

Today's topics:

- **Consonant phonetics**
- **Consonants of Japanese**

Background preparation:

- *Vocal-tract anatomy diagram (SIL Mexico)*
- *Interactive vocal-tract diagram (D. Hall)*

0. Today's objectives

After today's class, you should be able to:

- Use **phonetic symbols** (IPA) to transcribe the consonants of Japanese
- Use **phonetics terminology** to describe and classify the consonants of Japanese
- Identify Japanese consonants that are not found in English, and discuss the **differences** from similar English consonants

0. Course information

- Prep questions
 - Due on most class days, ideally by **10:30 am**
 - Practice recent concepts and prepare for the next discussion
 - Graded complete/incomplete, but use the point score to test your understanding

1. Warm-up: Vowel phonetics

- How can we use **phonetic concepts** to characterize the following phenomena insightfully?
 - Kubozono (2015) mentioned several patterns that affect the vowels [i u], but not [e a o]
 - In modern standard Japanese, the consonant [j] (“y”) can come before the vowels [u o a], but not before the [i e]

2. Phonetics of consonants

- Phonetic properties that are useful for **classifying consonants** in all languages:
 - voicing (*voiced or voiceless?*)
 - place of articulation (*constriction location*)
 - nasality (*oral or nasal?*)
 - manner of articulation (*constriction type*)
- Interactive [vocal-tract diagram](#)

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3. Consonants of Japanese

Work groups:

- **Handout** - "[Phonetics: Consonants of Japanese](#)"
Handout - "[Japanese Cs and Vs: Example words](#)"
- *Japanese speakers:* Demonstrate the **pronunciation** of the consonants of Japanese for your group (use the handout showing example words as needed)
- *Linguistics students:* Guide your group in filling out the **consonant chart** with appropriate IPA symbols

3. Consonants of Japanese

Work groups:

- Focus on these consonants in particular

[φ]	[φɯ]	負	ふ	'minus'
[ɕ]	[ɕiN]	芯	しん	'core'
[ts]	[tsɯ:ka]	通貨	つうか	'currency'
[tɕ]	[tɕizɯ]	地図	ちず	'map'
[dʒ]	[kidʒi]	記事	きじ	'(newspaper) article'
[dz]	[dzɯ]	図	ず	'diagram' vs.
[z]	[kuɰzɯ]	葛	くず	'kudzu'

3. Consonants of Japanese

Work groups:

- What English consonants are these **similar** to?
How are they phonetically different?

[ϕ] *as in* [$\phi\omega$] ふ

[ς] *as in* [ςi] し

[ts] *as in* [ts ω] つ

[t ς] *as in* [t ςi] ち

[d ζ] *as in* [d ζi] じ

3. Consonants of Japanese

- **Key points**
 - What **symbols** are used for Japanese consonants?
 - How can we describe these consonants in terms of voicing, place, nasality, and manner?
- How are Japanese consonants **different** from similar consonants in English?

4. For next time

- Review consonant (and vowel) phonetics terms and concepts in Hayes (2009), Ch 1
- Prep questions
 - Phonetics and transliteration review
 - Set-up for class discussion