

[k] and [g]

DESCRIPTION: Draw attention to the back of the tongue touching the back of the roof of the mouth, the quick separation of the articulators, and the air flowing out the mouth. [k] is made with the voice off, and [g] is made with the voice on.

METAPHORS: [k] is the coughing sound and the sound that begins "cold," "king," and "kite." [g] is the water pouring sound (glug, glug, glug) or the "greaat!" (Tony the Tiger) sound, and the sound that begins "go," "goat," and "gate." Both [k] and [g] are also quick sounds (stops) and tongue-back sounds (velar). [k] is a voice-off sound (voiceless), and [g] is a voice-on sound (voiced).

TOUCH CUE: Lay the client's finger at the uppermost part of his or her neck.

DEMONSTRATIONS:**Place (Velar)**

First Method: Place the client's hand in contact with the underside of your mouth and repeat [k] several times while drawing attention to the muscle movements.

Second Method: Open your mouth and allow the client to observe while you say [k] several times.

Manner (Oral Stop)

First Method: Use a strip of paper, a feather, or the hand held in front of the client's mouth while you produce a series of stops to demonstrate the explosive release of stops. Alternately, tape a small paper flower on the end a pencil and encourage the client to move the flower with puffs of air.

Second Method: Place your or the client's palms together and then suddenly separate them to demonstrate the sudden release of stops.

[k] and [g]

The following techniques facilitate [k]. To facilitate [g], follow the same steps but also instruct the client to turn on the voice box.

PHONETIC PLACEMENT*First Method:*

1. Instruct the client to place a hand in contact with the underside of your mouth.
2. While holding the client's chin stationary, direct the client's attention to the muscle movements that occur as you repeat [k] several times.
3. Ask the client to imitate you, resulting in [k].

Second Method:

Ask the client to drop his or her head back and say [ku], which sometimes is sufficient to result in [k].

Third Method:

Ask the client to pretend to cough up a fish bone from the throat. Alternately, ask the client to imitate you while you pretend to shoot a gun, resulting in [ku ku ku].

Fourth Method:

1. Press your hand underneath the client's chin near the juncture of the jaw and neck where [k] is produced.
2. Instruct the client to whisper [ku] as you release the pressure, resulting in a soft [k].

Fifth Method:

1. Ask the client to place the tongue tip behind the lower front teeth. (If needed, a tongue depressor may be used to keep the tongue in place.)
2. Ask the client to hump the back of the tongue and say [ku].

SHAPING

[k] from [t] (Fronting)**

Method:

1. Ask the client to place the tongue tip behind the two lower front teeth while making [t]. (If needed, the tongue tip may be held down with a tongue depressor.)
2. Next, ask the client to hump up the back of the tongue and say [k]. (*Note:* For [g], shape from [d].)

[k] from [g] (Final Consonant Devoicing)**

Method: Instruct the client to say [g] and then to turn off the voice box. For some clients, this is sufficient instruction to result in [k]. (*Note:* To facilitate [g], instruct the client to turn on the voice while saying [k].)

[k] from [i]

Method:

1. Instruct the client to say [i].
2. Next, ask the client to say a long [i] but to raise up the back of the tongue as the vowel ends, resulting in [k]. If needed, instruct the client to turn off the voice. (*Note:* To facilitate [g], do not ask the client to turn off the voice.)