

How Consonant Sounds are Made

CONSONANTS				
Sound/eg		Part/s of mouth	Long/short	Voice on/off
b	bat	lips	short	on
c ck	cat back	tongue (up at back)	short	off
ch tch	chase latch	tongue (up at front)	short	off
d	dog	tongue (up at front)	short	on
f	fat	teeth and lips	long	off
g	gate	tongue (up at back)	short	on
h	hot	(all parts at rest – none used)	long (though this is limited by the fact that a lot of air comes out at once and so it is difficult to sustain for <i>too</i> long)	off
j	jam	tongue (up at front)	short	on
k	king	tongue (up at back)	short	off
l	log	tongue (up at front)	long	on
m	man	lips	long	on
n	nest	tongue (up at front)	long	on
ng	sing	tongue (up at back)	long	on
p	pig	lips	short	off
q/qu	queen	combination of 'k' and 'w'	short	off then on
r	rat	tongue (tip of tongue up to middle of roof)	long	on
s	sun	tongue (up at front)	long	off
sh	show	tongue (up at front)	long	off
t	tree	tongue (up at front)	short	off
th	thing	tongue and teeth	long	off
	this	tongue and teeth	long	on
v	van	teeth and lips	long	on
w wh	wing when	lips	short	on
x	box	combination of 'k' and 's'	short then long	off
y	yellow	tongue (up in the middle)	short	on
z	zoo	tongue (up at front)	long	on

Note: c, ck and k are three ways of writing the *same* sound.
 w and wh are two ways of writing the *same* sound.
 ch and tch are two ways of writing the *same* sound.