

Introduction

This book was catalyzed during the winter of 2010, when I returned home for winter break. My sister spoke frequently about her linguistic endeavors, often times probing my dad to say certain words for the sake of proving what she had learned or hypothesized. As usual, I sat passively, partially attentive to my dad and sister's back and forth. I finally questioned if the word "fried" was really "fied" in the minds of our immigrant relatives, knowing that the word was often used as a racial joke.

rule no.1

“do you remember how hard it was for me to learn how to pronounce th sounds when i was younger. they were so hard. i had a really hard time. i remember when i had to say prayer in st. monica and i said mutter and they all laughed at me. ”

- J. Cheung

“well first when i was in china i went out to dinner by myself once and i didnt speak any anything. but i knew what i wanted to eat so i ended up ordering using animal sounds. in this case there wasn't any misunderstanding. i actually got exactly what i wanted. ”

- P. Hawkes

TITLE

Experience

“When david came to my apartment to pick me up. i texted him back saying call me when you arrive 3x. but when he arrived he called me three times. because the chinese pronunciation for 3 is thanks.”

- *Q. Li*

“gelivable”

- *Q. Li*

so many chinse immingrants they just create this sentence. long time no see. i’m pretty sure its from chinese.

- *Q. Li*

“Restroom, bathroom. I always confused which is the name you use. you have toilet bathroom restroom.”

- *S’s Friend*

“I don’t like people calling my chinese name. because my first name in chinesesounds like a letter. Yi. sounds weird when people call me that.”

- *S’s Friend*

“ Americans like to use buck for dollar. I don’t know where that came from.”

- *S’s Friend*

“ ”

- *S. Li*

DELETED LIQUID IN A CONSONANT CLUSTER

The liquid sound in the consonant cluster is deleted to preserve the original sound of the word.

place
pehce

the schwa in the nonstandard pronunciation
sítam - i epenthesis

fricative |frik uh tiv|

noun

1. characterized by audible friction produced by forcing the breath through a constricted or partially obstructed passage in the vocal tract

church - ch fricative

DEFINITION
OF TERMS USED THROUGHOUT THE BOOK

consonant cluster |kon suh nuh nt|

noun

1. any combinations of two or more consonants in a word

stamp

place

liquid |lik wid|

noun

1. an umbrella term for any L or R sounds

umbrella

tree

coda |koh duh|

noun

1. usually found at the end of a word, it is the consonant sound that follows the nucleus

s coda - *place*

k coda - *milk*

orthography |awr thog ruh fee|

noun

1. how a word is spelled or visually composed

bed - *bed*

obstruent |ob stroo uh nt|

noun

1. any sound where you have a closed constriction, when you build up pressure and then it is released

paper - *p* obstruent

epenthesis |uh pen thuh sis|

noun

1. the insertion of one or more sounds in the middle of a word as the schwa in the nonstandard pronunciation

sítam - *i* epenthesis

epenthesis |uh pen thuh sis|

noun

1. the insertion of one or more sounds in the middle of a word as

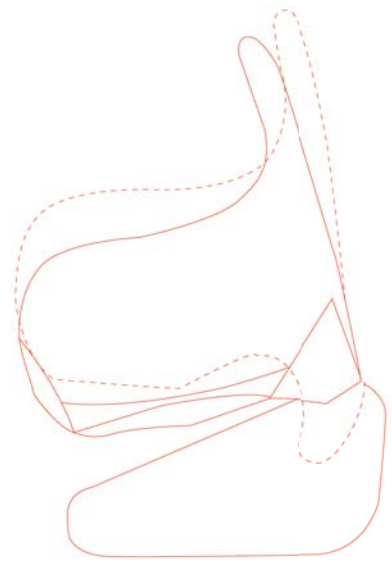
freezer

feesa

print

pelin

y



broker

pukkah

What is your name?

My name is Sum Cheung.

How long have you been in the United States?

I've been in the United States since 1976.

What is your current occupation?

Light now I'm the lesident enginee for city and county San Flancisco.

What are the different occupations you have held while in the United States?

Okay, the filst job for me. I work as a matelial testing lab techni- can fol the constluction matelial and also fol inspection.

And go backwards. What other jobs?

What you mean? What othe job?

Before that. You have to name all of them.

Okay befol the filst job. I was wolk as on the city on matelial testing lab as a technican to test all the matelial, constluction matelial and also sometimes go the field, the manufactue to make sule they have the good plopele fol supply fol the city.

And before that? You don't need to explain it. You just need to name it.

Okay?

Yeah, so what's before that? You have to name all of them.

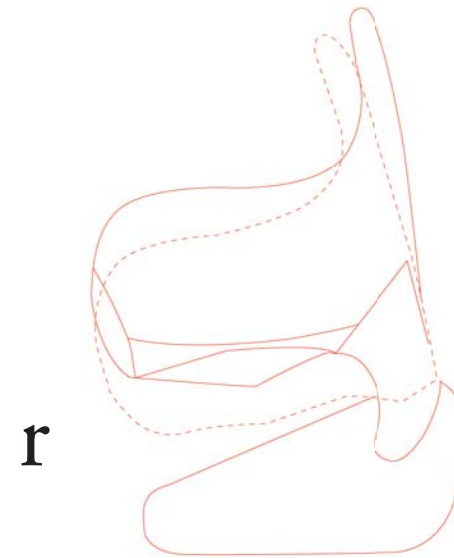
Okay, I have been. I have been a technican fol matelial testing lab and then also...?

No, before that?

You mean the palt time job?

Yeah, all of them?

Oh, all of them. okay. when 1976 I went to United States as a student on gladuate school fol my majol chemistly. And then I also take meanwhile I take a palt time job as a waitel at on a



*miscommu-
nications like
this typically
happens more
often when
I speak in
English and
the subject is
about some-
thing abstract
such as time*

restaurant and also sometimes as a taxi driver. Until I graduated I got my first job as a technician for material testing lab. And after that I got promotion as street inspector for city and county of San Francisco. And after that I got the other promotion as the resident engineer for ... department and until now.

Name your favorite American band or singer and why?

Are you going to name them?

Oh, I don't. I don't. Really I don't have any favorite United States band.

my dad was more interested in American culture when he first arrived but the interest has since been on decline

Before. What did you listen to?

I like maybe Bee Gees.

That's it?

Yeah that's it.

I thought you said you liked the Beatles?

Yeah Beatles. Yeah.

Keep thinking. Do you like any other ones?

Maybe Donna Summer.

Why?

I like. I not only like the song but I also like the meaning .

You like the meaning? meaning of what? the words? the singing?

The singing.

I am still not sure what he meant by using the word meaning but that can be because I do not see any depth in Donna Summer's lyrics.

What do you mean by meaning? you mean the sound?

Ah too hard for me. Too tough.

Okay nevermind. Name your favorite American food and where do you usually go for it?

Say again?

Name your favorite American food and where do you usually go for it?

Okay most thing I like is the plime lib. The plime lib I like one of the flanchise lestaulant called Hungel Huntel.

where do they have that?

Um. Their favolite food is plime lib?

But is it a chain restaurant?

Yes collect.

Where is it?

One is on close to ailpolt at San Francisco.

Never heard of it.

What percentage of the day do you speak English?

Uh. Only aftel I came to United States.

No, what percentage of your day do you speak English?

Say again?

What percentage of your day do you speak English?

I. I still don't undelstand.

What percentage of the day do you speak English? If the day is 100% If 24 hours is 100% What percentage of the day do you speak English?

What you mean?

(snicker)

Come on.

What percentage.. If the day is 100..?

Oh, what pelcentage.

Yes.

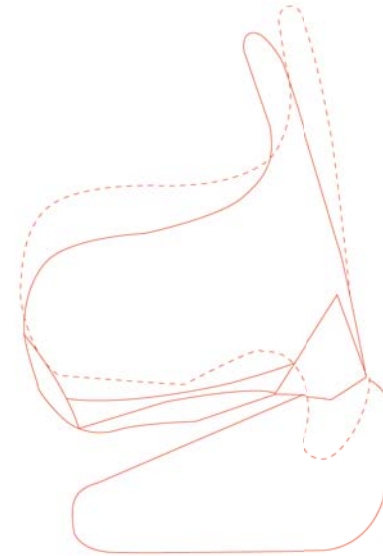
Okay On the job I have to speak English say flom 8 to 4 pm but at home I speak Chinese. Actually...

Okay so what percentage of the day? is it 50/50?

Okay yes so maybe actually 50 to 50.

I don't know why I asked if it is a chain restaurant when my dad already said franchise.

Again, issues with time.



e

Do you have a favorite english television show or writer and why?

Dad?

hmmm... I think about it I think about it.

I think my favolite tv ploglam should be about the tlevel and of some adventule ol something some ploglam flom discovelty. discovelty channel.

*ending this
interview
involves
miscommuni-
cation*

Okay that's it.

Yeah that's it. And sometimes...

Oh are you still answering the question?

Yeah I'm still answelng the question and I still like some leli-
gion ploglam flom the TV.

What kind of religion?

Chlistian, Catholic, Buddhism and even Muslim

Why?

I think maybe leligion is good fol the human being and we got
some lelease flom lelease ouself flom stless and I still believe
leligion still have a good philosophy fol oul life.

TITLE

Experience

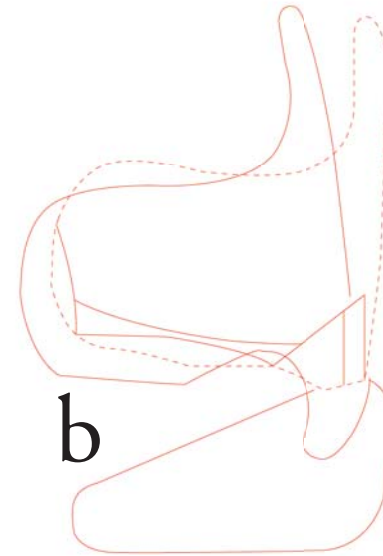
“I used to think basement is a chinese word. Bay-see-mun...my parents use it with chinese. So when I was asked to translate something to someone who doesn't speak english in school, I told the kid (in chinese), “it's in the bayseemun!” and he looked at me clueless. It didn't matter anyway, because he's vietnamese, not chinese...”

- *W. Tang*

“well Qu came over and he was talking to me last night about it was actually i think about something ...rhazes. but qu was just saying how as a stalling word in china we do like you know um uh this or that in china they go “negga negga” and he had this set of realization that it's this heavy racial slur. negga negga. qu just realized that when he was hearing some other people talk about like rappers. he just came around to talk to me about this last night. and i had the same realization because there was a guy in shanghai while we were there who was an abc but he spoke chinese pretty well. and so he did most of the talking but he was really slow at it. but because of that he stalled heavily. and so he did this like non stop. he was just like oh negga negga and the way he said it was much different than a native chinese you'd hear it in a native chinese conversation. but his was almost like so pronounced it was hilarious. i get the giggles sometimes. we made jokes like he was the chinese snoop dogg.”

- *P. Hawkes*

Say McDonald we speak it as madonna. it is a different stress. it is on second character. kun duh gee. because its from ketucky we adopt the first two sounds. it's kun duh from kentucky and the gee stands for chicken. burger has classic translation so we translate as hum bao. and king is translated with the meaning. hum bao won. pizza is translated with the meaning, bee shun ka. bee shun means you will win. i was thinking it was just sound similar to pizza and it has a good meaning. like you will have more guests and customers. starbucks, the bucks just stays the same we call bucka and the star we translate to shing. so it's shing bucka. chinese tend to speak the name with three characters. ”



- *S. Li*

“

Every Chinese character only has one vowel. i mean like english word always have long pronunciation and many chinese only focus on the first two or three and then they just dismiss the other. ”

- *W. Tang*

“v sound not exist in japanese also. you know like the accent in the north part and the south part they are very different. and its only like for the the standard chinese some people in the north part can't speak standard chinese. and there are some sounds they are missing from their habit. ”

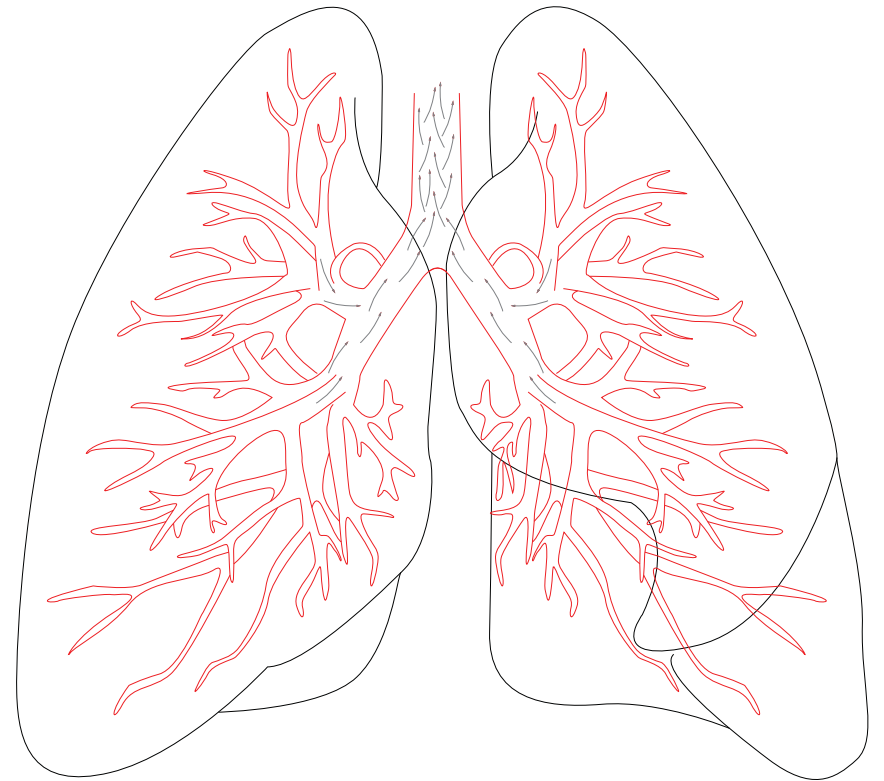
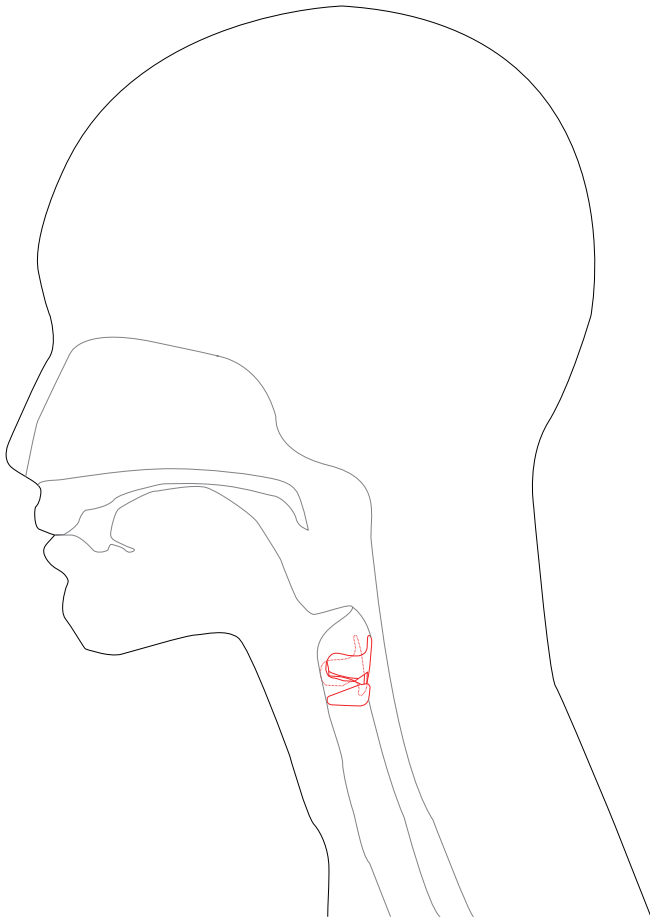
- *S. Li*

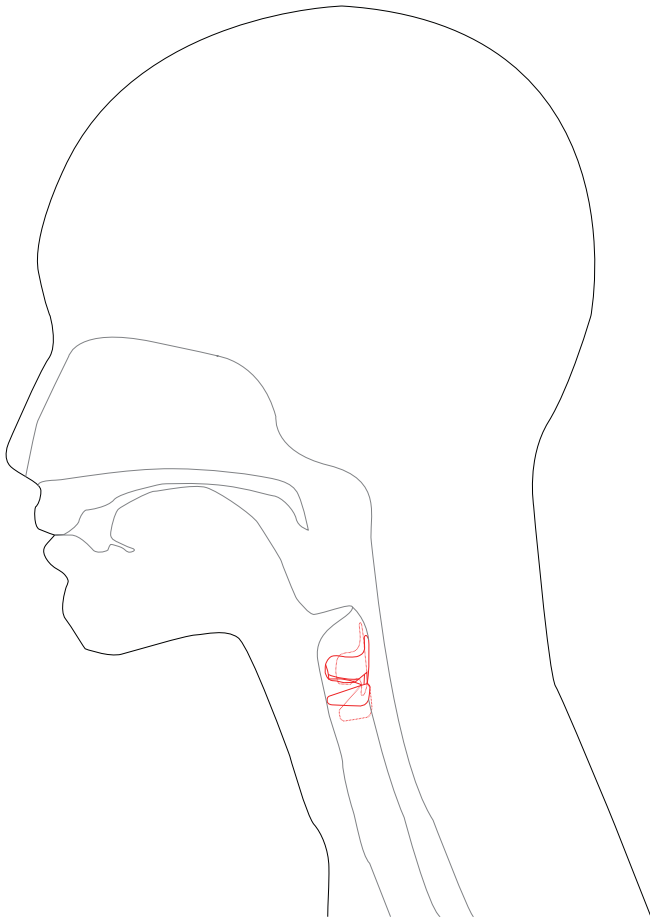
“The waiters here they are they speak spanish so they also have a very high accent sometimes. i don't know if that's my problem. cause sometimes they can understand me and i don't understand them. or otherwise. i just remember the first time i went to in n out. and they asked me weather i want some onion on my burger. and i ask them three times what's that can you repeat? and i didn't get the word onion. onion? yeah i assumed it should be beginning with an o not an ah. so i'm expecting an onion but they say ahnion ”

- *S. Li*

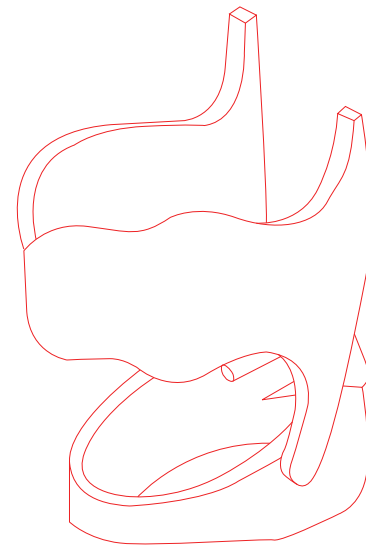
“there's one. chaos. ch-a-o. because you know if you just follow the spelling it should be pronounced ch. before someone told me it should be pronounced as chaos i just pronounced ch aos. i remember it was in english class. sometimes chinese will think that different spelling indicates different pronunciation. and some of them will be willing to make the difference between w-oo-den and w-o-u-l-d. ”

- *S. Li*

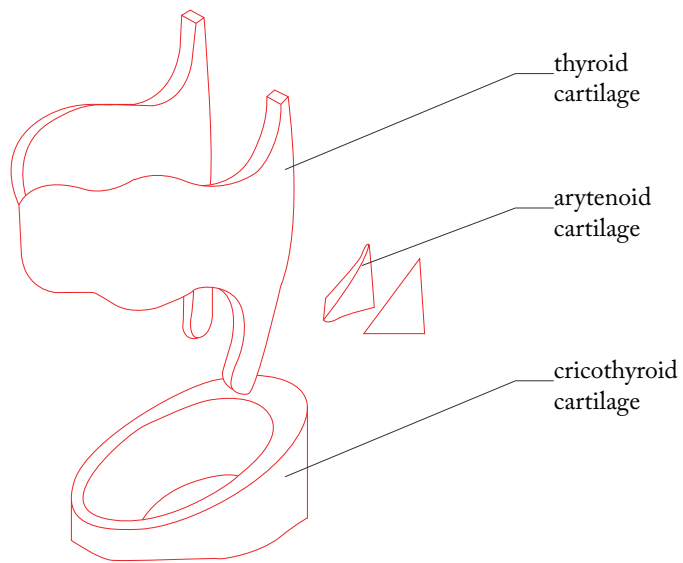




as the amount of air in the lungs decreases, the pressure difference across the larynx decreases and the rate of vibration of the vocal folds slows, so the pitch lowers.



your larynx



your larynx is composed of two rings of cartilage, the thyroid cartilage and the cricothyroid cartilage. the former sitting on top of the latter. at the back sits the arytenoid cartilage.

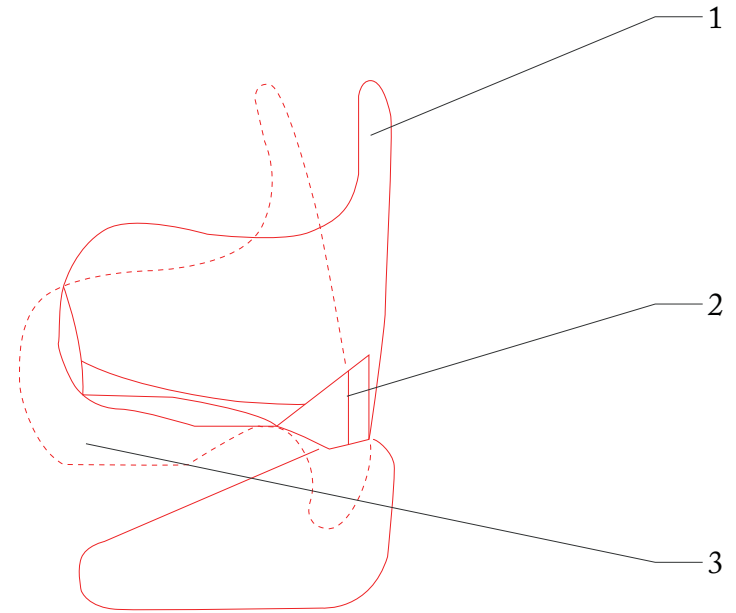
*my dad
was more
interested in
American
culture when
he first ar-
rived but the
interest has
since been on
decline*

*I am still not
sure what he
meant by us-
ing the word
meaning
but that can
be because
I do not see
any depth in
Donna Sum-
mer's lyrics.*

What is your name?

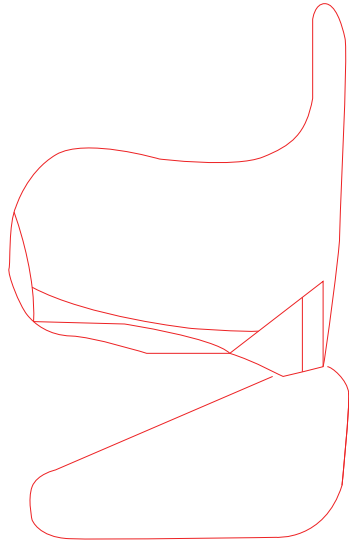
My name is Adam Fung.

miscommunications like this typically happens more often when I speak in English and the subject is about something abstract such as time



Vibration occurs when the larynx is adducted.

1. vocal fold length and tension can be controlled by rocking the thyroid cartilage forward
2. your arytenoid cartilage controls the degree of opening and closing
3. glottal opening allows air to pass from the lungs into the mouth



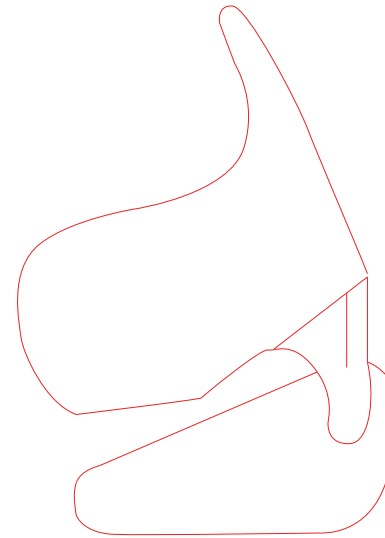
this is your larynx abducted.

face

facee

usually

usally



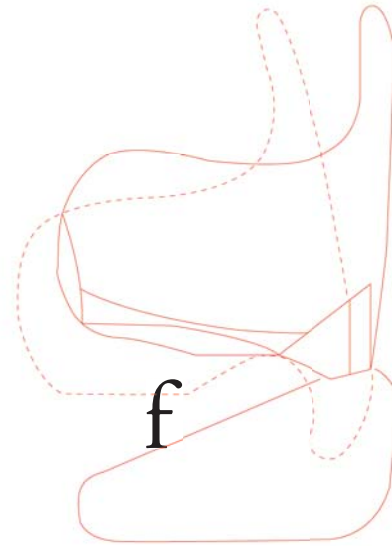
this is your larynx adducted.

face

facee

very

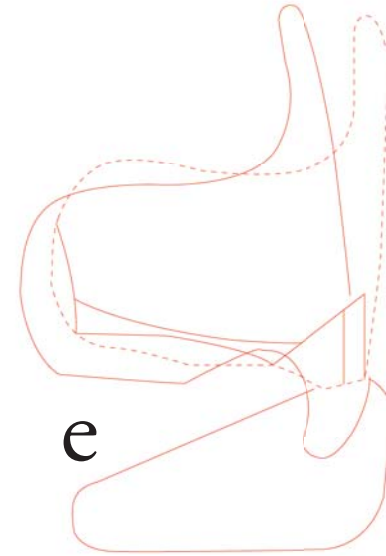
bery



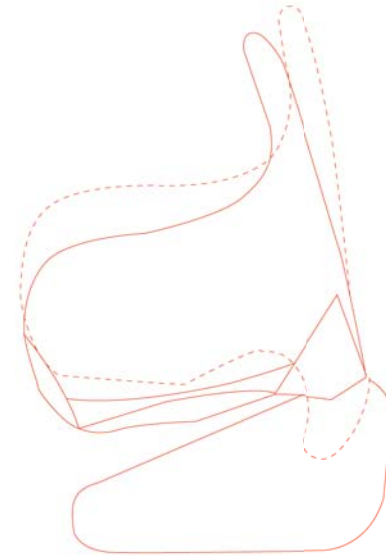
OBSTRUENT DO NOT EXIST

I lied. Only the sounds of V, D, G, & B do not exist.

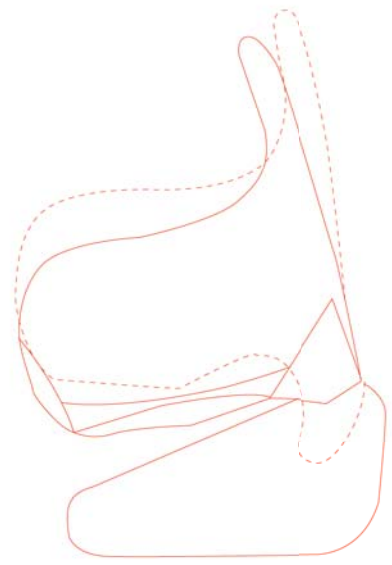
rule no.8

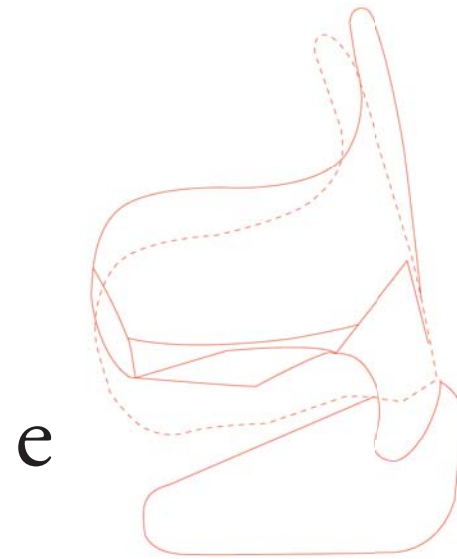


r

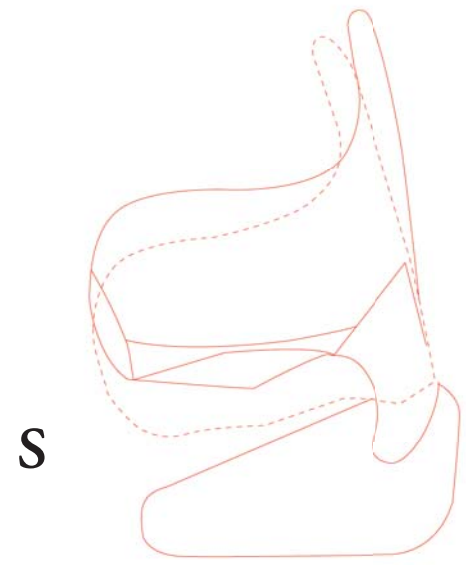


e



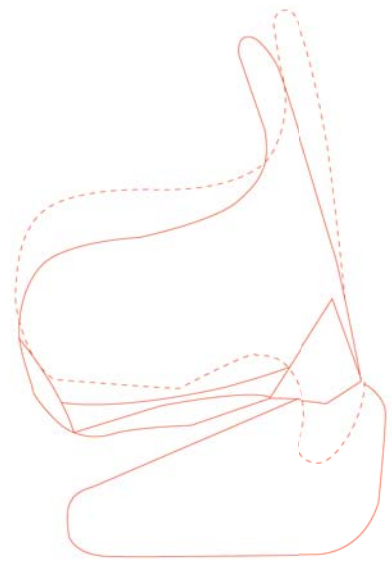


e

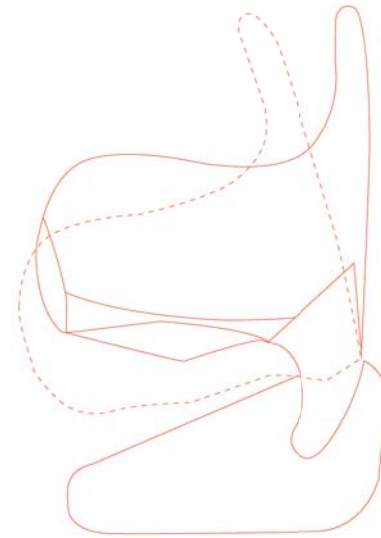


S

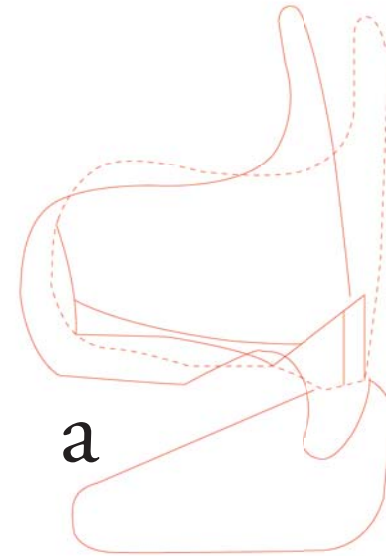
t



a



rule no.2

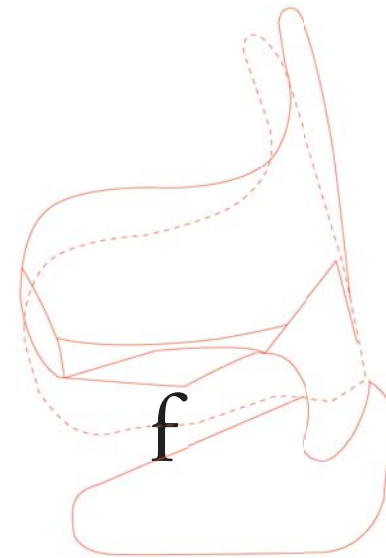


CONSONANT CLUSTER WITH S

A vowel is epenthesized between the consonants to preserve the original sound of the word .

stamp

sitam

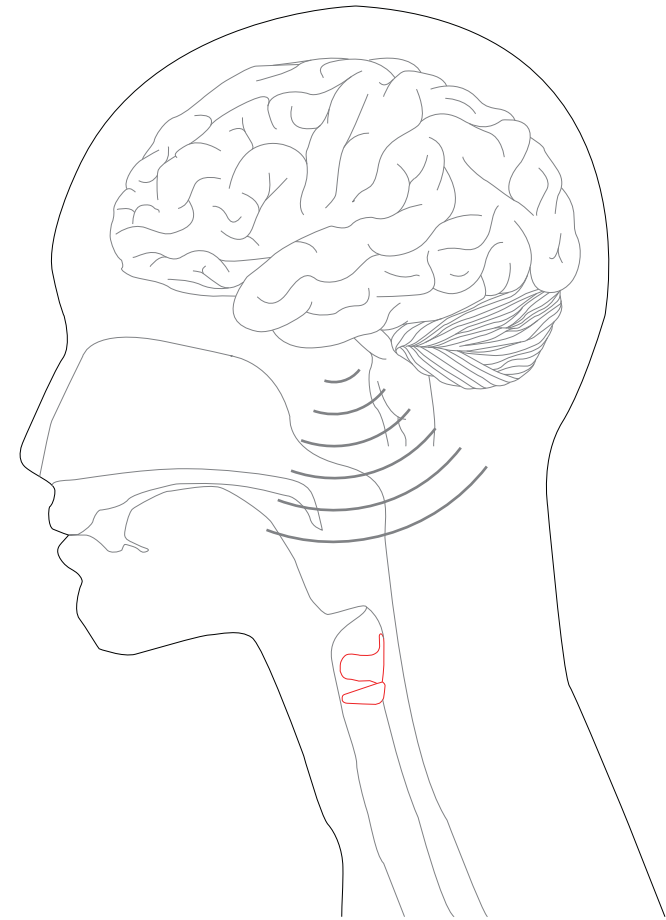


spanner

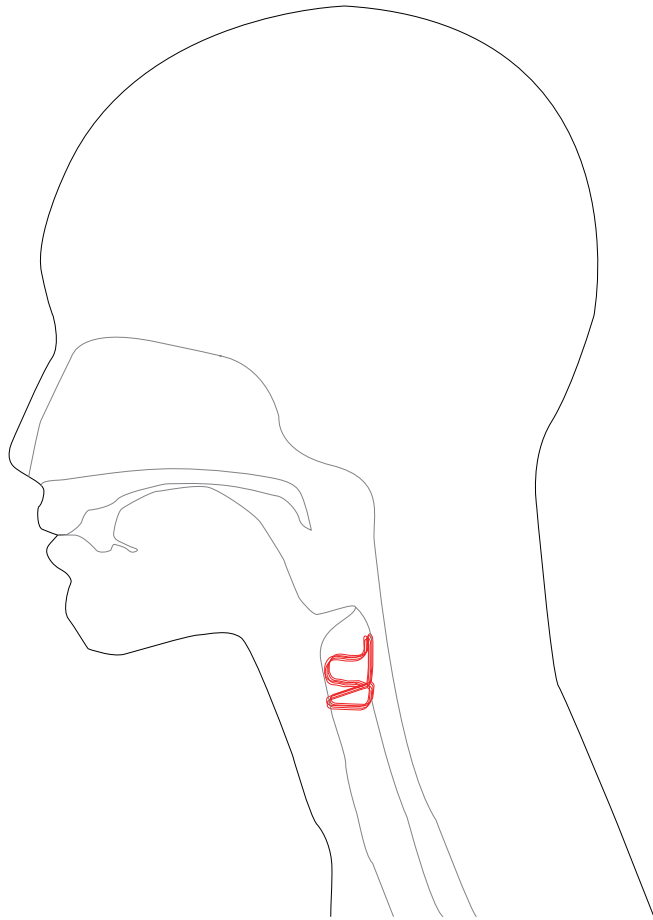
sipala

stick

sitik



when the brain sends a signal to produce high tone, instructions go to the appropriate muscles. the muscles configure the vocal folds suitably and the rate of vibration then increases, resulting in high pitch.



vocal fold vibrations are the primary source of pitch differences.

store

sitoe

What is your name?

Lai Ping Li.

What is your current occupation?

Lettelcalliel.

How long have you been in the United States?

Um. Since 1976 so....it's um. thilty..five. Thilty five yeals.

35 years? Okay. What are the different occupations you have held while in the United States?

What? Lepeat the question again.

What are the different occupations you have held while in the United States?

Befole enteled the United States?

No. while you were in the United States.

Why? Immigation.

No. what occupations? What different occupations have you held while you were in the United States?

Oh. I'm doing the sewing befole.

That's it? That's all?

Yeah. mmhmmm

So how long did you do sewing for.

uh.. I think uh sixteen yeals.

For the same company?

Yeah.

*miscommu-
nications like
this typically
happens more
often when
I speak in
English and
the subject is
about some-
thing abstract
such as time*

Oh.

And then you worked at the post office?

Yeah light.

*my dad
was more
interested in
American
culture when
he first ar-
rived but the
interest has
since been on
decline*

*I am still not
sure what he
meant by us-
ing the word
meaning
but that can
be because
I do not see
any depth in
Donna Sum-
mer's lyrics.*

What is your name?

My name is Adam Fung.

Did they give you a promotion at the sewing company?

No.

Oh you just stayed the same?

Yeah.

But did they give you a promotion at the post office?

No

You just stayed the same?

Yeah, light.

Name your favorite american bands or singers? and why?

band and what?

Band or singer. American band or singer.

Singel? Oh I like the old old singel. Yeah like uh...the what else... the oldel one...Bing Clossby that kind of..uh..the long long time ago. Bing Clossby yeah.

And who else? that's it?

And then Andy Williams. The old one. The one at least 80 or 90 yeals old now.

What kind of music?

The old folk songs.

Oh anything else?

No.

So just andy williams and...?

Bing Clossby

Bing Crosby. Do you still listen to them?

No they don't have any..they disapealed fol a long time.

But don't you have recorded music from them?

What music?

Yeah. Don't you have recorded music from them?

Oh I have the legold. Yeah.

my dad was more interested in American culture when he first arrived but the interest has since been on decline

miscommunications like this typically happens more often when I speak in English and the subject is about something abstract such as time

I am still not sure what he meant by using the word meaning but that can be because I do not see any depth in Donna Summer's lyrics.

But you don't listen to it?

No. Sometimes duling the Chlistmas you still can heal Bing Closby. Yeah. Vely vely weild.

It's really weird?

Uh..they don't play much now. Yeah.

But you don't listen to your records?

mmm no..

Why?

Cause too much touble to listen to the lecold now.

But you have it?

mmm I think I sitill have Andy Williams. Yeah.

Name your favorite american food and where do you usually go for it?

Amelican food...I think it's apple pie.

And where do you usually go for it?

umm....McDonald's?

Really? You like McDonalds?

Yeah.

Have you tried it anywhere else?

umm..just in the supelmarket too. Yeah.

So you don't have anywhere specific that you go for apple pie?

Yeah, just apple pie.

Do you put ice cream on it?

Hm?

Do you put ice cream on it?

No, I like those clispy the the.. clust? The outside palt.

You like the crust? okay. What percentage of the day do you speak english?

What?

What percentage of the day do you speak english?

I think it's 50 percent. Yeah

She usually doesn't like American food so this is a hard question for her to answer.

brunch

bluncee

usually
usually

So from what time until what time?

mm...um..duling 7:30 until 4:30. When I wolk.

Do you have a favorite english television show or writer? and why?

No.

Do you have a favorite american writer ?

Amelican wliter...maybe just Malk Twain

Really you read his books?

Um...not leally but some of them.

Which one?

Is it Hucklebelly Finn?

The what?

Is it Hucklebelly Finn.

When did you read it?

I lead it a long time ago.

Why did you read it?

Just past time

On your own?

hm?

On your own?

Oh yeah just culious. What they'le talking about.

How long ago?

hm?

How long ago?

No I just..how often?

How long ago?

How long ago...it's um 5 or 6 yeals ago. I think.

5 or 6 years ago? Really? When I was in college?

Yeah I think so?

Really I never saw you read it?

I lead it in Joey's book sihelf thele. He has it.

This is an unexpected answer. I thought I knew my mom.

*I think miscommu-
nication with
my mom also
occurs when
I speak about
time.*

How long did it take you to read it?

Quite a long time. A couple of pages a day.

Okay that's all.

Okay.

*ending this
conversation
with my mom
is easier than
the one with
my dad.*

shave

save

father

fater

TITLE

Experience

“My friend was playing soccer. he wanted i mean he was about to shoot. he just thought in his mind i couldn’t kick it straight but he yelled out i’m not straight i’m not straight everybody else thought what. why are you coming out of the closet in the middle of a soccer game. He was playing soccer with Americans. that’s why he shot it and said it in english. if he had shouted it in chinese there won’t be any problem”

- Q. Li

“restroom. the literal meaning is a room for you to rest. because the chinese, the room for you to rest. we have sort of a place we just call it literal translation a restroom. just a room for you to rest. sometimes when we are speaking english we are translating from chinese to english. so automatically we’ll say we can have a meeting in the restroom.

- Q. Li

first time i went back to china i was talking to ”
my classmates i can’t remember what i said i was just sitting there “uh huh’ and everybody sitting there laughed. because they don’t do that there. everybody know what it means they just don’t use it. i just realized after i used it. doesn’t mean i agree, just make some sound to let them know i’m listening.

- Q. Li

“
Every Chinese character only has one vowel. i mean like english word always have long pronunciation and many chinese only focus on the first two or three and then they just dismiss the other. ”

- W. Tang

“v sound not exist in japanese also. you know like the accent in the north part and the south part they are very different. and its only like for the the standard chinese some people in the north part can’t speak standard chinese. and there are some sounds they are missing from their habit. ”

FRICATIVES WITH AN ORTHOGRAPHIC H.

SH, CH, & TH are not naturally found in the Cantonese dialect so it is not pronounced in their english speech.

rule no. 7

- S. Li

The waiters here they are they speak spanish so they also have a very high accent sometimes. i don't know if that's my problem. cause sometimes they can understand me and i don't understand them. or otherwise. i just remember the first tiem i went to in n out. and they asked me weather i want some onion on my burger. and i ask them three times what's that can you repeat? and i didn't get the word onion. onion? yeah i assumed it should be beginning with an o not an ah. so i'm expecting an onion but they say ahnion ”

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“there's one. chaos. ch-a-o. because you know if you just follow the spelling it should be pronounced ch. before someone told me it should be pronounced as chaos i just pronounced ch aos. i remember it was in english class. sometimes chinese will think that different spelling indicates different pronunciation. and some of them will be willing to make the difference between w-oo-den and w-o-u-l-d. ”

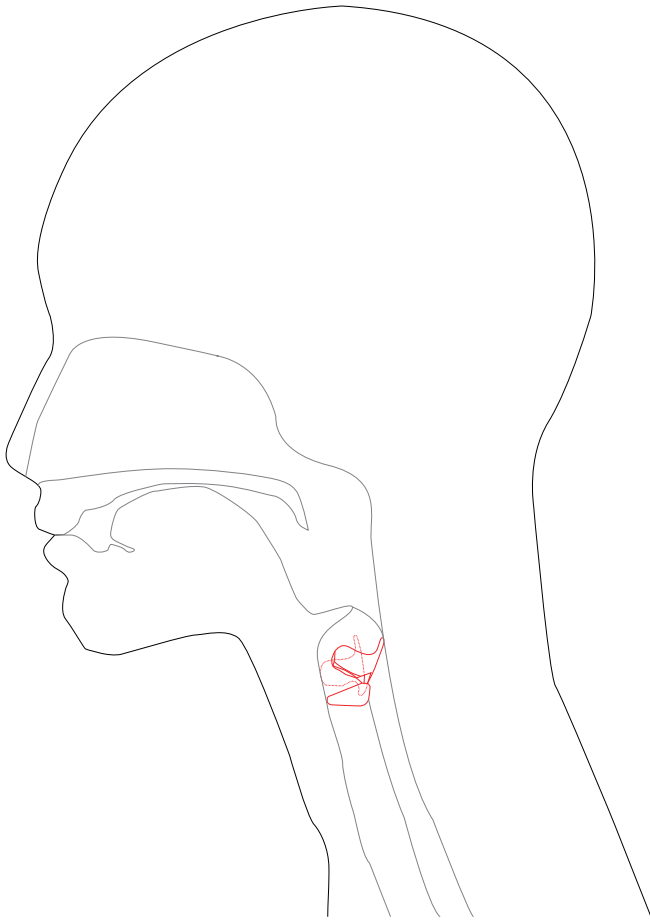
- S. Li

“do you remember how hard it was for me to learn how to pronounce th sounds when i was younger. they were so hard. i had a really hard time. i remember when i had to say prayer in st. monica and i said mutter and they all laughed at me. ”

- J. Cheung

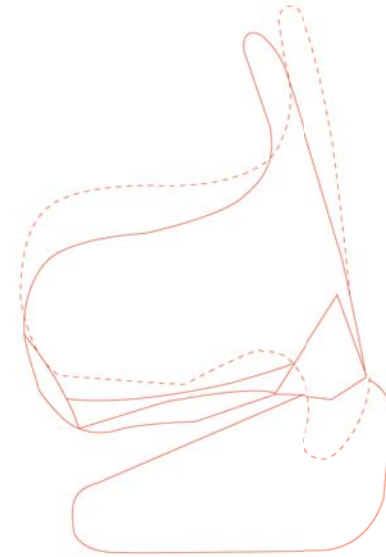
“well first when i was in china i went out to dinner by myself once and i didnt speak any anything. but i knew what i wanted to eat so i ended up ordering using animal sounds. in this case there wasn't any misunderstanding. i actually got exactly what i wanted. ”

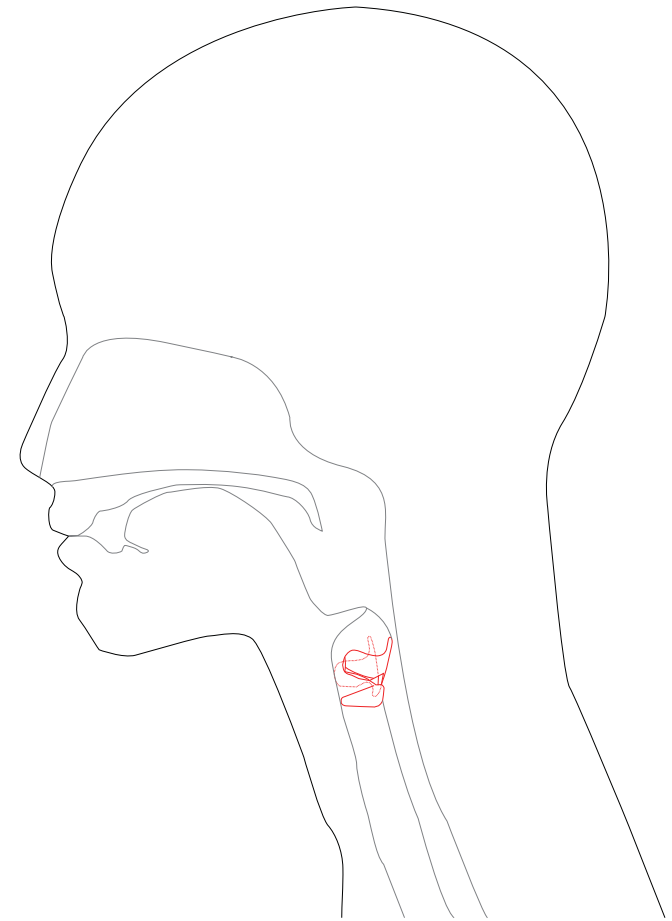
- P. Hawkes



for stop consonants, the supraglottal closure is complete
example - paper

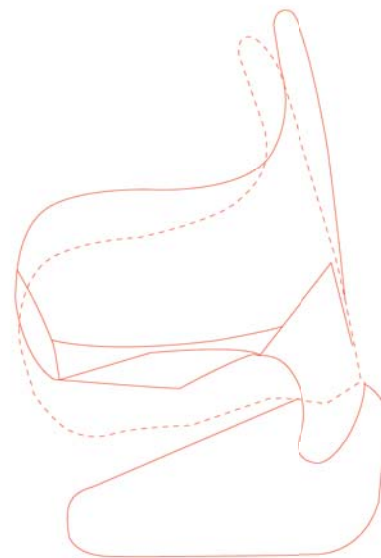
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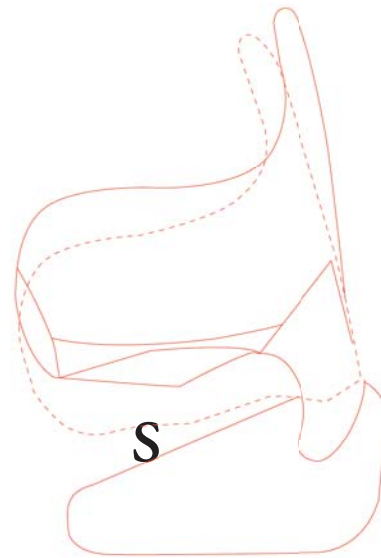




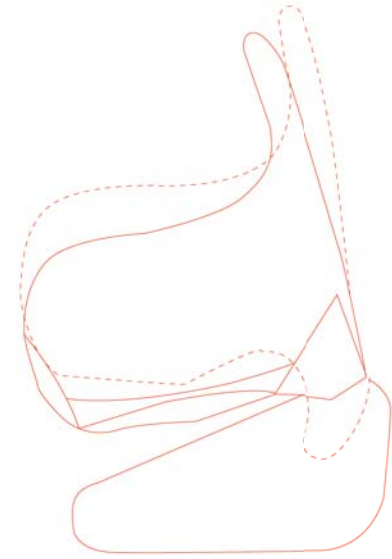
whereas for fricatives a partial opening remains in the airway.
example - church

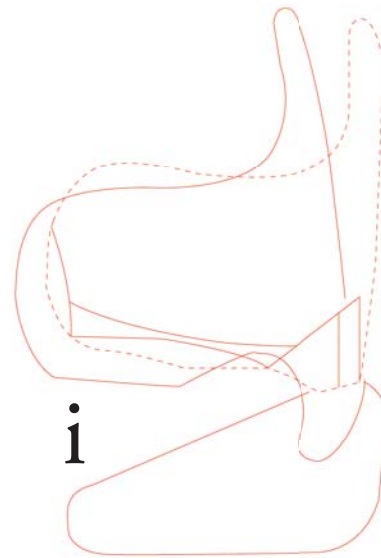
p

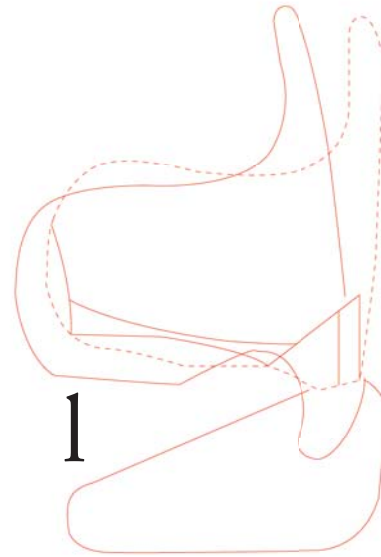


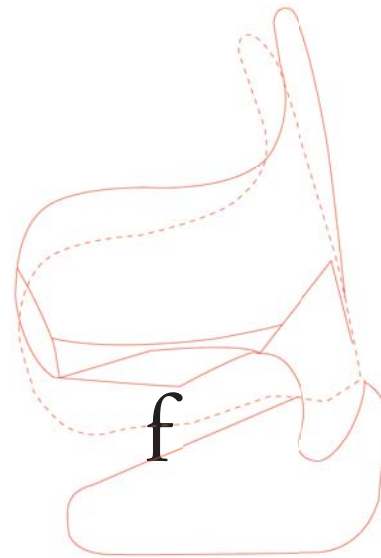


i

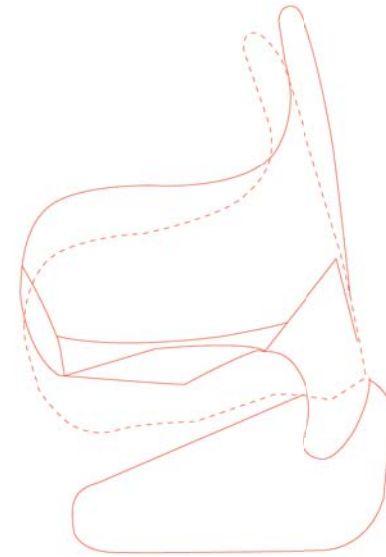


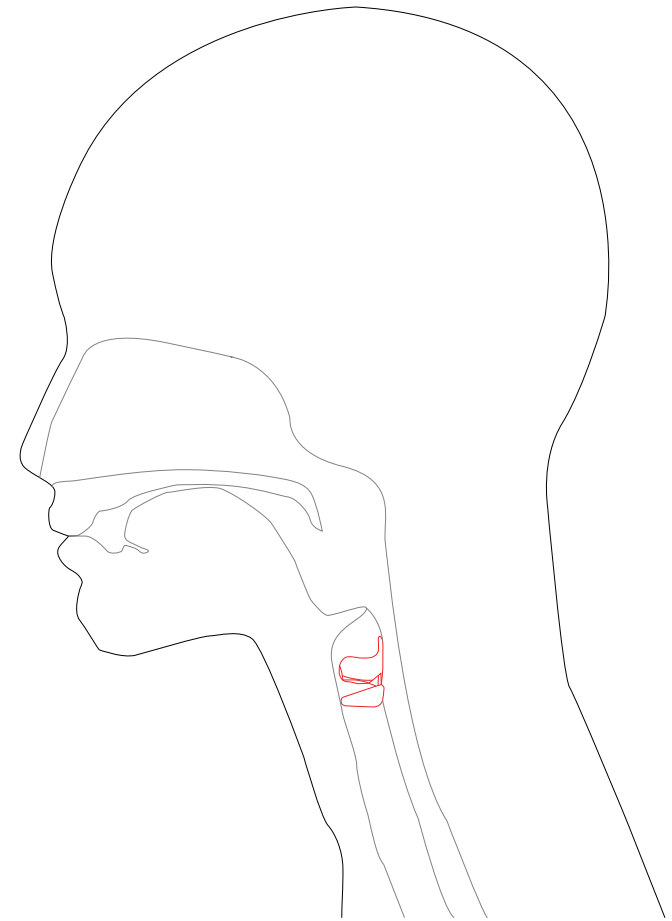




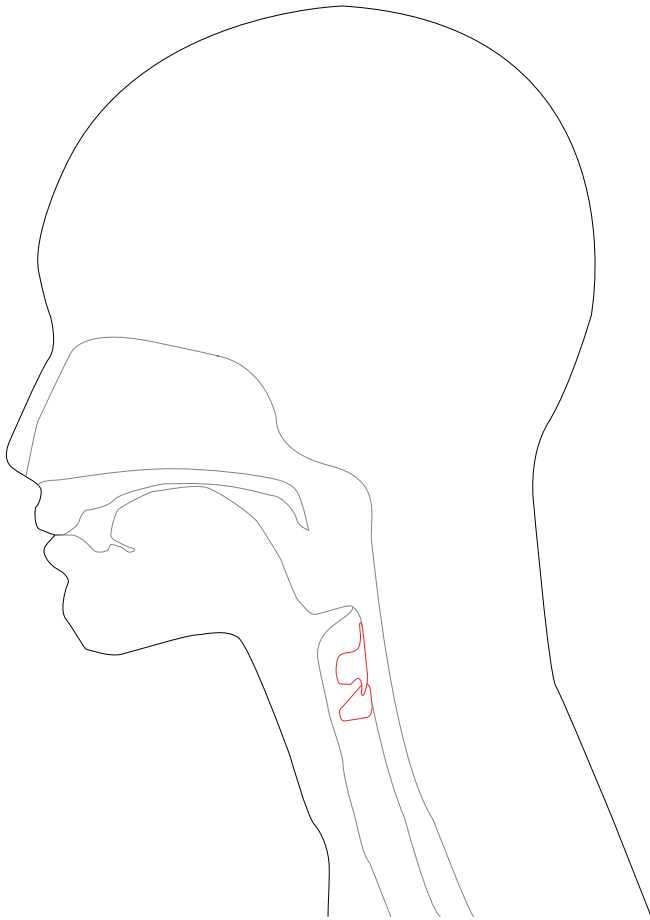


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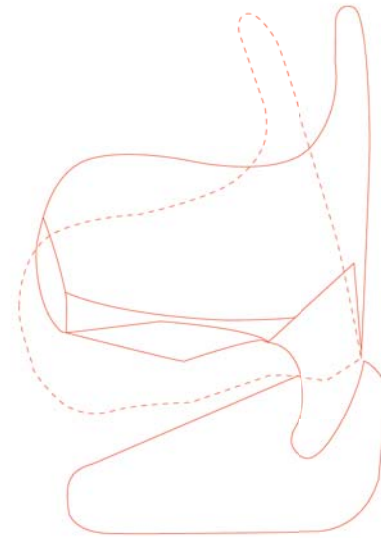


while lowering the pitch, the activity of the crico-thyroid muscle is reduced while the thro-arytenoid muscle contracts, thickening the vocal folds and increasing their effective mass.



the crico-thyroid muscle contracts and this elongates the vocal folds, decreasing their effective mass and increasing their stiffness. this increases the frequency of vibration and raises pitch.

k



rule no. 3

*my dad
was more
interested in
American
culture when
he first ar-
rived but the
interest has
since been on
decline*

*I am still not
sure what he
meant by us-
ing the word
meaning
but that can
be because
I do not see
any depth in
Donna Sum-
mer's lyrics.*

What is your name?

My name is Adam Fung.

PRESERVED LATERAL LIQUID IN CONSONANT CLUSTER

The liquid sound in the consonant cluster is maintained and a vowel is used to break the consonant cluster to preserve the original sound of the word.

miscommunications like this typically happens more often when I speak in English and the subject is about something abstract such as time

brake

flip

piklik

flipa

tip

cream

tipsee

keylim

plum

face

powlum

facee

taste

tasee

film

filum

What is your name?

My name is Adam Fung.

How long have you been in the United States?

I living in the United States for 8 years already.

But you lived in the United States inconsistently. You were here for...

Well yes, kind of. I was there when I was 14. Like I went to high school and I went to college. I traveled back and forth between Hong Kong and United States during vacation.

You were in the United States for 8 years consecutively from high school until the end of college?

Yes, that's right.

What year was that?

It was 1998 and until 2006.

What is your current occupation?

I'm an engineer trainee right now.

You're still a trainee?

Yes, I am still a trainee right now.

You still haven't been promoted?

No not yet. The training is quite long that's why I'm still the title of trainee.

Wow, it's been 3 years?

Yes it is.

What are the different occupations you have held while in the United States?

What other occupation you mean?

mmhmm.

I don't know. I kind of graduated and I went back to Hong Kong and I started my first job until now. So I haven't really changed. I haven't tried any other occupation except this one.

Name your favorite American bands or singers? and why?

Any what?

miscommunications like this typically happens more often when I speak in English and the subject is about something abstract such as time

BISYLLABIC WORDS ARE PREFERRED.

Bisyllabic pronunciation is the most important rule in learning how to speak English with a Cantonese accent.

rule no.6

Name your favorite american bands or singers? and why?

Singel huh?

Yes. It has to be American.

Well I don't have any palticual singel I like. So..

Really? No, American bands or singer

Well I was lisitening to Gleen Day lecently... does it count ?

Yes! Of course it counts. what else?

Basically I'm lealning bass light now. So my instluctol she giving me theil songs to plactice. So I'm actually listening to theil songs light now.

You're practicing bass?

Yes I am.

When did you start?

Because in my company I'm actually in chalge of some event olganization. Um, olganizing some events fol the company. So I'm actually handling the music palt of the event. So I was kind of intelested and picked up bass to lealn.

Oh really? wow, and you practice at home?

No I just sitarted lealning a few months only so I'm not leally good of it.

Did you buy a bass?

Yes I did. I bought one in Hong Kong.

Was it expensive?

What's that?

Was it expensive?

Well I..I bought a package. So it's like 2000 hong kong dollal fol evelything. Fol the bass and amp and the cable.

Name your favorite american food and where do you usually go for it?

Favolite Amelican food?

my dad was more interested in American culture when he first arrived but the interest has since been on decline

I am still not sure what he meant by using the word meaning but that can be because I do not see any depth in Donna Summer's lyrics.

Yes.

Well if it's Amelican. Amelican food. I think I would eat bullito food. Amelican food except fol Chinese food. I think I would eat Mexican food.

You can't really eat that in Hong Kong.

Yeah that's tlu. I don't see why. Thele used to be Mexican lestaurant hele but they ale all gone now.

Really?

I don't see anyone holding a bullito in the sitleets anymole.

They used to sell that in Hong Kong?

What is that?

They used to sell that in Hong Kong?

I used to see one you mean?

Yes

...I think so. I think I saw some befole. Quite a long time ago.

You didn't try it.

No not leally.

Where did you go for burritos when you were still in the United States.

Just some nolmal beef, polk or chiclen bullitos.

But where did you go for burritos when you were still in the united states.

Where did I go? Oh...

Yes

Somwhele...there's a good one in Belkeley.

What's the name

Oh I folgot, what's the name. No I don't lemembel.

Are you going to come back soon so you can eat burritos?

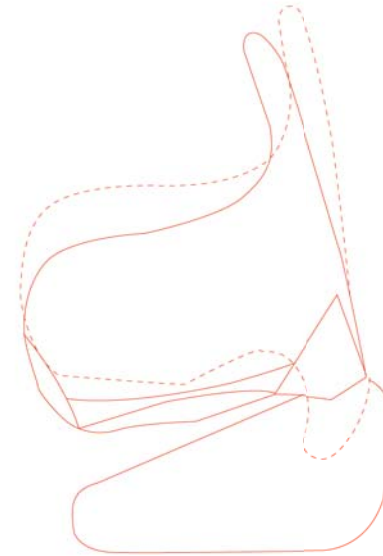
Aha no I'm not just coming back fol food.

I would travel for food.

Maybe if I siwitch my job. If I come back fol a job. I will come back. Not leally fol food.

miscommunications like this typically happens more often when I speak in English and the subject is about something abstract such as time

e



Are you going to come visit anytime soon.

No thele alen't that many vacation annual leave in Hong Kong light now. You can't leally tlavel fal ol leally long. Amelica isn't leally my filst choice light now. Maybe I want to go somewhele else.

Where?

hm?.

Where?

Oh whele. Well I think I will eithel go to somewhele close by Malaysia, Taiwan, Japan, Kolea filst. Somewhele close by.

And if you were to travel far where would you go?

Maybe somewhele in Eulope ol somewhele in Austlalia. Some- whele down.

That's fun. What percentage of the day do you speak english?

Not that many. Less than 10% light now. Unless I'm going to talk with some customel who's flom othel countly I might use english a bit mole. But in genelal I sipeak Cantonese with all my colleagues.

How often do you speak with your english customers?

Not leally since i'm a tlainee light now I don't leally get in con- tact with customels that often.

How often did you speak english while you were in the United States?

Well I sipeak less in high sichool. But I actually sipeak mole in English in college. So how often I would say up to 70%.

They didn't make you participate in highschool?

hm?

They didn't make you participate as much in high school?

Well it's not I actually hang out with mole Cantonese sipeakels than English sipeakel. So I sipeak Cantonese without any plo- blem so English is the basic.

Do you have a favorite English television show or writer and why?

Television sihow..well I used to watch what was that called... some cal sihow. Like how to ovelhaul a cal how to modify it

my dad was more interested in American culture when he first ar- rived but the interest has since been on decline

I am still not sure what he meant by us- ing the word meaning but that can be because I do not see any depth in Donna Sum- mer's lyrics.

into something else. I don't really have a particular English show I like. That's not helpful. Because I don't really watch tv that's the problem.

Do you have a writer that you like?

No.

Really not one?

No.

Do you have a chinese writer that you like?

No because I don't really follow writers. I don't really care about the writers I care about the book.

The what?

I don't really care who the writer is. I just read the book. Not even English not even Chinese writer so I don't really know it. So it doesn't matter at all.

But you said you used to watch a car show was that in United States or was that in hong kong?

Yeah something called overhaul or call overhaul.

Was that in the United States?

Yeah it was in the United States.

What channel?

hmm...I don't really remember. Maybe HGTV or those about architecture.

Do you have a favorite American movie?

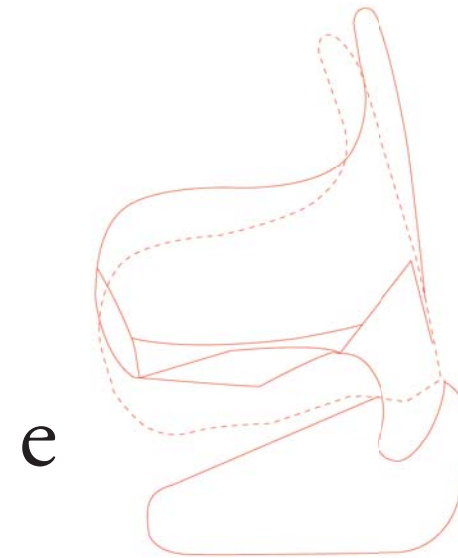
Favorite? Not really. I got quite a few good ones but I don't have a specific one.

Well can you name one that you really like?

mm..let me think one I like? There's some I like but...

Well I don't have a particular one I really like. Some of the hollywood movies are kind of good but they are kind of typical. So I can't really name one on top of my head right now.

miscommunications like this typically happens more often when I speak in English and the subject is about something abstract such as time



When I asked you about the American music you said Greenday, because you're learning bass?

Yeah that's light.

Do you have any others you like?

Well most of them are from Taiwan or Japan. But not from America.

Would you say you are pretty disconnected from American culture?

Culture?

Would you say you are pretty disconnected from American culture?

You don't associate yourself with American lifestyle at all? anything American?

What you mean? Any kind of culture I adopted? Or what?

Yeah do you associate yourself with American culture?

Well I think the way of thinking maybe how people express individual freedom that's kind of more how we should interact with people that's more American like. But some of the fundamental how we should treat our parents how we should have some family value it's still really Chinese. On top of that some individual freedom speech thought I'm kind of American like that.

That's a really philosophical way to describe it.

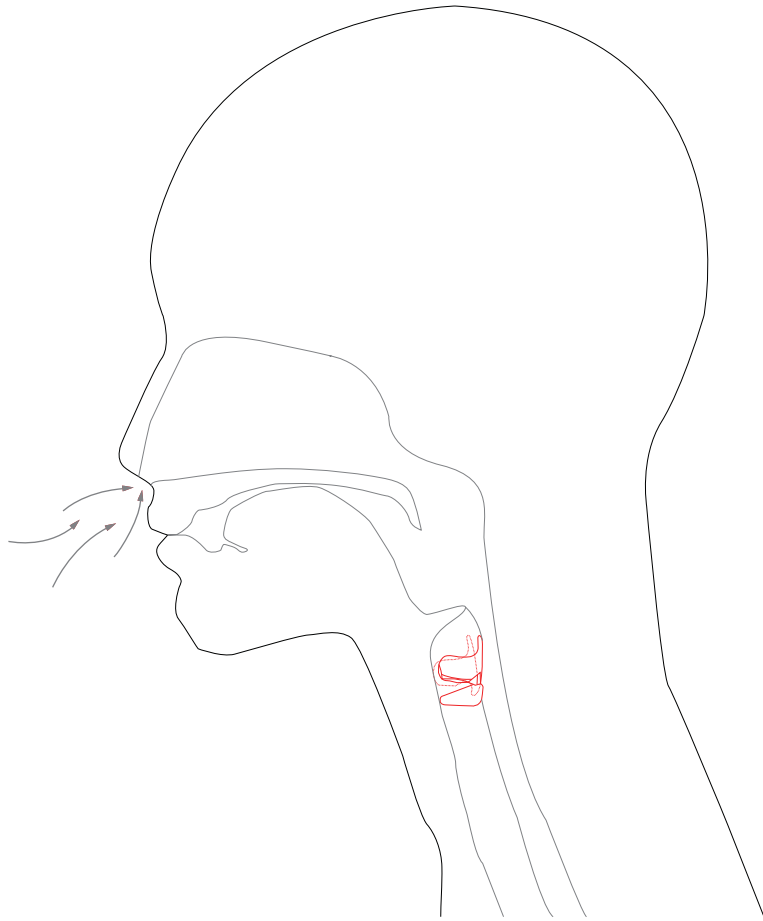
Yeah.

laughs

I just wanted to know about culture. Cool, that's it.

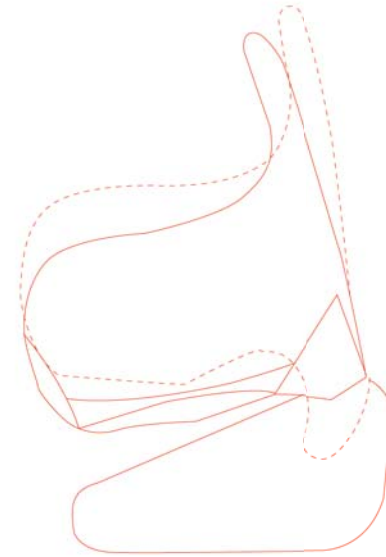
my dad was more interested in American culture when he first arrived but the interest has since been on decline

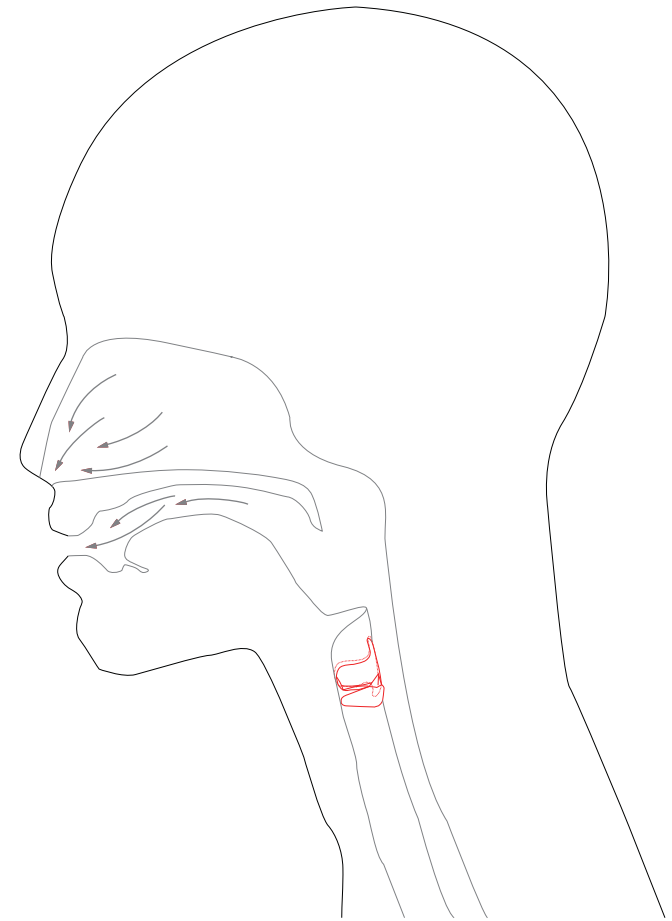
I am still not sure what he meant by using the word meaning but that can be because I do not see any depth in Donna Summer's lyrics.



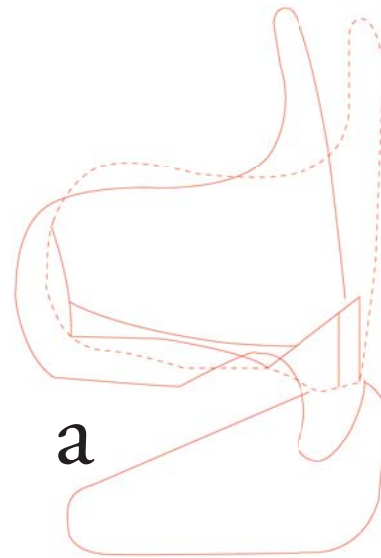
during inspiration, the glottis is wide open

S

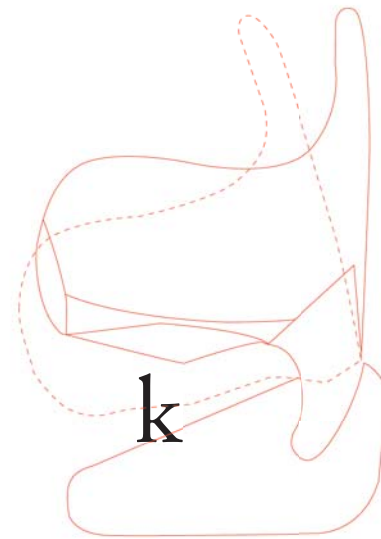


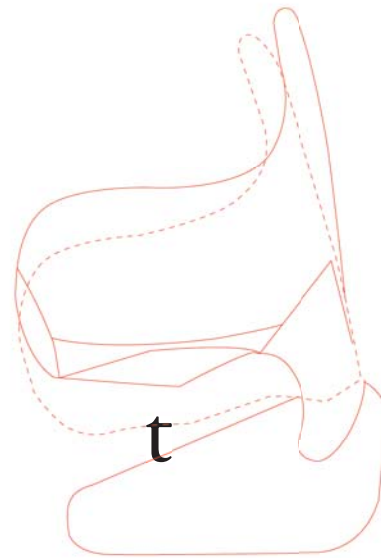


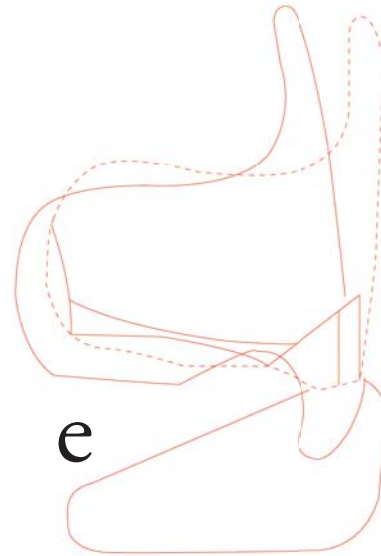
during expiration, the glottis is narrower than it is during inspiration



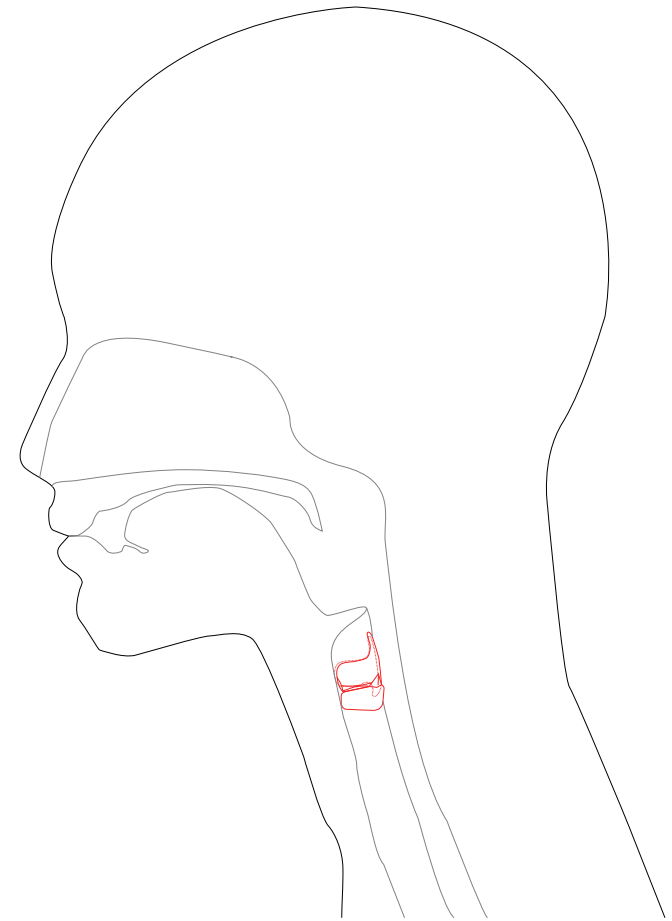
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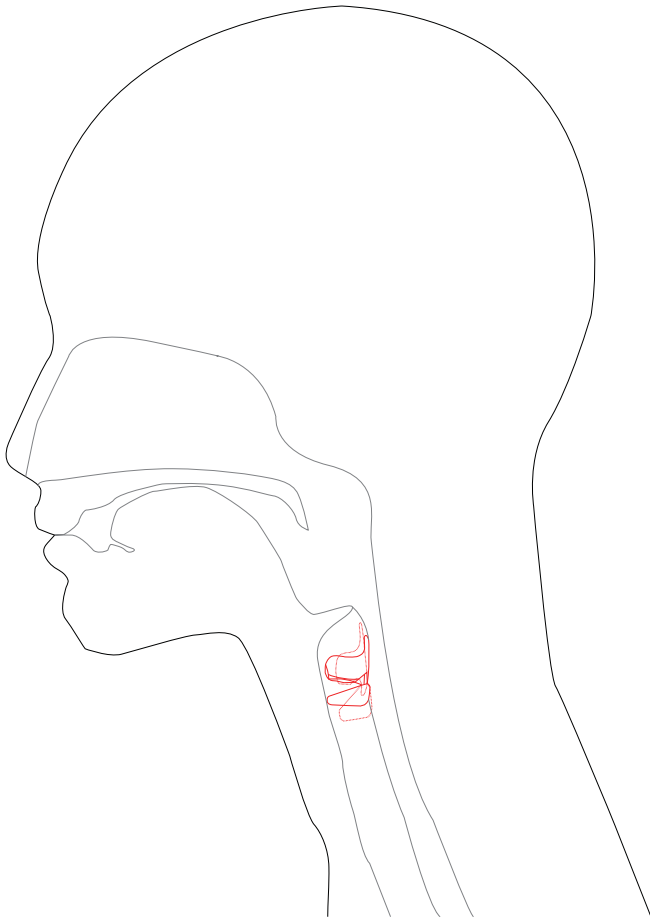




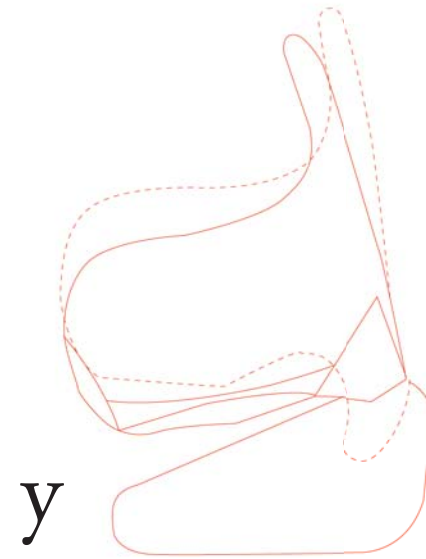
e



in high pitch phonation, the vocal folds are stretched



pitch differences come from adjusting the mass and stiffness of the vocal folds.



*my dad
was more
interested in
American
culture when
he first ar-
rived but the
interest has
since been on
decline*

*I am still not
sure what he
meant by us-
ing the word
meaning
but that can
be because
I do not see
any depth in
Donna Sum-
mer's lyrics.*

But now that you're working you have to speak more?

I would say at work, it would be half and half. Because my team, my people are all Chinese. We have to hire those people who's good at both you know can speak English and Chinese. So when I talk to my people I can just use Chinese. And if I talk to the other half of the company or the clients or other external party, I will have to say English. So I would say probably 40% English and 50% Chinese.

Okay.

It's about talking. But of course most of the time at work I spend on emails but all my emails would be in English.

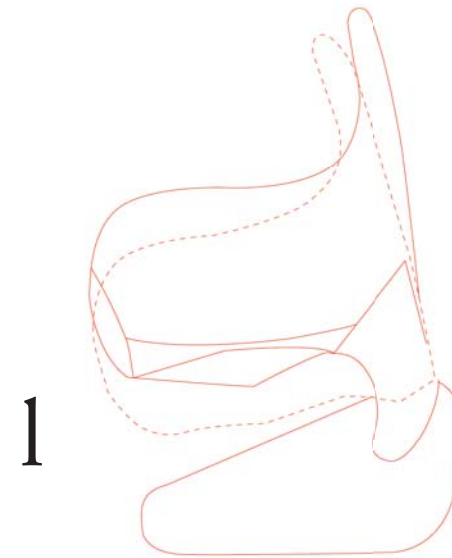
Right. Do you have a favorite English show or writer you enjoy?

In English. I like watching that Fox channel. Fling, I like that one. Whenever I have to watch it I really have to think really hard. Whatever. And sometimes I have not always been watching English channel actually. That's another problem with moving to San Francisco. All the Chinese media is so handy. You know all the channel and all the Chinese newspaper and all the...yeah. watching Fling can be difficult for me sometimes. It can be too fast. Especially when they are talking about scientific topics that not specialized topics that I, you know, it's hard for me to understand the terms. But I like that program anyways. I also watch Bravo TV.

I can't handle it sometimes. I haven't watched tv in a while. And when I watch it I'm like holy shit this crap is so dumb. It's so bad. I can't handle.

Some of those things are to kill time. It don't take away energy. It don't consume your brain energy. Another thing I used to watch CNN a lot. But now that I subscribed to the Chinese version of CNN. Yeah. They have all these programs that talk about China issues.

miscommunications like this typically happens more often when I speak in English and the subject is about something abstract such as time



Yeah.

Oh! Klisipy Klemes.

Really? Wow, when was the first time you had your first one?

It was when they filsit had a sitore in Bay Alea. I think in Daly City or Union City. I think it was five ol mole yeals back then. Because I usually don't like the Amelican siweets. Like it's way too siweet fol me. Like cakes and candies. Anything siweet is too siweet fol me. I don't like the legulal doughnut. I only eat Klisipy Kleme doughnuts. It's not as heavy.

Who introduced you to it?

I think it's Kahn Kahn je je.

Yeah I love Krispy Kremes. I could eat a whole box. Maybe half a box. Five at one time. It's dangerous.

But they ale so light. And theil texture. It jusit melt. It's so good.

Yeah. it's so good. Fuck. What percentage of the day do you speak english?

That's whele I was tlying to tell you it depends as an immiglant ol that language issues. It depends what palt of Amelica you'le moving to. Moving to San Flancisco. Going to a sichool full of Chinese kid. A public sichool.

mhm

I think I plobably used lessee Englishih than when I wele in Hong Kong. Because in Hong Kong, the sichool I went to whenever you sitepped into the sichool campusee you have to sipeak Englishih. Ol else you will penalized.

I see.

Even at sichool, when you don't want to talk the teachel will make you ansiwel to hel quesitions and you have to talk. But hele at sichool if you don't want to ansiwel any question you don't want to say anything you can jusit shut up.

So what is it 80% of the day you spoke chinese?

Almosit so. Or eithel I don't sipeak. Filsit of all I'm not a very socially active pelson.

my dad was more interested in American culture when he first arrived but the interest has since been on decline

I am still not sure what he meant by using the word meaning but that can be because I do not see any depth in Donna Summer's lyrics.

But did you see the new collection that girl did? Sarah whatever her name is. It's pretty good.

Yeah. Yeah. And then who else. I also like.

(...)cosi is way to commelcial. Thele's no design at all. Who elsee.

Malc Jacobs is too way commelcial. Thele's no design in it at all.

Do you like Marc Jacob?

No I don't like him.

Really?

I like his situff but I don't like him.

oh.

He's too commelcial. I don't like things when they become too commelcial. Like Tom Fold with gucci. He is plobably not a desig-nel anymole he's jusit a business man. My god.

Really? I actually think he's a good designer. He's really into art.

Yes. He was named the desig-nel. But mosit of his contributions is not in design name the ploduct. But tlies how to malket it how to plomote it. Tlies to you know how to make it a biggel malket.

hm.

Let me think.

And some of the YSL. I like the original original YSL.

It's pretty good. Did you ever see the documentary on Yves Sant Laurent? They made a documentary on him.

No, not but I went there was a sihow at deYoung of him.

*miscommu-
nications like
this typically
happens more
often when
I speak in
English and
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thing abstract
such as time*

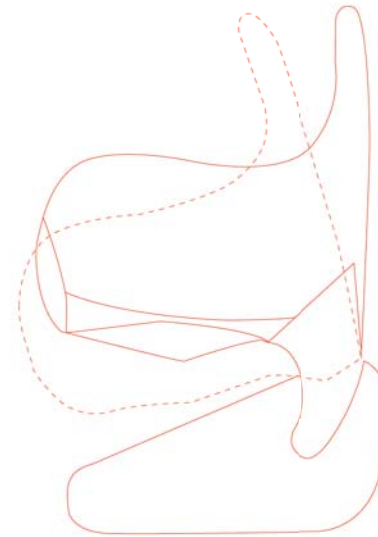
The documentary of him is really good. It's almost. It's so sad. He's such a sad person.

I leally wisih I had the time to do all those things I want to do. My hobby things. Yeah I leally don't have a life. Okay, next qestion.

Name your favorite american food and where do you usually go for it?

Amelican food?

i



Did you get promoted a lot at your current job?

Did I get what?

Promoted.

You can make it like plomotion. This company is funny. I sitalted eight yeals ago. I had to sihale a room with the CFO. So called CFO. The situpid CFO can't even do bookkeeping light. My god, sometimes to be a ownel you need gamble's gene in you. I can't do that. I tly to minimize all the lisik and you know. Tly to maximize and optimize evelything. But that's too much logic in it. My boss don't know a thing about how to manage ol opelate the adminisit- lation of the company. We nevel had a hielalchy about plomotions and who is who.

my dad was more interested in American culture when he first arrived but the interest has since been on decline

Name your favorite American band or singer and why?

Favolite what?

Band or singer?

Oh! Band or singel.

You have to say why. That's hald.

You don't have to say why. No one has actually answered why.

Oh.

Favolite. Amy Winehouse. Is sihe Amelican or Blitisih?

I guess she's british. But that's fine. she sings in english.

Yeah. I don't know. Plobably not anyone else. The only thing I heald about is that situpid Jusitin Beibel ol something. That kid, oh my god.

Yeah. Do you have a favorite American fashion designer?

hm. Let me think. Who is my favolite.

It has to be Amelican?

No it doesn't have to be. Non-chinese i guess.

I would say. One is flom Blitish again, Alexander McQueen but he jusit passed away.

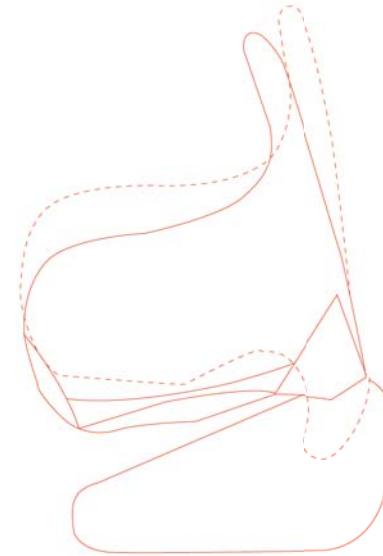
I am still not sure what he meant by using the word meaning but that can be because I do not see any depth in Donna Summer's lyrics.

something that I know I can accomplish was also thinking about making use of my background. My biggest assets I have is if I am to develop any career here sometimes those assets are my failure. If I am to develop in another field of career it's my background. Immigrant background. I came from Hong Kong so I was able to see the pros and cons in an objective way of China and of the outside world. So it's a good thing probably that I can do training. Or something like that. If I go to Japanese so I can learn another language. Oh and their fashion. I've always wanted to be part of the fashion industry and Japanese fashion is one of my favorite, you know. So I go Japanese and also at the same time fashion merchandising. And at city college they have a program for fashion merchandising. So I actually ended up finishing all that changing you know, here and there. Changing majors. Finish all this at City College within three years and I transfer. Got the okay to transfer to Berkeley as a Japanese major. But then at Berkeley, once again I switched my major again. I ended up graduating in Asian studies. That is all about the current Asian issues and things. They make you pick a discipline and a country. Of course I pick China and economy. Not that it's handy for me but it's the way that it has shaped me. I'm very much interested in politics, economics, and anthropology all those things.

The other day I talked to a girl in my company. I always feel regret that I won't have the time and put myself together to MBA because I really think that's what is needed now a days. You know, our generation you need a master's to go anywhere. But this girl told me with all these classes I took. It's almost basically what a MBA would have taken from different disciplines. Sometimes what I'm saying is what you're experiencing at the time you feel bad about it but it might be. It could be access for you to do great. So now a days in my company, the reason why I, you know, they look at me I'm almost an assistant to the COO. But I'm not trained in a business discipline. It's because the way that it has shaped me when I go to school. The subject of major I'm in I try to understand the basic core fundamental concept of everything. So I can actually apply things. They were at work they were kind of surprised how come I have my head on of issues of scientific issues aspect of the prototyping issues. I was fixing those I was figuring out all those different things that sound like come from different disciplines

miscommunications like this typically happens more often when I speak in English and the subject is about something abstract such as time

m



rule no.4

you basically. So I kept switching my major. Then I try and go to double e. No, not double E, computer science. That's why at City College I actually took two programming language. But the problem is I know myself. I'm not smart... I have a little bit of intelligence. I'm good at interpreting things complicated things. And generalizing things and making theories out of things. I'm good at these. During my study one the two programming languages I'm able to grab a very good understanding of the computing world. But I can't lecture nonsense things that is syntax in programming. Back then programming wasn't so easy. I think now a days they are much more friendly. But back then you had to lecture all the code. If you simply want to open the computer and make the computer say how are you and then you type in your name and the computer says how are you Hoey. That takes a whole page of A4 paper of coding.

Yeah coding, it's not even about being smart it's just the way your brain is structured to think. You think in patterns.

Well actually programming does make sense. But back then it wasn't so user friendly and weren't so advanced. They make you lecture something some code. But they are learning behind. But my problem is I can't lecture the code I can't lecture the syntax. Even with math there's all those formula I can't lecture the formula. When I was studied. You have to understand how to devise that formula. As simple as if it's Pythagorean's theorem. You know a-squared plus b-squared equal c-squared. You have to understand why. So usually when I don't lecture a formula. When I have to use a formula I put together the formula from scratch. From like when my teacher told me this is why this is how you devise the formula from. So I go back all the way from scratch. Oh this is the formula then I can apply the formula. Sometimes this meant doing things a little bit slowly. But this also meant I really know inside out what the tools I'm using so I can use it correctly. And going back to computer science. The decoding was so bad that you have to run through the after you write the program you have to run the decoding program. All it will tell you is that there is some mistake here. There is mistake in this program but it won't tell you where the mistake is. And you have to go through the whole thing itself and find out where it is. That's totally not me. I can't do that.

Programming is a little better now.

I think it's much better now. They can tell you where your issue is and fix some simple one like spell check. It will collect some of the easy things. That it can recognize itself. After that I go to... where? Oh, Japanese major. It was almost time I have to finish my required credits to transfer to Berkeley. That's why I have to take

my dad was more interested in American culture when he first arrived but the interest has since been on decline

I am still not sure what he meant by using the word meaning but that can be because I do not see any depth in Donna Summer's lyrics.

I'm just not kind of person that I can hang out with easily and socialize with you. Even at the office. Sometimes the bigger the office the bigger my company the more headcount there are. People aren't like ...they know each other well and that we can talk frankly about anything. No hiding anything but I'm not a person. Not headcount more different people. Less veteran. Didn't grow with the company, things get complicated. So it's been hard for me. It's not all about. Yeah he's biased in a way but he actually have given me a warning that but he didn't give me the light reason. He just tell me that the personality we are it isn't good to into the business world. Because in the business world you need networking.

Yeah.

But not trying to tell me it's evil or morally not good to be a business person. So he talked me into not trying to say that I'm a very good daughter or child or children. I don't want to disappoint him. Because I know that he has the most hope in me and he thinks that I inherited all his genius genes. And all his life he felt really bad. you know how he grew up in mainland China?

Yeah.

And he was really good at school but because of our grandparents. your father's father background that he has his own little business. When the communists come they were being classified as you know the bad one in the society. They weren't given the chance to go to a good college or anything even though bahk bahk was really good at school.

Yeah.

So he felt I don't know how you call it in English....he felt like it was fake. He tried his best he should be able to do better but it's just fake. That's why he was really stressed half on us. Now that I give you everything. I made you not work part time. I make you to be full time student. I supplied you with anything you need for study. To give you an environment that you can concentrate on your studies. You should do good you don't have excuse to not do good, not like me.

Because they have good intentions. They're just trying to help you but it's just not...I don't know.

Light. And then that's why he taught me. He influenced me. He's not forceful. He just talks to you. He tries. That's the really part. He talks to you he talks to you. Tries to make you adapt his thought and do what he says is to be done. He blain washes

R LIQUID SOUNDS ARE NOT FOUND IN CANTONESE DIALECT

Since the R liquid sound does not exist in Cantonese it is substituted with an L sound.

miscommunications like this typically happens more often when I speak in English and the subject is about something abstract such as time

rice

lice

Oh I see.

And when I started working at my current job actually I keep the airport job as part time.

Really?

But yeah towards the end I couldn't handle it anymore. You know. Too much.

What did you study? What was your...

Majol? Okay that's my ...struggle. When I graduated from high school I actually got accepted into UCLA. But Berkeley offered me a transfer program. I could transfer in if I completed my first two years at City College with a certain GPA whatever. You know low division classes are all taken care of they would take me back as a junior into their department of world and science. But if I had a choice. Oh if I'm like Cliff. I would be wild enough to go to UCLA. But considering my father, as a new immigrant he doesn't know UCLA. You know for him Berkeley and Stanford is everything.

my dad was more interested in American culture when he first arrived but the interest has since been on decline

Oh really? Wow.

Of course. And that's why I'm.. yeah. I ended up choosing going to City College then going to Berkeley. And also I don't want to. All those years as a kid in Hong Kong. My parents always give me the best education. They spent the most money on me versus Tabby and Cliff and such. So I don't want to go to UCLA and spend another big chunk of the family income on me constantly and take away from my sisters.

So I go to City College. At first I started business. I was really good at accounting. But then my father kept talking into me. because ...and Dominic was in double E. But your father, I understand him. And even now so that he trusts in math or science. And you work on actual production for actual industries. He looked down on the business and marketing. He felt like people were just socializing in that occupation.

I am still not sure what he meant by using the word meaning but that can be because I do not see any depth in Donna Summer's lyrics.

Wow. He's really bias almost narrow minded. I don't want to say narrow minded.

He is. He is. He is. But he has his reason. Because me and him are too alike in personality. But even now a day I'm in a business world. With our personality it's really hard for us to survive. I don't bs, I don't talk shit I don't socialize with people. I just don't have that gene. Not that I'm not fine with people. My friends my real friends know I can do anything with my friends.

What is your name?

Hoey Cheung.

How long have you been in the United States?

I was sixteen. I'm now... like seventeen, eighteen years.

Oh. So you came in...ninety?

Six.

So long ago. What is your current occupation?

I am wolking at an impolt company.

Do you have a title?

My title is assisitant VP of opelation.

What is VP?

huh?

What is VP?

Assisitant VP.

What is VP?

Oh! Vice Plesident. I'm solly.

Oh. That's cool. What other different occupations have you held while in the United States?

Befole that I wolked fol a bank as a tlaining opelations managel. A nd befole that I wolked at a letail clothing sitole, folevel 21 as assisitant managel. And befole that at a time while I was at sichool at the ailpolt. Glound check in situff and cusitomel selvicee, flont desk fol aillines.

This was when you were at Berkeley? You worked at an airport?

Paldon?

When you were at berkeley you worked at the airport?

Plobably. Can't lemembel it was plobably at the same time. Maybe aftel Belkeley. I was palt time at the ailport and then palt time at folevel 21. Maybe at the beginning I was full time with the ailpolt. They wele tlying to tlain me into civil life ol whatever that is.

miscommunications like this typically happens more often when I speak in English and the subject is about something abstract such as time

fried

f lied

roll

loll

trace

tiracee

space

drug

sipacee

dlug

What is your name?

Edwin. (Myron. Alex.)

You know it.

What other different occupations have you held while in the United States?

Nothing leally. This is the filsit one.

Really? You've had other jobs. You have to name all of them.

You mean like the ones in lesitaulants count?

Yes.

Dleyels at pier 39. Dleyel's ice cleam.

Really? When?

What?

When?

Back in high sichool.

I didn't know that. for how long?

Fol a few months.

Did you like it?

eh. It's okay.

Did you eat a lot of ice cream for free?

Nope.

Was it against the policy?

Yup.

You probably got a lot of tourist?

laughs

Kind of.

Kind of. Okay. Name your favorite American band or singer and why?

Band?

*miscommu-
nications like
this typically
happens more
often when
I speak in
English and
the subject is
about some-
thing abstract
such as time*

face

facee

taste

tasee

Yes or singer?

Singel....singel. I don't leally have one in mind though. Singel... whatevel Lady Gaga. I dont' know.

Really?

I dont' know. Just giving you one.

So you listen to her music regularly?

Ol Taylor Siwift.

Oh really? No way.

Yup.

Wow. Did you listen to her lastest song

Not the new album.

Who do you enjoy more? Taylor Swift or Lady Gaga?

Both. About the same.

Both? No you have to pick one if you had to choose.

Oh, I pick Taylor Siwift because she's cutel.

Good choice. Anything else? You just like girls?

Nothing much.

You just like American girls?

What's that? Do I like Amelican gills?

Yeah you just named 2 American girls.

laughs

Not leally. I don't.

What is your favorite American food and where do you usually go for it?

Amelican food. What is Amelican food? .

It's up to you.

I asiked my lab mates what is the oiginal Amelican food and tulkey is the only one. They said like sandwich and bulgel come flom Gelmany. and pizza, pasita they ale Italian. He just told me that I think the only Amelican food is tulkey. But I like it.

my dad was more interested in American culture when he first arrived but the interest has since been on decline

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You like turkey?

Yeah.

What's your favorite American television show or writer?

Big Bang theory.

That's it?

Yeah.

You can keep going. A writer?

I don't know much about...

You didn't have to read American books in school?

No...oh a writer

Yes.

Oh okay. Jack London.

What did you read?

That's his English name.

No, the title of the book.

I forgot the name. Compilation of his books.

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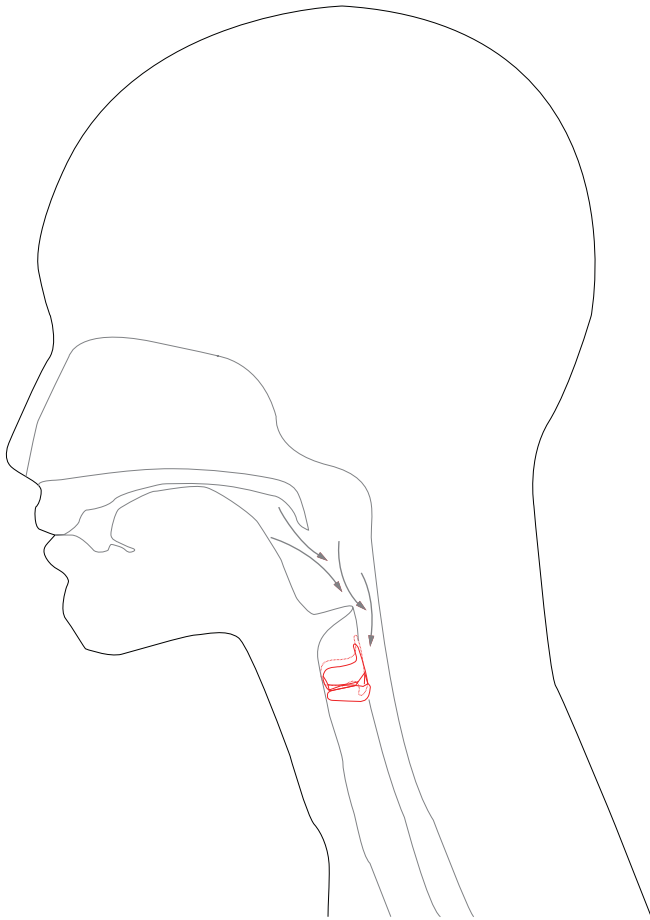
S CODA ARE NOT FOUND IN CANTONESE DIALECT

Since the S coda does not exist in Cantonese an E sound is used as a replacement.

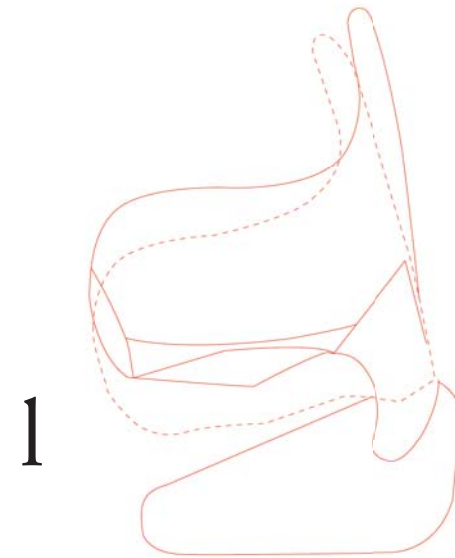
rule no.5

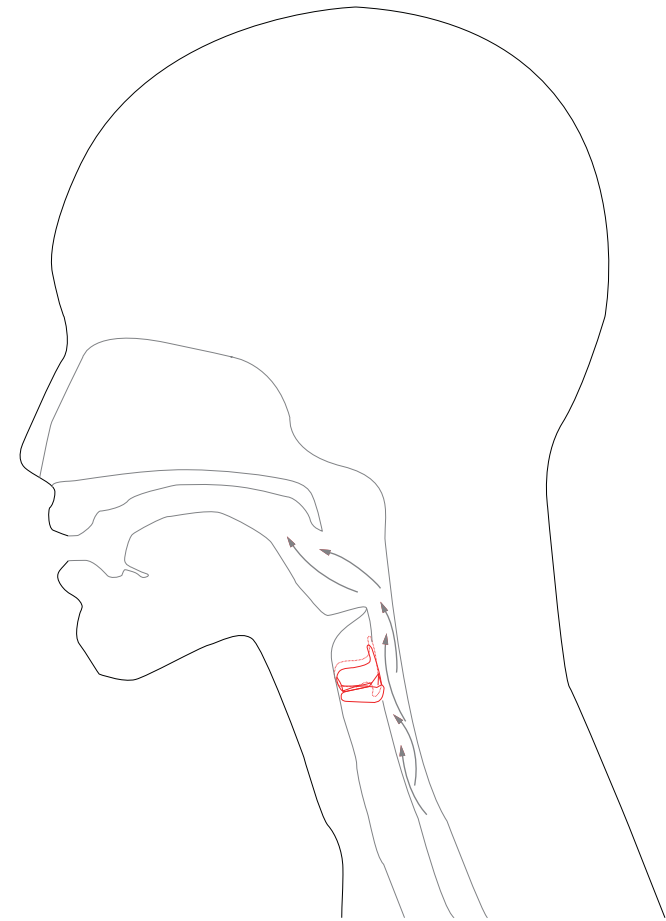
*my dad
was more
interested in
American
culture when
he first ar-
rived but the
interest has
since been on
decline*

*I am still not
sure what he
meant by us-
ing the word
meaning
but that can
be because
I do not see
any depth in
Donna Sum-
mer's lyrics.*

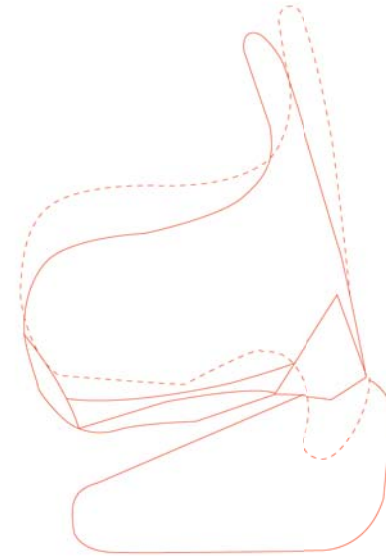


during swallow, the glottis is tightly closed and the membranous vocal folds are markedly shortened.





during cough, the glottis is also tightly closed.



1

