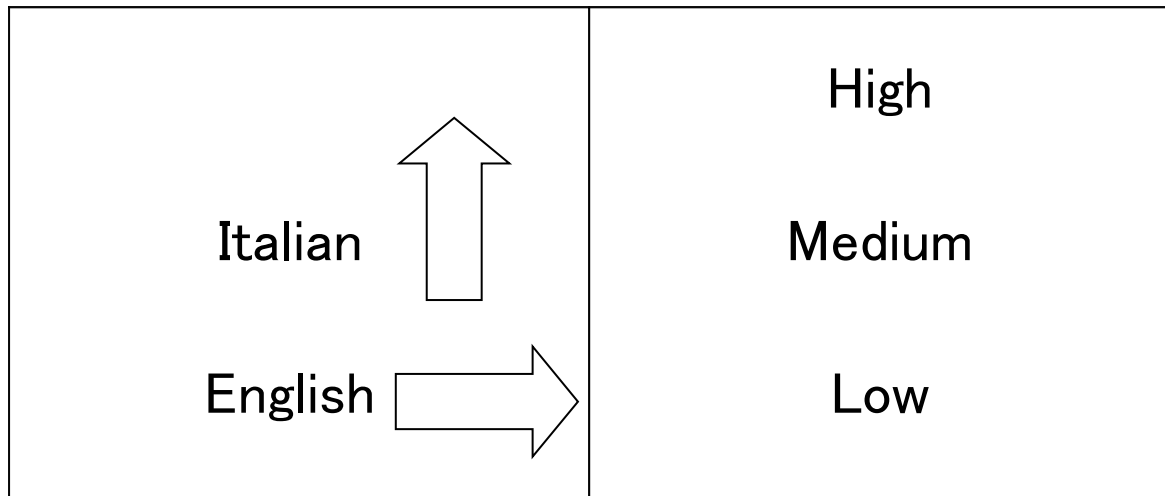


# English Tonality



I do tend to repeat myself on this issue but I believe it to be an important one. I find that in comparison to other languages, English is quite flat and quick in its pronunciation. I have created this map/image as to explain the perceived differences. For example the Italian accent has a medium range and rises at the end. I feel that the English accent stays low throughout sentences and general speech. An example of something that results from this is English people becoming irritated with Americans/Australians as their voices rise suggesting that they are always asking a question. The English tend to only raise their tonality when asking a question. "Do you know what I mean?" (Oasis, 1997, Be Here Now).

Recently I have also noticed other things about the English voice. In other languages people spoke from their noses (nasal sounds), roll R's and flick the tongue for L's. English is mainly spoken from the front of the mouth/teeth. Also the direction of the sound is horizontal away from the mouth, with a shorter sound. I noticed with languages such as Polish and French the sounds move upwards sharply/quickly. When speaking English this sound can be moved sideways/horizontally directly away from your mouth. Some letters such as Th and L require the tongue to move between the teeth when saying Them. However, most of the time the mouth opens only a small amount compared to other languages.

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