

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. The shapes are primarily triangles and polygons, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The text is centered in a bold, sans-serif font.

DIFFERENCES IN THE ARTICULATORY BASIS OF ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN VOWELS AND CONSONANTS

Articulation basis of English and Russian vowels are different.

(1) The lips. In the production of Russian vowels the lips are considerably protruded and rounded /o, y/. In the articulation of the similar English o, o:/, /u, u:/ considerable protrusion does not take place. Englishmen have the so called "flat-type" position of the lips, their lips are more tense than the lips of the Russian, and the corners of the lips are raised, which resembles a smile.

(2) The bulk of the tongue.

In the articulation of the English vowels the bulk of the tongue occupies more positions than in the production of the Russian vowels. When the bulk of the tongue moves in the horizontal direction it may occupy a fully front and a front-retracted, a fully back and a back-advanced position. Each of the three vertical positions of the tongue (high, mid, low) in English is subdivided into a narrow and broad variety. Thus, six groups of vowel sounds are formed in the system of English vowels.

Such broad variety of the bulk of the tongue positions is not observed in the production of the Russian vowel sounds. When classified according to the vertical movement of the tongue they may be divided into; high — /и, ы, у/, mid — /э, о/ and low — /а/.

According to the horizontal movement of the bulk of the tongue Russian vowels may be subdivided into: front — /и, э/, central — /ы, а/ and back — /о, у/.

(3) The stability of articulation.

There are monophthongs and diphthongoids in the Russian vowel system, but there are no diphthongs. The articulatory peculiarities in the pronunciation of English vowels constitute the basis for the formation of diphthongs when the position of the tongue changes within the articulation of one and the same vowel.

(4) The length of the vowels.

Long vowels in English are considered to be tense. There are no *long* vowels which can be opposed phonetically to short vowels in the Russian language. Length in the Russian vowel system is an irrelevant feature.

The peculiarities of the articulation bases which give rise to the-differences in the system of consonants in English and in Russian are-the following:

(1) The English fore-lingual consonants are articulated with the' apical-alveolar position of the tip of the tongue. The Russian fore-lingual consonants are mainly dorsal: in their articulation the tip of the tongue is passive and lowered, the blade is placed against the upper teeth. The Russian fore-lingual dorsal consonants are: /т, т', д, д\н, н', с, с', з, з\ ч\ ц/. The Russian fore-lingual apical consonants are only: /л, л', ш, ш', ж/.

(2) In the production of the Russian consonants the bulk of the tongue is mainly in the front-mid part of the mouth resonator. When Russian soft fore-lingual consonants are produced the muscular tension is concentrated in the "bunched up" front-mid part of the tongue; when the soft back-lingual consonants are produced the muscular tension is concentrated in the middle part of the tongue.

In the production of the English fore-lingual consonants the tip of the tongue and the front edges are very tense. It results in the depression in the front part of the tongue, which enlarges the size of the front resonator and lowers the tone of the apical consonants. The English soft consonants are pronounced with the front secondary focus. The English /ʃ, ʒ/ are short, the similar Russian consonants /ш', ж' / are long. The front secondary focus is formed by the middle part of the tongue which produces "secondary" articulation simultaneously with the primary focus, or primary articulation.

The Russian /п', б', м', н', ф', в', т', д', с', з', л', ч, р', к', г are also pronounced with the front secondary focus, but the middle of the tongue in their production is raised higher to the hard palate, than during the secondary articulation in the production of the English soft consonants.

(3) The English /w/ and [U] are pronounced with the back secondary focus, formed by the back part of the tongue, which is raised to the soft palate simultaneously with the formation of the primary focus. In the articulation of /w/ the primary focus is formed by the lips, which are rounded but not protruded, as it happens when the Russian /y/ is pronounced. The bilabial /w/ which is pronounced with a round narrowing is very often mispronounced by the Russian learners. They use the labial-dental /b/ or /v/ which are pronounced with a flat narrowing instead of the English /w/.

(4) The English voiceless consonants /p, t, k, f, s/ are pronounced more energetically than similar Russian consonants.

The English voiced consonants /b, d, g, v, z/ are not replaced by the corresponding voiceless sounds in word-final positions and before voiceless consonants, e.g. /big/.

in Russian are the following:

the bilabial, constrictive median sonorant /w/,
the dental (interdental) fricative consonants /θ, ð/,
the voiced bicentral affricate /dʒ/,
the post-alveolar constrictive median sonorant /r/,
the back-lingual, nasal sonorant /ŋ/,
the glottal fricative /h/.

Consonant phonemes in Russian which have no counterparts in English are the following:

the palatalized consonants /п`, б`, т`, д`, к`, г`, м`, н`, ф`, в` /,
the voiceless affricate /ц/,
the rolled post alveolar sonorant /p/,
the back-lingual fricative voiceless /x/.