HS 133: Introduction to Phonetics

August 29, 2024

Phonemes and Allophones

Examples from English and Hindi

English		Hindi	
Pull	[p ^h ul]	पल	[pəl]
Spool	[spul]	फल	[pʰəl]
Soup	[sup]		

Complementary and Contrastive Distribution

Contrastive distribution: Minimal pairs/ sets possible

Allophones in contrastive distribution are separate phonemes

Phonemes and allophones

- Basic phonological unit
- Allophones are variations of the phoneme arising due to predictable effects
- One of the allophones, usually most unrestricted one is the representative phoneme

English

Pull [phul]

Spool [spul]

Soup [sup]