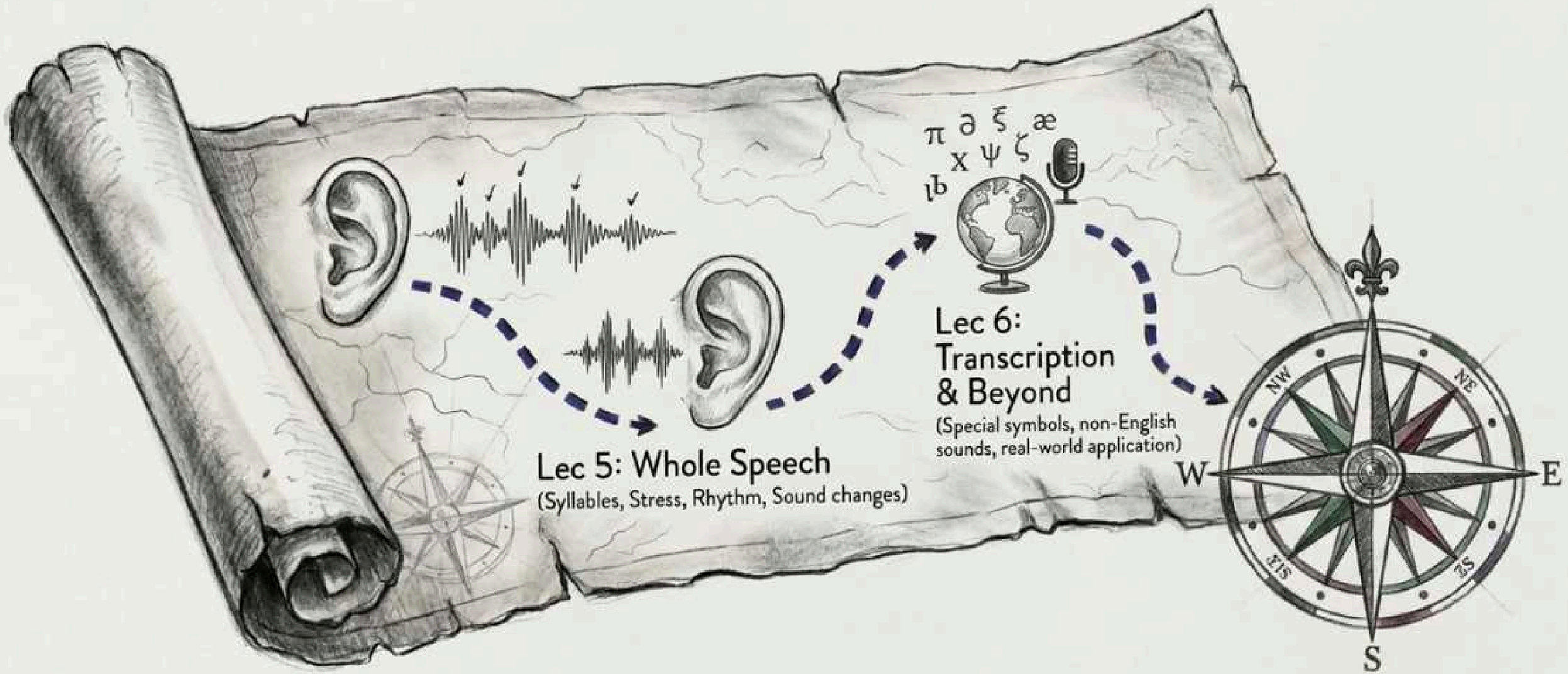
Lec 3: Consonants

Lec 4: Vowels

Gemini Notebook

Course Map: Part 2

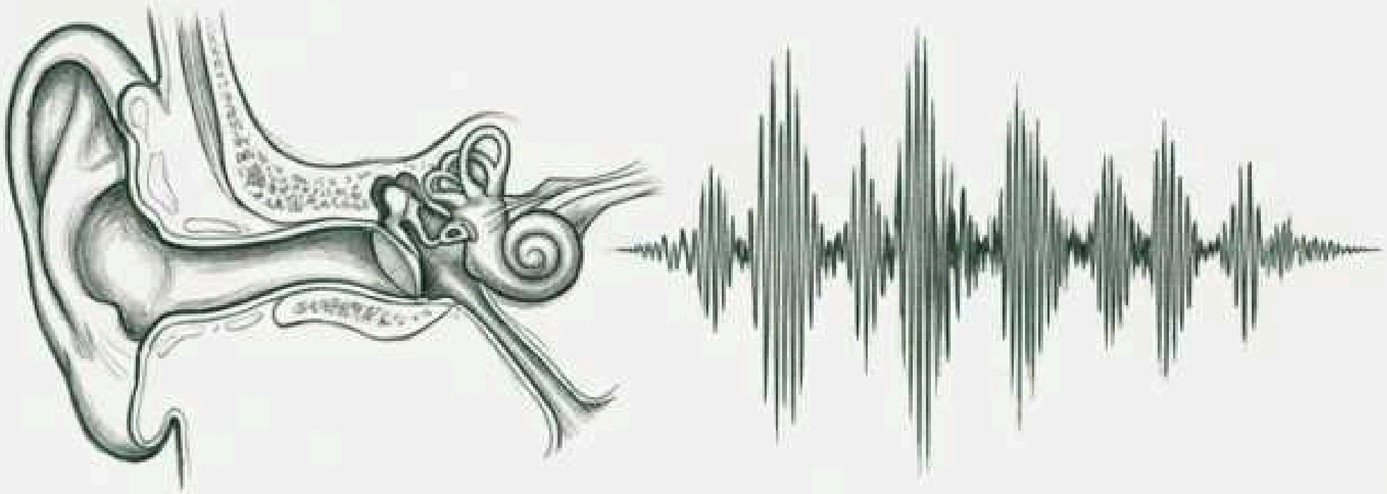
¶ 0.7



Gemini Notebook

Voice & Reference Accent

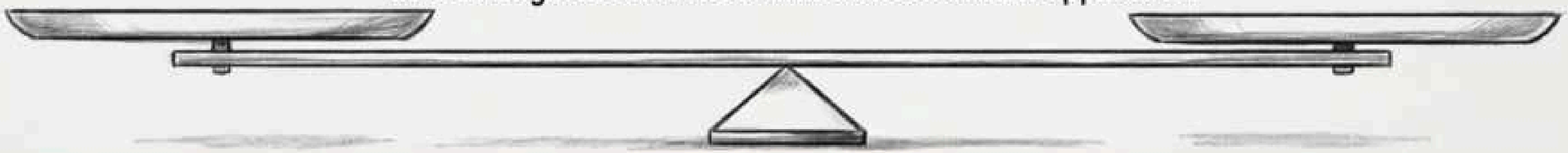
¶ 0.8



Base Voice: American

Reference: General American English

British English differences will be noted when applicable.



Phonetics describes all accents. It ranks none as more correct.

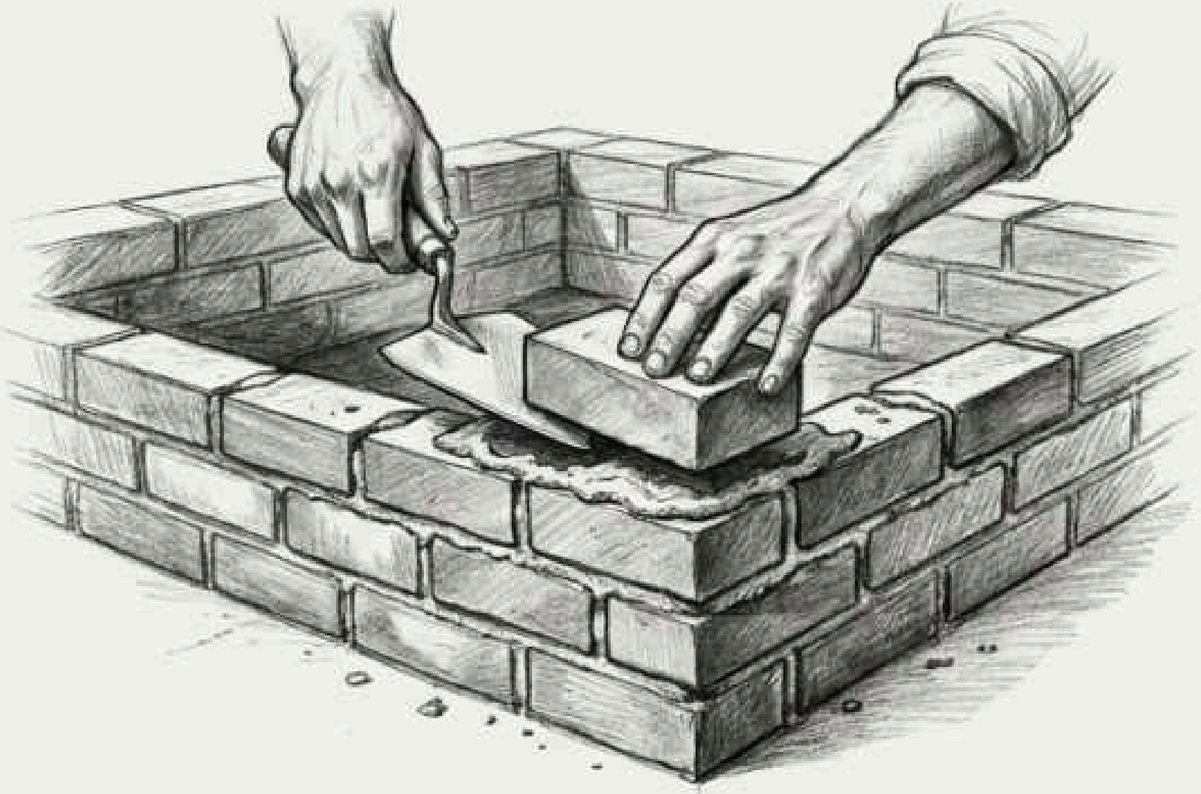
Gemini Notebook

Your Prerequisites

¶ 0.9

If (Speaks a Language) = True → Prerequisites Met.

You already possess the physical skill.



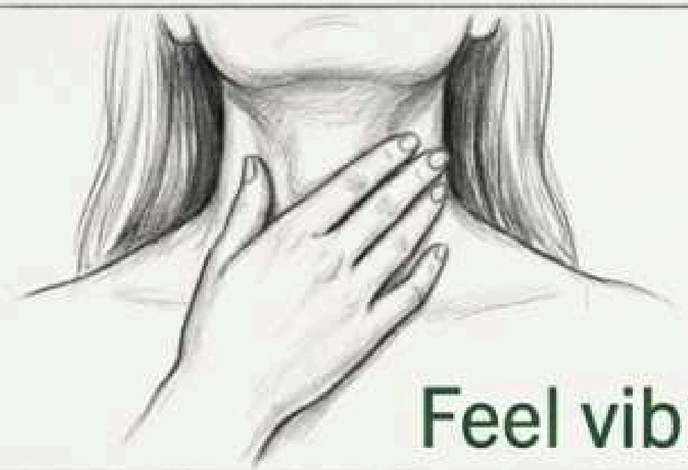
You already possess the physical skill.

This course simply provides the vocabulary and symbols for what your mouth already does naturally.

Gemini Notebook

The Body as a Laboratory

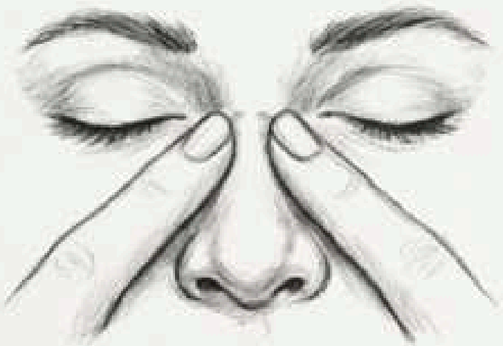
¶ 0.10



Feel vibrations



Feel air puffs



Test nasal resonance



Watch tongue placement

Whenever instructed: Pause the video and say it aloud.

Gemini Notebook

Navigating the Course

¶ 0.11

Paragraph numbers (e.g., ¶ 3.2)
are your universal locator.



Final Exam

Quizzes

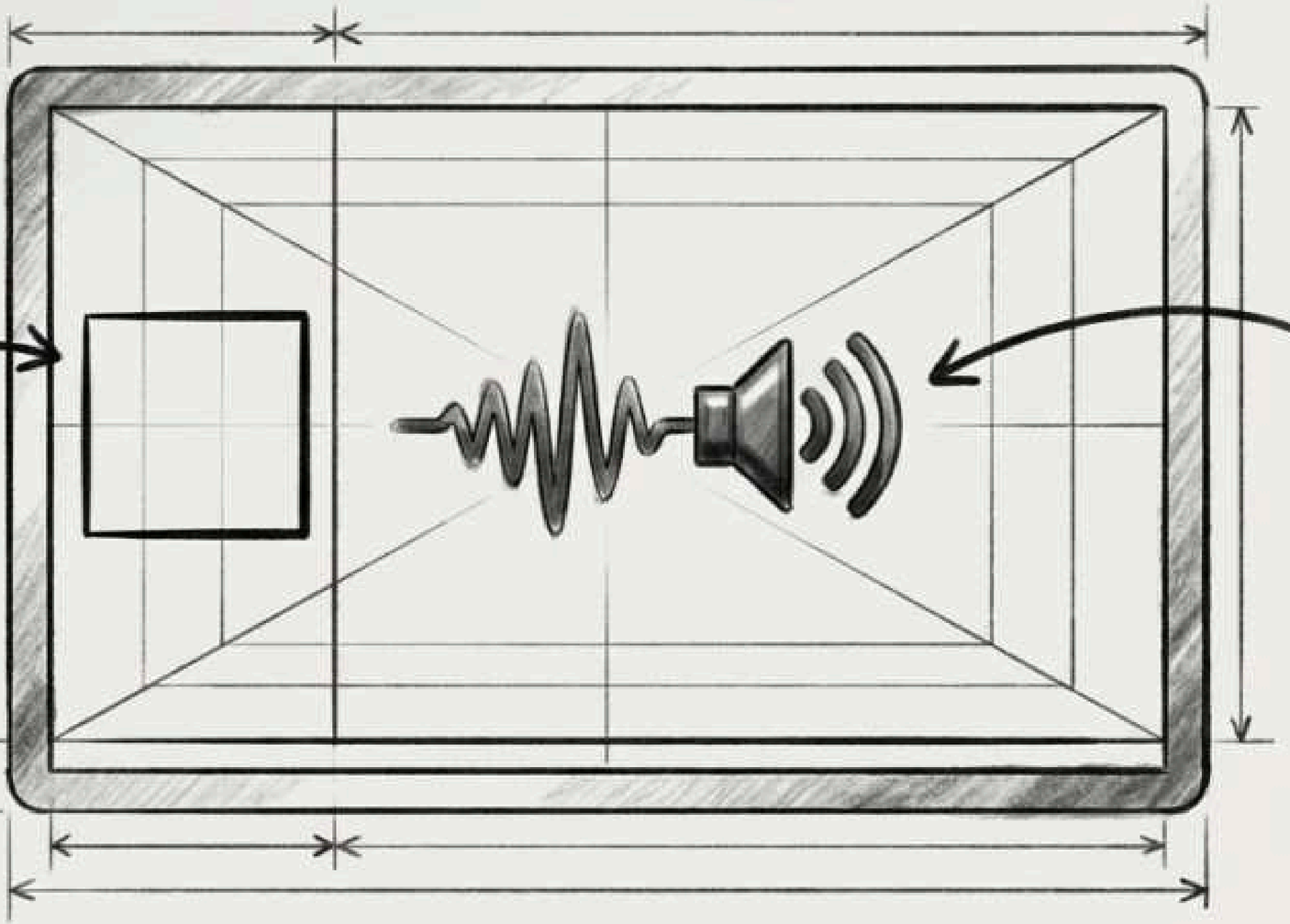
The Tripos

The Course Book

Gemini Notebook

The Screen Layout

¶ 0.12



Unfamiliar symbols? Do not worry. Repetition through Lecture 6 guarantees mastery.

Gemini Notebook

The Core Question

¶ 0.13

How is this sound made, and what is it called?

Consonants

Answered in 3 specific parts.

Vowels

Answered in 3 specific parts.

Learn the parts once = Every sound becomes an easy case.

Gemini Notebook

Time & Practice

¶ 0.14





- **Pacing:** 8–10 mins per lecture (1 hour total).
- **Options:** Watch straight through OR 1 lecture a day.
- **The Secret:** Replaying. It trains the ear as much as the mouth. Take the time to pause and speak.

Gemini Notebook

Reading the Symbols

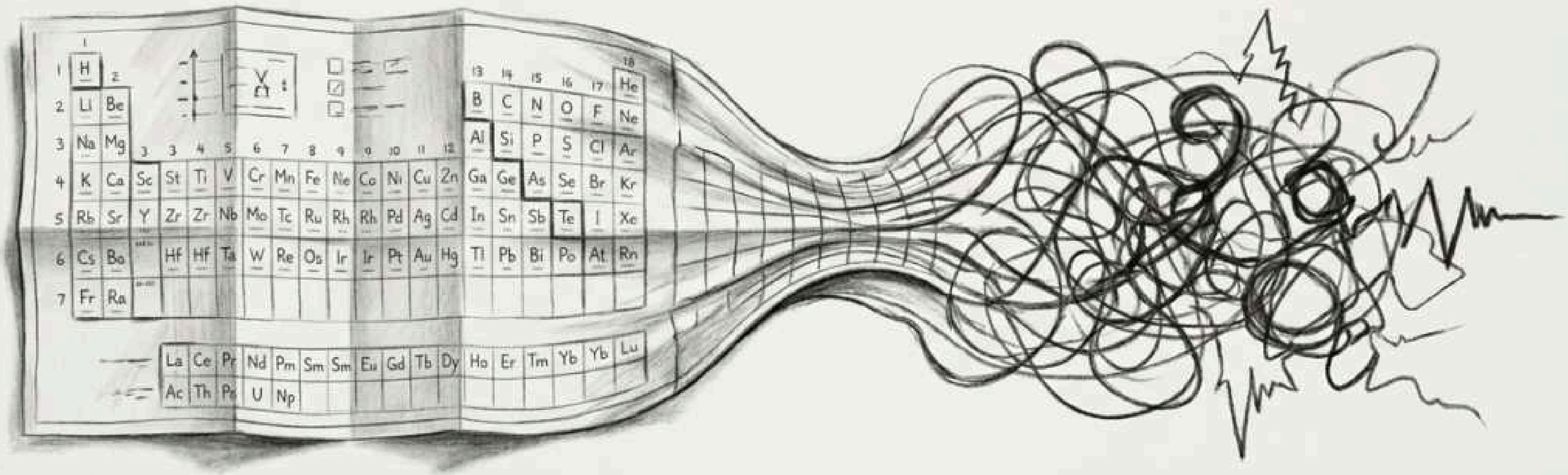
¶ 0.15

Column 1: IPA Symbols	Column 2: Vowel Symbols	Column 3: Alphabet Letters
Read by Name (e.g., esh, ezh, eng, theta, eth, schwa)	Read by Sound (You will hear the vowel itself)	Read by Name (A, B, C)

Gemini Notebook

The Grand Chart

¶ 0.16



The Promise: The entire range of human speech fits on a single chart.

Next up (Lecture 1): We begin with the strange relationship between how English is written and how it actually sounds—the very problem that makes the chart necessary.

Gemini Notebook