

PHONETICS & PHONOLOGY



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PHONETICS

- ✗ The word “ **Phone**” means sound and “**tics**” means scientific or systematic study of something. So we can say that Phonetics means scientific or systematic study of human speech sounds.
- ✗ Phonetics is general study of all human speech sounds and how they are produced, transmitted and received.

BRANCHES OF PHONETICS

- ✕ The study of phonetics can be divided into three main branches.
 1. Articulatory Phonetics(How sounds are produced?)
 2. Auditory Phonetics(How sounds are received?)
 3. Acoustic Phonetics(How sounds are transmitted?)

ARTICULATORY PHONETICS

It is concerned with the positions and movements of the lips, tongue, and other speech organs in producing speech. It analyses how the various speech sounds are articulated by vocal organs.

AUDITORY PHONETICS

- ✗ Auditory Phonetics is the study of hearing and the perception of speech sounds.

ACOUSTIC PHONETICS

- ✖ This branch of phonetics is concerned with the properties of sound waves.
- ✖ It studies the physical properties of speech sounds as transmitted between the mouth and ear.

PHONOLOGY

- ✗ Phonology is a broader study of major speech sounds and their organization in a particular language.

PHONETICS

- ✗ Phonetics deals with production, transmission and reception of all human speech sounds in general with no particular reference to any one language.

PHONOLOGY

- ✗ Phonology deals with the ways those sounds are organized in a particular language. It is sub-category of phonetics.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PHONETICS & PHONOLOGY
THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PHONETICS & PHONOLOGY IS
THAT OF GENERALITY AND PARTICULARITY.

WHY THE STUDY OF PHONETICS IS IMPORTANT?

- ✖ A knowledge of Phonetics is a must for a learner of the English language. This knowledge enables him/her:
 1. To give a true description of sounds of English and how they are made.
 2. To point out the mistakes in learner's pronunciation and help them learn the correct form.
 3. To differentiate sounds of English from those of the mother tongue.

CLASSIFICATION OF ENGLISH SOUNDS

✕ The English Language sounds are classified into two main streams:

1. Consonants
2. Vowels

Consonants:

- ✕ A Consonant is a sound that is articulated with complete or partial closure of the air stream by constriction of speech organs.
- ✕ There are 24 consonants in English.

CONSONANTS SYMBOL CHART

Plosive	p	b	t	d	k	g			
Fricative	f	v	s	z	θ	ð	ʃ	ʒ	h
Nasal			m	n	ŋ				
Affricates			tʃ	dʒ					
Lateral				l					
Approximant			w	r	j				

PLOSIVES

- ✗ There are six plosive consonants in English. These are the sounds formed by means of a complete closure of the air passage, which is afterwards released suddenly.

These are given as followed:

/p/ /b/ /t/ /d/ /k/ /g/

pen bet tea dress kind good

ASPIRATION

- ✗ Aspiration is a period during which air escapes through vocal cords, making a sound like “h”.
- ✗ There are three plosives in English Phonology which are aspirated when they are pronounced as initial sounds in a word.
- ✗ They are symbolized as:

/p^h/ /t^h/ /k^h/

e.g. Pet /p^het/ Tailor /t^heɪlə/ Cool /k^hu:l/

FRICATIVES

In production of Fricatives, articulators move towards each other to make stricture or obstruction in flow of air but air cannot be stopped completely and it escapes through narrow passage with friction or hissing sound.

Fricatives are 9 in number.

/f/ /v/ /s/ /z/ /θ/ /ð/ /ʃ/ /ʒ/ /h/

Fine very song zeal through these sheet
treasure hay

NASAL

There are three nasal sounds in English. These sounds are pronounced or uttered by escaping the air (partially or completely) through nasal cavity.

These are given as followed:

/m/ /n/ /ŋ/

Miss nine sing

Melancholy Naïve Finger

AFFRICATES

There are two affricate sounds in English.
These are the sounds formed by means of a complete closure of the air passage which is afterwards released slowly with friction.

/tʃ/

/dʒ/

Chair germ

LATERAL

There is only one sound in English. While uttering this sound air escapes along the both sides of the tongue.

/l/

Like, life, silly

APPROXIMANTS/SEMI-VOWELS

There are three semi-vowels. These sounds are phonetically vowels and phonologically consonants. Phonetically means their mechanism of producing the sound is same as vowels because there is no obstruction in flow of air. But phonologically, they give sounds like consonants.

/w/ /r/ /j/

Wine read young