The Larynx – Why is my Voice Different than yours?

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Did you ever wonder why your voice is different than other people around you? This is because the source sound generated by your larynx passeing through the vocal tract that alters the characteristic of the sound based upon the position someone's lips, pharynx, mouth, and tongue are in. Let me first tell you what the larynx is? The larynx is a cartilaginous structure that generates sound and then manipulates it to give it a different frequency and volume (Seikel, Drumright, & King, 2015). Therefore, it is often termed as “Voice Box” or an “Adam’s Apple” which can be mainly observed as a small swelling on the neck of males.

In your paper, you have already discussed the cartilages of the larynx and the process of phonation. I would like to add the variation of pitches. It is possible to hold the vocal folds tightly close enough (by adducting the arytenoid cartilages) to vibrate. The degree of opening is adjusted by the muscles connected to the cartilages of the arytenoids. By moving the thyroid cartilage forth and sideways on the cricoid tissue, vocal fold volume and stress is regulated (whether by squeezing cricothyroid directly or indirectly by adjusting the larynx's longitudinal stance), by controlling the muscle tension in the vocal folds, and by adjusting the arytenoids forth or reverse. This triggers the rise or fall of the pitch generated during phonation (Seikel et al., 2015). The method of modifying an origin sound as it moves via the vocal tract filter produces many distinct vowel and syllable sounds of the languages of the world and also tone, other stress experiences, as well as other kinds of language phonology.

Moreover, the loudness and faintness of sound are decided by the strength of expiration through the lungs (Seikel et al., 2015). Lesser expiration leads to the production of a whisper while the greater expiration gives the sound a characteristic of loudness.

 **References**Seikel, J. A., Drumright, D. G., & King, D. W. (2015). *Anatomy & Physiology for Speech, Language, and Hearing*. Cengage Learning.