Name_____________________

Chapter 9, exercise A

A  Look at the positions of the tongue in the English vowels shown in Figure 1.12. It has been suggested (see Sources) that vowels can be described in terms of three measurements: (1) the area of the vocal tract at the point of maximum constriction; (2) the distance of this point from the glottis; and (3) a measure of the degree of lip opening. Which of the first two corresponds to what is traditionally called vowel height for the vowels in heed, hid, head, had?

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Which corresponds to vowel height for the vowels in father, good, food?

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Can these two measurements be used to distinguish front vowels from back vowels?

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