



# EMERALD CHORAL ACADEMY

## VOCAL ANATOMY 103: THE LARYNX

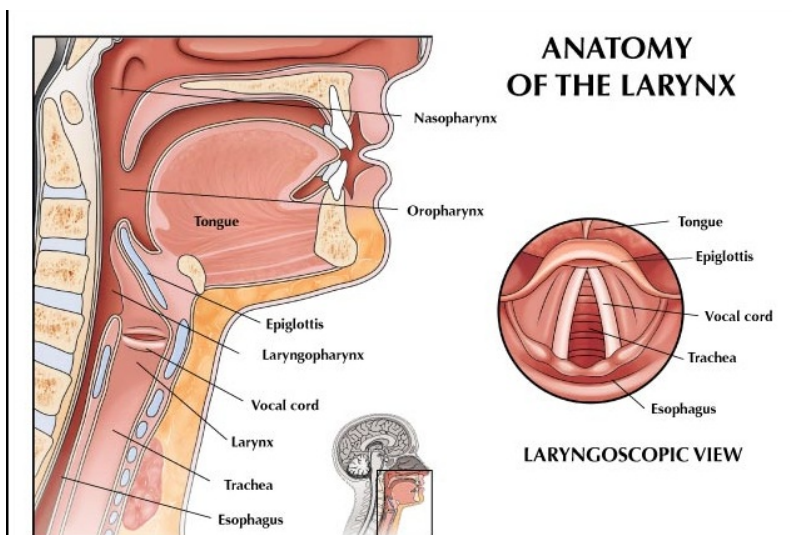
Saturday, September 25, 2021

11:00am

Ryan Bede, M.M.

### LARYNX FACTS

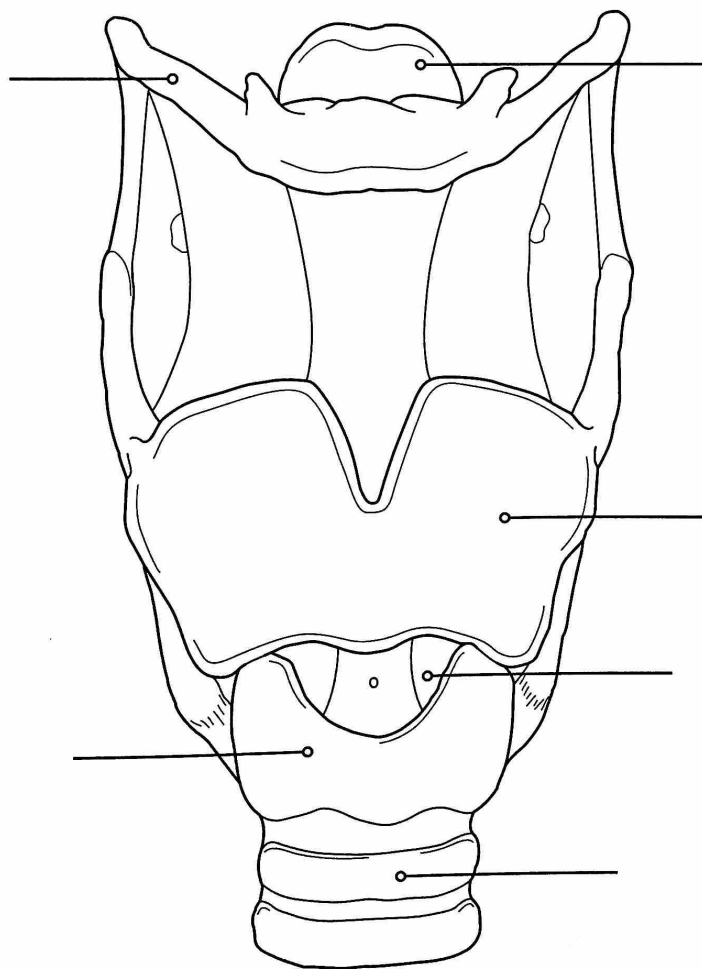
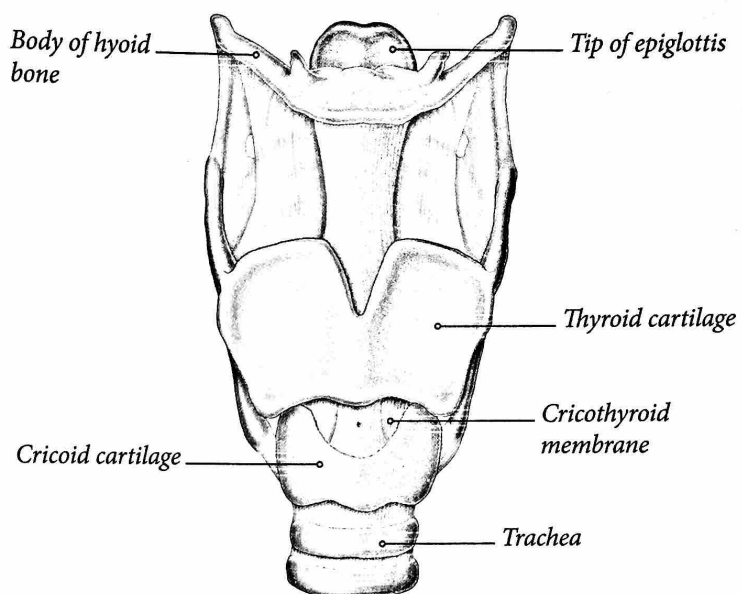
- the larynx, or “voice box” is a triangular structure made of cartilage, muscle, and bone, which is situated above the trachea (windpipe)
- most visible is the thyroid cartilage, or “Adam’s apple”
- two main functions
  - 1) protect the airway and ensure that nothing unwanted goes into lungs
  - 2) produce vocal sounds
- two types of muscles
  - 1) Intrinsic - muscles within the larynx; responsible for controlling the folds
  - 2) Extrinsic - attach above and below; responsible for vertical position



- to breathe in, the vocal folds must abduct (move apart) to open the airways
- to speak/sing, the adductor muscles bring the folds together so they vibrate and resist the air coming from the lungs

# Larynx

The larynx is situated in the neck below and in front of the pharynx. It is the inlet protecting the lungs and contains the vocal cords. In men, part of the larynx is visible as the Adam's apple.



# Muscles of the larynx

The muscles of the larynx act to close the laryngeal inlet while swallowing and move the vocal cords to enable vocalization.

