

A8. Obstruents and their classification. The notion of aspiration

Aim: revise plosives, fricatives, affricates, voicing, and aspiration of /p, t, k/.

Activity 1. Aspirated or not?

Word	Target sound	Aspirated? Yes / No	Rule
pin	/p/		
spin	/p/		
top	/t/		
stop	/t/		
key	/k/		
ski	/k/		

Activity 2. Classify obstruents.

Sound	Plosive / Fricative / Affricate	Voiced / Voiceless
/p/		
/z/		
/tʃ/		
/dʒ/		
/ʃ/		
/g/		
/θ/		

Activity 3. Paper-test experiment.

Hold a small paper near your mouth. Say: pin, spin, top, stop, key, ski. Record which words move the paper more strongly and explain why.

Activity 4. Minimal pairs with obstruents.

Pair	Difference	Voicing or place/manner?
sip - zip		
cheap - jeep		
fan - van		
ten - den		
coat - goat		