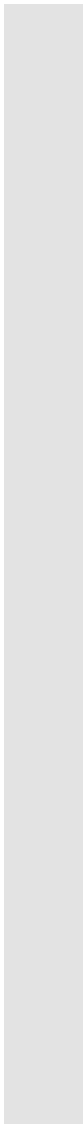


The /ɪ/, /aɪ/ and /θ/ sounds.

By Facundo Pignanelli.



The /ɪ/  
sound.

Short, **closed**, pure  
vowel.

Closed meaning  
that the tongue is  
high in the mouth.

The /ɪ/  
Sound

## How to make it

The part of the tongue slightly nearer the **center** is raised to just above the half-close position (but not as high as in /i:/). The lips are spread **loosely**, and the tongue is more relaxed. The sides of the tongue may just touch the upper molars.



Click the  
video to see  
how to  
produce the  
sound.

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# Examples

Letter *i*  
examples

Finish  
/'fɪnɪʃ/

Issue  
/'ɪʃuː/

Ship  
/ʃɪp/

Letter **y**  
examples

Physics  
/'fɪzɪks/

System  
/'sɪstɪm/

Typical  
/'tɪpɪk(ə)l/



## Other spellings

- ***ia***: carriage, marriage.
- ***ui***: biscuit, circuit.
- ***-age endings***: mortgage, average.



The /aɪ/  
sound.

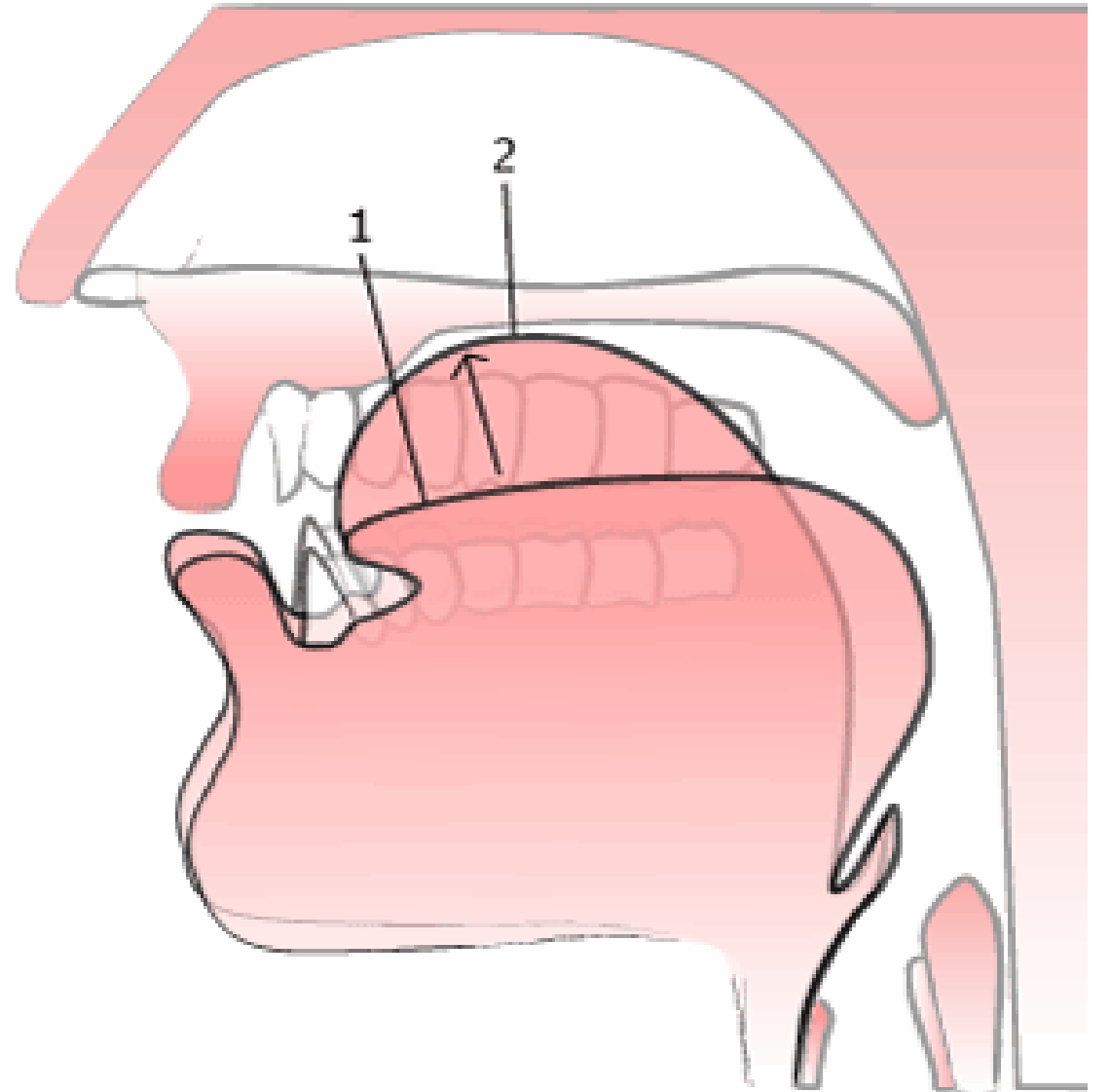
Closing  
**diphthong.**

Closing meaning  
that glides  
towards /ɪ/  
(but you probably figured that out already)

The /aɪ/  
Sound

# How to make it

The glide begins in an **open position**, between front and centre, moving up and slightly forward towards /i/. The lips move from **neutral**, to **loosely spread**.



Click the  
video to see  
how to  
produce the  
sound.

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Pronunciation tips  
from  
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# Examples

Letter *i*  
examples

Bind  
/baɪnd/

Wild  
/waɪld/

Define  
/dɪ'faɪn/

Letter **y**  
examples

Dye  
/daɪ/

Type  
/taɪp/

Why  
/waɪ/



## Other spellings

- ***igh***: flight, light.
- ***ay***: papaya, Uruguay.
- ***ai***: Hawaii, Taiwan.



The /θ/  
sound.

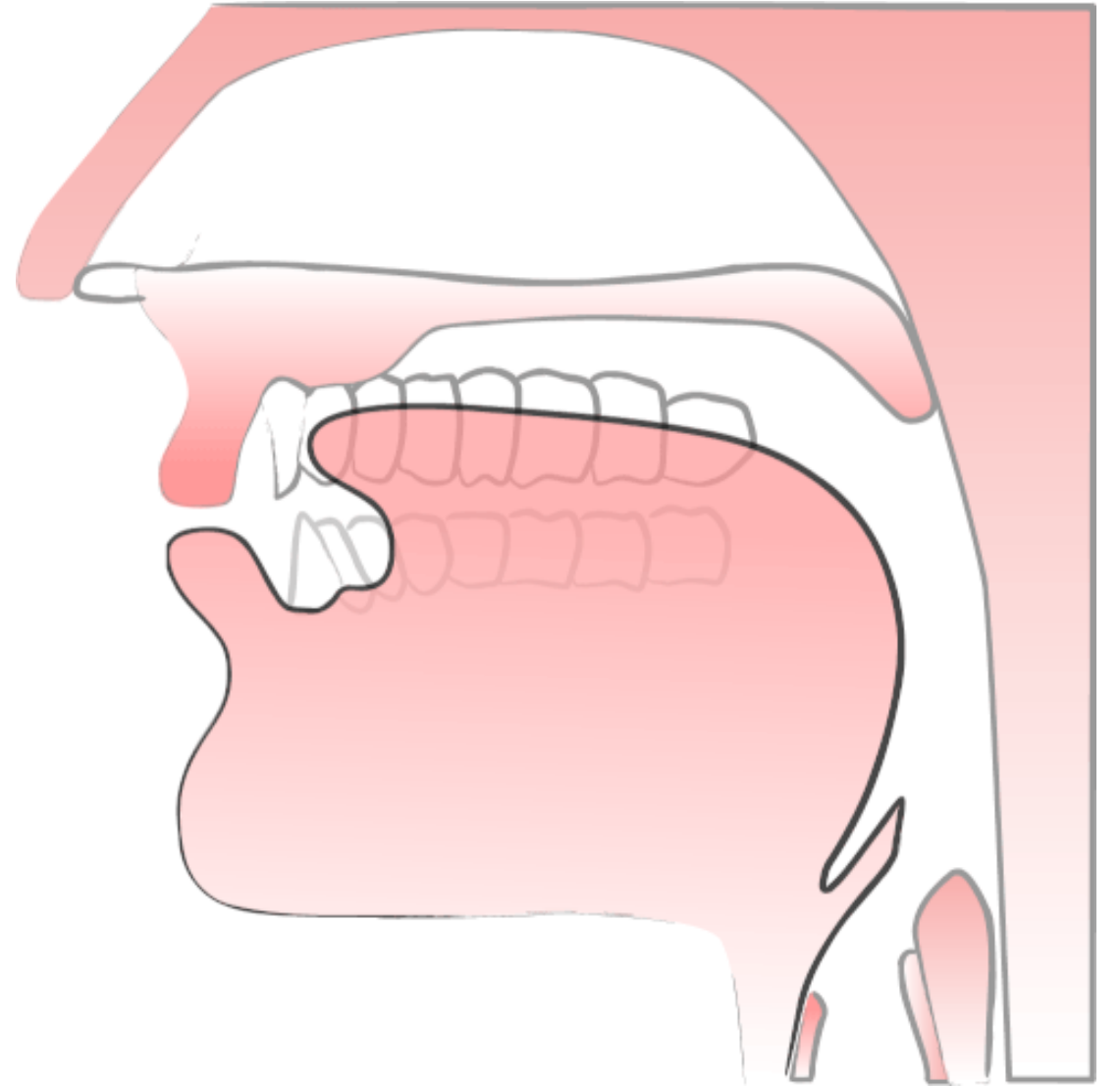
Unvoiced,  
fortis  
**consonant.**

It's also classified  
as a Dental  
consonant.

**The /θ/  
Sound**

# How to make it

The **tip of the tongue** goes **between** the upper and lower **teeth**, the soft palate is raised.



Click the  
video to see  
how to  
produce the  
sound.

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# Examples

Initial  
position  
examples

Theme  
/θi:m/

Thick  
/θɪk/

Thirsty  
/ˈθɜ:sti/

Middle  
position  
examples

Everything  
/ˈɛvrɪθɪŋ/

Author  
/ˈɔːθə/

Method  
/ˈmɛθəd/



Final  
position  
examples

Both  
/bəʊθ/

Growth  
/grəʊθ/

North  
/nɔ:θ/

The End.