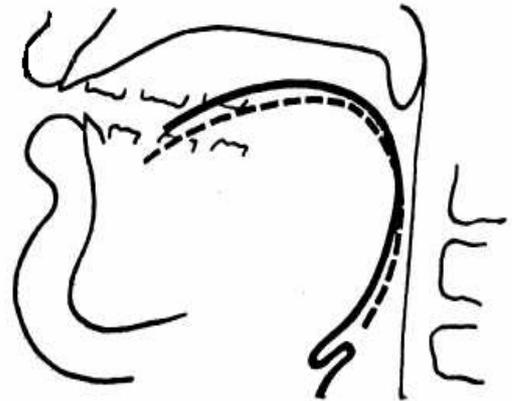


The English Vowel [V]

In pronouncing the English [V] the back of the tongue is raised towards the soft palate. It is raised higher and towards a more front part of the soft palate than in pronouncing the English [L], therefore the sound [V] is defined as more advanced and more close than [L]. The tip of the tongue is retracted from the lower teeth (fig. 2.33).

Fig. 2.33.
Tongue-position:
English [V] —————
English [L] - - - - -



The resonance chamber is increased in the frontal part of the mouth cavity.

In producing the English [V] the lips are more rounded than for the English [P] and [L] and the oval-shaped opening between the lips is smaller. The lips are not protruded.



Fig. 2.34.

Lip-position of English [V]



Fig. 2.35.

Lip-position of Ukrainian [Y]

The English [V] is a short lax labialized back advanced close vowel phoneme of the wide variety.

The articulation of the English [V] resembles that of the Ukrainian [Y], but there is some difference between them:

1. The English [V] is wider and more back.
2. The position of the lips for these two sounds differs.

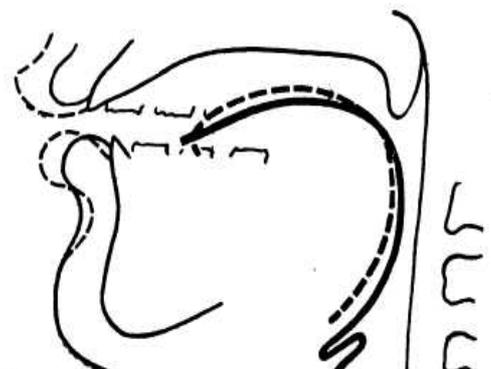


Fig. 2.36.
Tongue-position:
English [V] _____
Ukrainian [Y] - - - - -

In pronouncing the Ukrainian [Y] the lips are not only rounded but also protruded.

Students whose native language is Ukrainian are sometimes apt to replace the English [V] by a more front and close Ukrainian [Y] which occurs between soft consonants.

This mistake is easily avoided provided that the students are told either to lower the tongue and retract it a bit or endeavour to pronounce the English [V] like the Ukrainian [Y] in the isolated position or at the beginning of words.

Many students whose native language is Ukrainian tend to protrude the lips in pronouncing the English [V]. To avoid this mistake one should keep the lips flat without the slightest trace of lip protrusion.

Sometimes learners lengthen the English [V]. One must remember that in any position in the word the English [V] remains short.