

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

JSS1 WEEK 4

SPEECH: INTRODUCTION TO SPEECH SOUND IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1. **DEFINITION:** Speech sounds are vocal sounds we use to make up the words of the English Language. There are 44 sounds in English language which are categorised into 24 consonant and 20 vowel sounds.
2. **CONSONANT SOUND:** A consonant sound is a sound made with your mouth fairly closed. The 24 consonant sounds in English Language are:

Consonant sounds	Examples
/p/	Pair, cup
/b/	Bad, crab
/t/	Tall, hit
/d/	Dark, head
/k/	Cab, lack
/g/	Good, tag
/f/	Fine, wife
/v/	Very, above
/θ/	Thing, both
/ð/	This, father
/s/	Saw, house
/z/	Zap, goes
/ʃ/	Shape, push
/ʒ/	Pleasure,
/h/	beige
/tʃ/	Her, ahead
/dʒ/	Cherry, match
/m/	Judge, raj
/n/	Man, team
/ŋ/	Nail, tan
/l/	Ring, singer
/r/	Let, tall
/w/	Right, scary
/j/	Wet, away
	You, soya

3. **VOWEL SOUNDS:** Vowel sounds are the sounds produced through the mouth without any blockage in the part of the mouth. There are 20 vowel sounds in English Language which are categorised into 12 pure vowel sounds or monophthongs and they are: /e/ as in leg, /ʌ/ as in cut, /i/ as in hit, /i:/ as in eat, /a:/ as in cart, /æ/ as in man, /ɔ:/ as in born, /u/ as in put, /u:/ as in boon, /ɜ:/ as in burn, /ə/ as in another, /ɑ/ as in pot. The remaining 8 are known as diphthongs and they are: /ei/ as in bay, /ai/ as in my,

/ɔɪ/ as in toil, /iə/ as in peer, /eə / as in pair, /uə/ as in poor, /eu/ as in no, /au/ as in now.

HOME WORK

1. What is speech sound?
2. What is vowel sound?
3. Write one example each of the first 10 consonants outside the examples given above.
4. Write out one example each of the pure vowel sounds.