

ANATOMY OF THE HUMAN LARYNX

Superior View (Glottis)

[Diagram: Vocal Cords Open/Closed]

- **True Vocal Cords:** Phonation source
- **False Vocal Cords:** Ventricular folds
- **Epiglottis:** Cartilage lid
- **Glottis:** Opening between cords
- **Arytenoid Cartilage:** Posterior anchors

Anterior External View

[Diagram: Laryngeal Skeleton]

- **Hyoid Bone:** Support structure
- **Thyroid Cartilage:** Adam's Apple
- **Cricoid Cartilage:** Complete ring
- **Thyrohyoid Membrane:** Connective tissue
- **Tracheal Rings:** Airway support

Functional Component Reference

Structure	Primary Function	Innervation
Cricothyroid Muscle	Tenses vocal cords (pitch increase)	Superior Laryngeal Nerve
Posterior Cricoarytenoid	Abducts vocal cords (opens airway)	Recurrent Laryngeal Nerve
Lateral Cricoarytenoid	Adducts vocal cords (closes for speech)	Recurrent Laryngeal Nerve
Thyroarytenoid	Shortens/Relaxes vocal cords	Recurrent Laryngeal Nerve