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MTO 22.1 Examples: Heidemann, Describing Vocal Timbre

(Note: audio, video, and other interactive examples are only available online)

<http://www.mtosmt.org/issues/mto.16.22.1/mto.16.22.1.heidemann.php>

Figure 1a. Overview of Vocal Tract

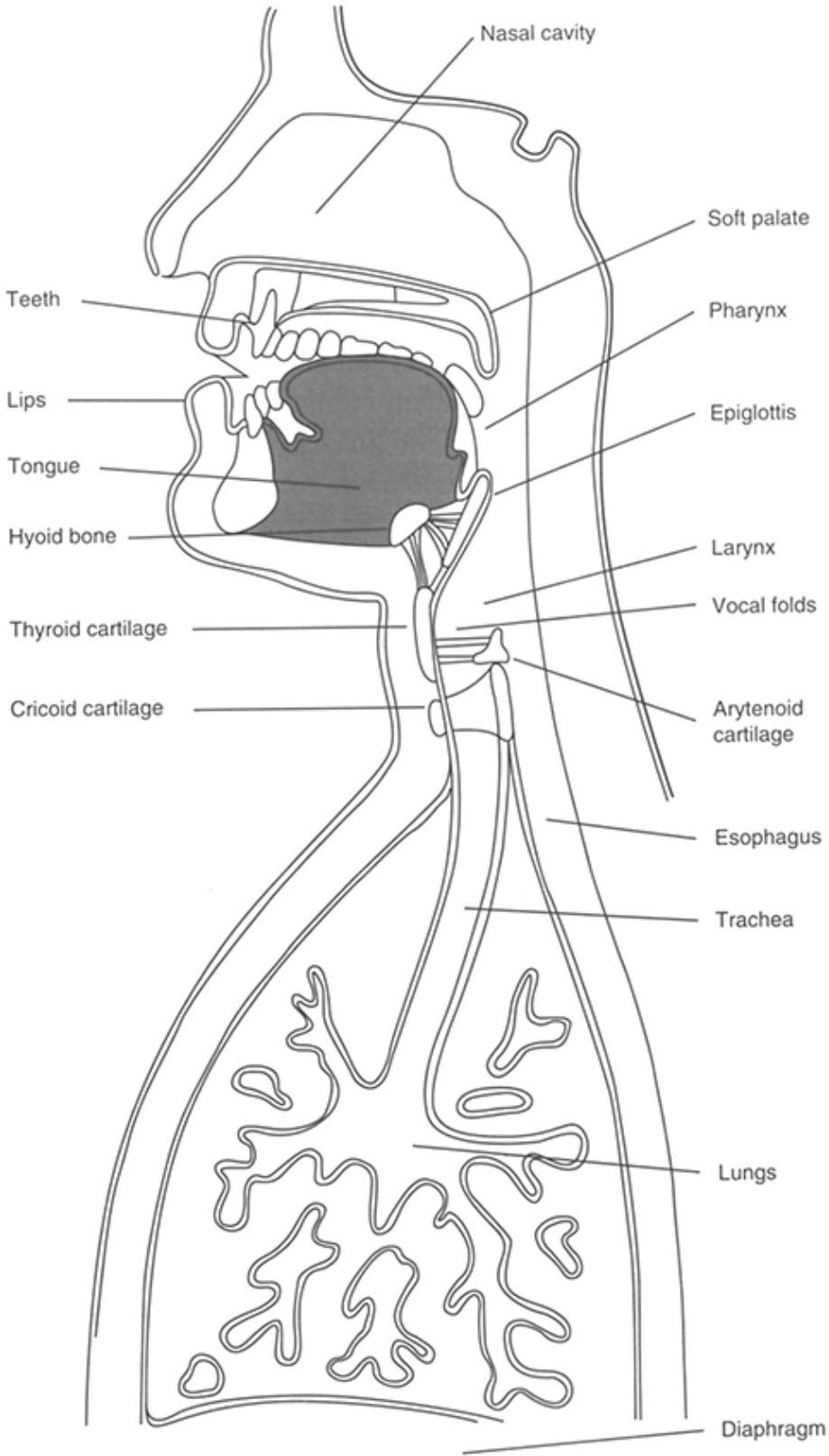


Figure 1b. Supraglottal Vocal Tract

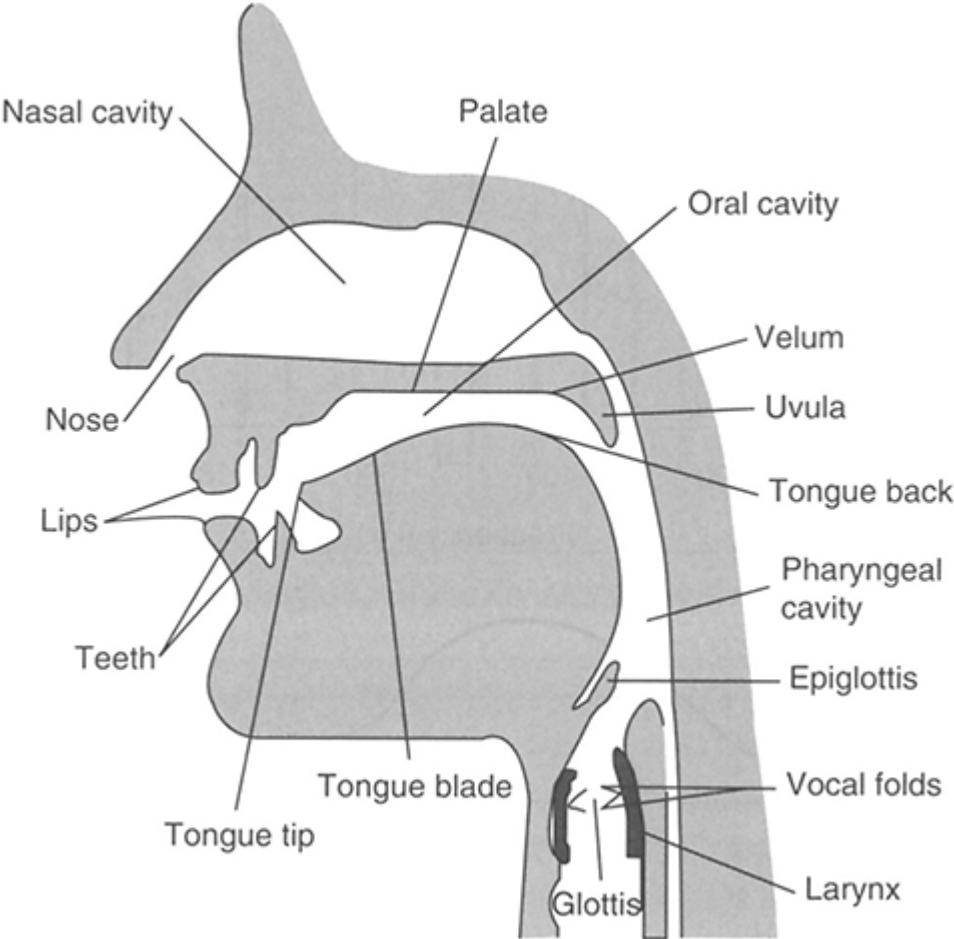


Table 1. Four Elements of Vocal Production and Related Terms and Concepts

Element of Vocal Production (Perceived)	Related Timbral Classifications	Some Related Elements of Vocal Performance
<p>Movement of true vocal folds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - manner of vibration as impacted by degrees of adduction and tension, air flow <p>Vibration in the ventricular (“false”) folds, aryepiglottic folds, and epiglottis</p>	<p><u>General:</u> breathy hissing, grainy whisper harsh hoarse creaky, vocal fry supraglottic distortion: scream, growl breaks</p> <p><u>Onset:</u> breathy creaky glottal smooth</p>	<p>Paralinguistic ornament, pitch</p>
<p>Position of vocal tract</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - larynx height - larynx tilt - pharynx area - velum height - mouth position (lips, tongue, jaw) 	<p>oral twang nasal twang speech-like sob</p>	<p>Pitch, vibrato, lyrics, phonemes, accent, enunciation</p>
<p>Sympathetic vibration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - head - face, nasal passages - neck, chest 	<p>nasal resonant whistle falsetto head mix chest</p>	<p>Pitch, melody, dynamics</p>
<p>Breath support and muscular anchoring</p>	<p>(usually implied in other timbre descriptors, like belt or breathy)</p>	<p>Dynamics, paralinguistic ornament</p>

Figure 2. Model of the Larynx used in Estill Voice Training

