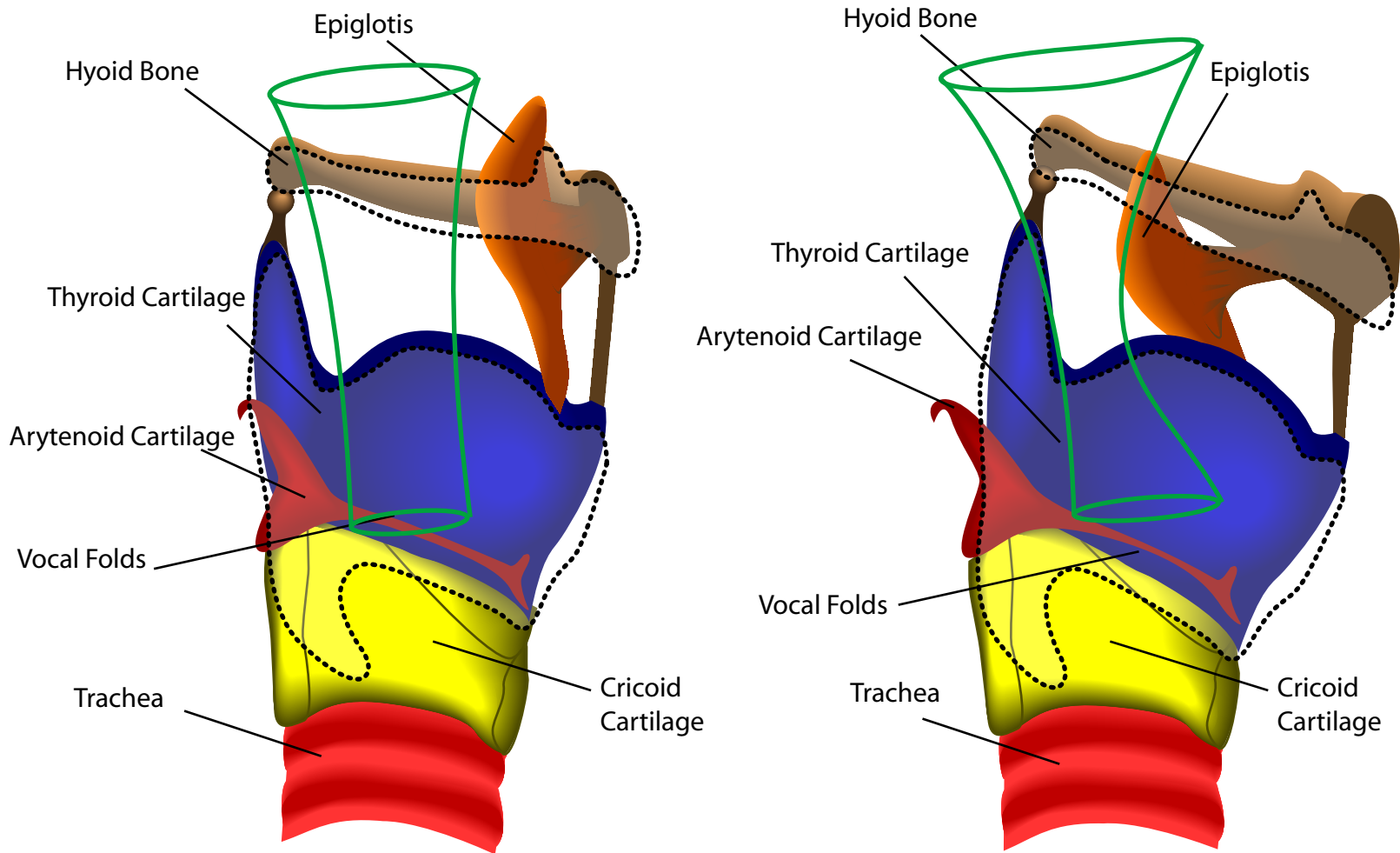


# NARROWING THE EPILARYNX FOR PHARYNGEAL/ TWANG SOUNDS



In general, a sung note becomes more intense by either: 1) increasing lung pressure, 2) increasing vibration at the bottom of the vocal fold, or 3) narrowing the epilarynx, the acoustic tube immediately above the vocal folds. This creates the "pharyngeal" or "twang" sound in singing- the edgy, bright, forward, brassy timbre associated with much of today's musical theatre, pop, R & B, and gospel singing. Narrowing the epilarynx area facilitates phonation by decreasing phonation threshold pressure through impedance matching of the glottal source and vocal tract.