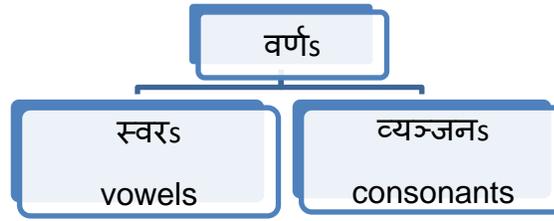


Introduction - Sanskrit Varnamala

- Sentences - words - letters (sounds)
- In Sanskrit these sounds are called 'वर्णः'
- They are arranged in particular scientific order

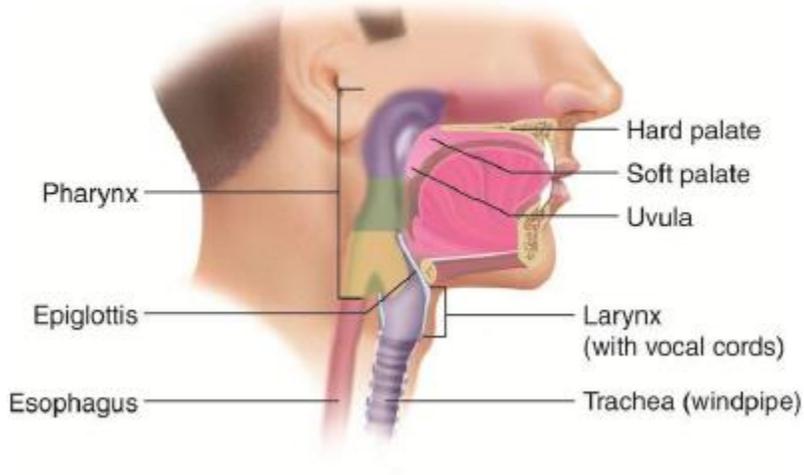


- Basic वर्णः - अ इ उ ऋ लृ ए ऐ ओ औ (9)
- ह्रस्व (short vowels) - अ इ उ ऋ लृ and दीर्घ (long vowels) – आ ई ऊ ऋ ए ऐ ओ औ
- अ ↔ आ, इ ↔ ई, उ ↔ ऊ, ऋ ↔ ऋ these vowels are सवर्णः of each other. सवर्णः literally means 'similar'
- Consonants are broadly divided into five categories (25)

क्	ख्	ग्	घ्	ङ्	कवर्ग
च्	छ्	ज्	झ्	ञ्	चवर्ग
ट्	ठ्	ड्	ढ्	ण्	टवर्ग
त्	थ	द्	ध्	न्	तवर्ग
प्	फ्	ब्	भ्	म्	पवर्ग

- य, र, ल, व, श, ष, स, ह (8)
- So, there are 25+8=33 consonants in total
- The अनुस्वार (ं) and the विसर्ग (ः) are included in the वर्णमाला and are called as स्वराश्रितs because they are always dependent upon the vowels
- Places of pronouncing the स्वरs and व्यञ्जनs are also determined

Place of Articulation	Vowels	Consonants
1. कण्ठ (glottis)	अ, आ	क्, ख, ग, घ, ङ, ह and विसर्ग
2. तालु (soft palate)	इ, ई	च्, छ्, ज्, झ्, ञ्, य्, श्
3. मूर्धा (hard palate)	ऋ, ॠ	ट्, ठ्, ड्, ढ्, ण्, र्, ष्
4. दन्त (dents)	लृ	त्, थ्, द्, ध्, न्, ल्, स्
5. ओष्ठ (labia)	उ, ऊ	प्, फ्, ब्, भ्, म्
6. कण्ठ आणि तालु (velo-palate)	ए, ऐ	
7. कण्ठ आणि ओष्ठ (glottis and labia)	ओ, औ	
8. दन्त आणि ओष्ठ (dents and labia)		व्
9. नासिका (nose)	अनुस्वार (स्वराश्रित)	



- इ, ञ, ण, न्, म् are also called as अनुनासिकs or nasals because while pronouncing these consonants, the nose is used as well. This means that these letters are pronounced with the help of nose and their respective places of articulation