**Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research  University of Djilali Bounaama Department of Foreign Languages First Year Students of English**

**Airstream Mechanism**

Airstream mechanism is a term used in phonetics for a physiological process which provides a source of energy capable of being used in speech sounds’ production. Air is moved inwards or outwards by the movement of these mechanisms producing an ingressive and egressive airflow, respectively.

**Types of Airstream Mechanism**:

**Pulmonic Airstream Mechanism:** The main initiator of air movement is the lungs which underlie the majority of human speech sounds.

**Glottalic Airstream Mechanism**: As the name suggests, it uses the movement of the glotiss.

**Velaric Airstream Mechanism**: as the name suggests, it involves an airflow produced by a movement of the back of the tongue against the velum.