

Lecture 1

Hello and welcome to this course on English language communication in this introductory lecture we would be familiarising ourselves with some of the basic concepts of language and communication that would frame our future discussion but before we start discussing those basic things I would like to begin by clarifying what this course is not going to teach you because I think that will help you shape your expectations regarding this course better and would also hopefully provide you with a more enriching learning experience so other first thing that I want to clarify right away it is at this course is not a language learning course so if you don't know the basics of English language if you lack rudimentary English vocabulary if you cannot construct simple sentences in English or if you find it difficult to understand the language as I am using it right now then I am afraid that this particular course is not going to help you very much however having said that I would definitely encourage you to use the online language learning resources which are actually plentifully available and most of them are even free so I would definitely encourage you to use those language learning resources start learning English from scratch and I know that language learning can seem to be a very daunting task at the beginning but I can assure you that if you give this project sufficient time and sufficient amount of concentration then at the end of the day you will realise that it's not a major thing people do pick up languages from scratch right so I am sure you will also be able to do that with English it's not a big deal now coming to the other thing that this course is not about it is not a course that will teach you how to write your CV for job application or how to participate in a group discussion in my previous experience of teaching this course in an offline mode I have often come across students who approach English communication from a rather narrowly utilitarian perspective so that they need to learn English communication in order to improve their job applications or in order to write better statements of purpose because they are going to apply to universities abroad for higher education or because they want to improve their presentation skills for assistantships now do I understand that these are some of the most important ways in which we use English communication in all live today we learn English communication only for these specific set of goals the learning cannot be so narrowly defined so a more holistic approach is in fact required if we want to familiarise ourselves with the nuances of English and to use it as an efficient tool of communication in looking for jobs for making better presentations in our colleges and offices or in writing novels open so our course is going to be located somewhere between being a language learning module that teaches English language from the basics and being a highly specialised course teaching you how to make use of English in a very specific and narrow set of contexts intended to teach you in this course is how to communicate in English effectively and of course the main stress here is on the word effectively because I already would harm while teaching uses course that you have a nice day passing familiarity with English language to be will be covering some of the same ground that you might have covered while learning in school especially in our discussion of a sum of the grammatical aspects of the language will not do so to learn English grammar for the sake of it we will rather learn those things in order to use them more carefully so as to make ourselves more easily and more clearly understood in other words we would learn how to use some of the things that we already know more effectively show the aim of this course therefore is firstly to go beyond a rote learning of grammar and to use the underlying rules that structure the English language to engage in what I would call clutter free exchanges of secondary to have a more advanced set of vocabulary at one's disposal which

allows for a more precise expression of ideas and emotions to use as of grammar as an effective tool box not only to write in speak correctly but also to develop a style of one's own potli to be conscious of the commonly made grammar and punctuation mistakes that comprise the that compromise the clarity of communication and finally to better structure our presentations both written and oral in order to have the maximum impact on the audience or The Reader so in other words Hona lessons including those which provides some of the things that we might already be familiar with will be geared towards learning how to make our communication more effective but before we begin discussing about the wheels of effectively communicating in English it is important to understand some basic techniques that Prem human communication in general awareness introductory lecture we will occupy ourselves with the only important question what is communication and from there we will then move on to the issue of how human communication might have originated and what are some of the features that make human communication a unique device that allows us to be the kind of social animals that we are so let's start with the question of what is communication Oxford Dictionary defines communication as a translation or exchange of information knowledge or ideas now when we think of such transformation or exchange we always or at least we usually think of individual consciously and deliberately performing this act of transmitting information knowledge IB as it had done so for instance when I tell you it is very cold outside or write a noun and send it to you with the form of a letter or text to you as a form of digital communication intentionally sharing this piece of knowledge but for a biologist such intentionality is not always an integral part of communication and here I am talking about communication in general and not specifically about human communication so letters in a situation where you and I are inside house that has Central heating and is therefore quite warm and cosy now this would mean that neither of us when inside the house would have any idea about the kind of temperature that is outside now let's imagine that a step out of the house and you see me shivering from one of the windows so a piece of information is already passed on to you with intentionally communicating to you anything be sure you would know that it is very cold outside and yet when I was shivering I did not intend to pass on this information to you such kind of non International communicational display is rampant win the biological world where the individual and here I am using the word individual in a very loose cells which might mean a human being and animal of fish or even a plant so much non-interventional communicative displayed at a sale is rampant within the biological where to where the individual transmits pieces of information without even being conscious of it let's take the example of the tail feathers of an Indian peacock for instance now it is wonderfully colourful and extravagant and its display communicates to the peahen of the female of the species a sense of attractiveness which influences her choice of of meats so in other words the more colourful and extravagant the tail feathers are of a particular peacock the more it appears to be attractive to AP held at this communication of attractiveness is not a conscious translation a conscious act of communication the kind of tail feathers a peacock has is determined genetically and the very fact that peacocks would have such extravagant and colourful tail feathers which will be integrated by P hence in terms of sexual attractiveness is saying that is determined through evolution so when you talk about communication with their food need to begin by making a distinction between what the psychologist and linked with Michael Thomas hello calls communicative display and communicative signals so defines communication display as an eye quote Pro typically physical characteristics that in some way

affect the behaviour of others such as large horns which data competitors or bright colours which attract means this place where information is transmitted without the voluntary control of the individual read the transmission loss what he refers to as reflexive behaviour which are to use the words of thamasallo invariably Evoke by particular stimuli or emotional states and over which the individual has no voluntary control an example of such reflexive behaviour is my shivering in cold after stepping outside the warm house if you remember it can't read to you looking at me from a window a very specific information about the temperature outside but my shivering was a communicative display over which I did not have any voluntary control which means to repeat I was not sending out any message to you consciously communicative signals in those words communicative Signals and I quote for shoes and produced by individual organisms flexibility and strategic leave for particular social goals adjusted in various ways for particular circumstances two things are important to note which in fact distinguishes communicative signals from communicative displays the first thing is the notion of intentionality unlike communicative this please are generated with an intention and we can be strategy treated by individuals was to convey certain specific kinds of information or Idea on knowledge this introduces and ethical angles to the use of communicative signals because the generation of communicative signals are largely in our control and weak and strategic Li manipulate them want to effective communication is to remain ethical about these strategic manifestations this is because sending out information for disseminating knowledge or spreading any particular kind of emotional content has any of these things they have their own inevitable repercussions when this transmission happen through communicative display one doesn't have control over them and can have little hold over the repercussions that ensure however since communicative signals are intentionally generated we need to be more careful about the possible that they might have we also need to be more ethically conscious in this case because the generation of communicative signals always happen within a social context what do I mean by that in contrast let's a communicative displays are involuntary expressions which happened irrespective of whether for instance I am within a social context or not irrespective of whether for instance if someone is there to interpret the displays and understand them as communicative messages in other words I would shiver in the cold respective of whether you are looking at me from a window or not however as Thomas Alva points out communicate is signals are only generated to achieve particular social goals in other words if I feel the cold outside and return to tell you that it is very cold then I generate that piece of communicative signal to give you an information that serves a very specific social purpose and what is a social purpose well that message would caution about venturing outside without proper Wan clothing so and the basis of what thamasallo describe the communicative is a desire for social cooperation I communicate with you through intentionally transmitting certain pieces of information on knowledge and in return I expect that you would also help me similarly through your communication signals Indian thamasallo describes this Cooperative aspect as the key feature of human communication and suggest that communicate is singles form part of an entire network of cooperation that makes humans who they are within the animal kingdom and since Thomas I u is making a very powerful argument here let me read out into to the relevant section to you from his text title Origins of human communication it turns out that even cooperation is unique in the animal kingdom in many ways both structurally and motivation Ali Specific Relief human corporation is structured by what some modern philosophers of action call shared intentionality or V

intentionality in general shared intentionality is what is necessary for engaging in uniquely human forms of collaborative activities in which a plural subject we is involved joined goals joint intentions mutual knowledge shared believes in the context of various Cooperative Motors Cooperative communication is one instance Albert a special assistance of uniquely human Cooperative activity relying on shared intentionality communication or more specifically human communicative signalling is therefore at the most fundamental level a Cooperative activity a desire to help other helped by them communication can therefore never be a purely egocentric activity because it is fundamentally directed at the plural subject we and its efforts to achieve join goals thus remembering ethical baseline of social population I think is very important if you want to learn anything about effective communication because at the end of the day communication is truly effective only when it performs the task of strengthening Cooperative social network within which we are situated now do we have phone how communication can happen both through communicative displays and communicative signals in this course we will only focus on the latter can we need to know that coming signals can be of different types of gestures for instance can be a very powerful communicator signals imagine you are standing in a narrow passage with one of your friend and she points her index finger to the space behind you now that pointing is a communicative signal which would make you turn your head around and probably find that someone is approaching you from down the passageway and as a response you might move away to the side to make way for that person so that person can pass so as you can see this gesture is a true act of communicative signalling which is both intense and which AIMS at social Cooperation Of The most significant form of human communication is of course what we call human language and when we discussed effective communication in this course we will be discussing how to use language or more specifically one language which is English but then what is the language can we turn to the Oxford English dictionary which defines language as an eye quote the system of spoken or written communication used by a particular country people community at large typically consisting of words used within a regular grammatical and syntactic structure again two things are important to note here that the fact that there are a variety of languages that is to say different people different communities different countries they use different languages and in fact there are more than 6000 recorded varieties of human language of which English is one prominent language but as we shall see in spite of this enormous variety might have a common Faculty of language or a generalized language sense a which enables us to use words with regular grammatical in centre Universal Faculty of language in a moment into the definition of language that I quoted from Oxford English dictionary definition also suggested that language is a system of communication that uses spoken or written words have technically we can expand the meaning of the term language even further and let's say we can incorporate gestures into it and in this extended sense we speak of things like the sign language for instance that we often see a being used by people with hearing impairment there can be other sorts of language as well where you have numbers in symbols instead of words and here I am thinking of a programming languages like C++ for instance of Java or Python but for the purpose of this course we would understand the term language in its narrow sense as a means of communication for the use of words within regular grammatical and syntactic structure now I do in this course we will primarily focus on how to increase the effectiveness of our users knowledge can a language at the point of its origin is a verbal thing and indeed has some degree of affinity with the vocal sounds used by various

mammals and birds to communicate between themselves so latest focus for a while on the Origins of human language and its connection with the communicator views of vocal sounds in animal world which would also clarify something about the general Faculty of language or the language that I was talking about as a Li person we see forms of vocalise communication all around us in the animal world we hear Birds chirping dogs barking Cricket Street releasing easing aquatic animals like wheels produce faili laborate forms of vocalise Communications which are referred to instantly as songs so you have wheels singing the question is how do we place our spoken communication that is human language within this larger picture of communication through sounds is human language a continuation of these various forms of vocalisation that are already available within the animal kingdom and are used by animals who predate humans in terms of evolution is human language a very unique thing which has very little connection with the other forms of vocalise communication that we witness in the animal world 20 questions which are ultimately tied up with defining the Origins and the basic nature of human language have been answered variously by different languages in this lecture I would be looking at this question from a point of view that is associated with the celebrated linguist no I am from skin how it is important to note that do the term skin view about the origin is a basic nature of human language is today one of the dominant views at least with the field of linguistics it's the only view this is a very hotly debated topic and Scholars are yet to arrive at a consensus view others for instance Michael Thomas hello the language that I referred to earlier his views about the origin and the nature of human language is very different from the views held by skip and do I would not be able to deal with those arguments in the Limited duration of this lecture I would definitely encourage you to look at some of his books like constructing a language or Origins of human communication to which I referred to earlier if you feel interested to know more about his position on this articular issue now coming back to the skin view so in 2002 scheme with two other Harvard University academicians MD hauser and WT fetch root a seminal paper titled the faculty of language what is it who has it and how did it evolve in this paper from uski and his colleagues are you the ability to produce human language is constituted of three different components which come together to form what they referred to as the faculty of language in the broad sense or if I'll be in short the first two components of flp are described by them as sensorimotor system and conceptual intensive system but it is a third component which according to them is the most unique one this component is referred to in the paper as if in law faculty of language in the narrow sense now please do not get confused if I b and f l n r not two different faculties of language that human being processes rather if n is a constituent part of flb that needs to be very clear your mind I will later come to a detailed discussion of this fln which a dimension is a most unique path of a file bit but before I do that I will need to clarify the meaning of the two other components so the first component which is the sensory motor system what is it it is basically all the physiological and neurological components of our body that is in the articulation and perception of speech sounds and this would include things like our vocal tracks our auditory system think that the component called conceptual International system on the other hand deal with our ability to form Idea or conceptualize certain information or theorize certain kinds of knowledge we know what the first two components of flp button latest come to FL n now what is a Felon well to use a language of the people that we are referring to hear FL and is a computational system that generate internal representations and maps them into the sensory motor interface by the phonological system and into the conceptual

internal interface by the semantic system OK what does this mean latest first line divides this definition into smaller sections which we can then focus on separately to arrive at a more comprehensive understanding of what is being said here the most important argument in this definition that I just quoted is of course the fact that FL is a computational system and we will discuss what the authors mean by a FL being a computational system what kind of computation it does is secreted Ram but its first focus is on another important section of this definition so so these authors are saying that if fail in which is the computational system and interface with the two other components of the afl be the sensory motor and the conceptual intention in other words fln connect the other two components to produce what we recognise as human language so what are these two poles that the fln is actually connecting the first is the phonological system or the system of speech sounds that are associated with the sensorimotor component and the second is a semantic system or the system of meaning making S is associated with the conceptual intentional component according to chomsky hauser and ability of the fln to connect the sensory motor with the conceptual intentional is what makes it the crucial element that on the lines of faculty which allows us to produce what is recognised as human language so the definition of fln is then that it is a computational system which connects the meaning making process of the mind with our physiological ability to produce and recognise speech sounds now in the paper chomsky and others argue that how to the three components that constitutes flb can be traced back to other species within the animal world what are these two things well they are the sensory motor component and the conceptual intentional component and their people claim that a significant amount of research into the perception as well as production of speech sounds among animals have shown that the sensory motor aspect of the flb is not unique to humans thus for instance many species 2 4 are remarkable ability to distinguish between human speech sounds or four names and are even able to distinguish between sentence is spoken in two different languages based on their rhythmic peculiarities this proves that our ability to distinguish and understand speech sounds is with other species in the animal world in terms of sound production we find that we share trees within on human world as many of us might have observed birds and non-human primates like chimpanzees Gorilla Glass or Wrong turn all have functional vocal tracks that are used for producing communicated sound which are recognised as such which are recognised as communication sounds by at least the members of their own species are very good example of this is the alarm call of the velvet cookies now monkeys native to the eastern and southern part of sub-saharan Africa and they have developed a very remarkable and elaborate system of alarm calls that question the community against specific predators like evils leopards snakes so what is interesting is that the profile of vocalisation that is to see the profile of the sound of a wire with monkeys alarm call changes according to the Predator alarm call for A Leopard that is generated by velvet monkey would be very different from the sound from the alarm called that that monkey generally when it sees let's see a Hawk or a snake and the other with monkeys in the vicinity to recognise this difference in the sound profile of the alarm called and they would act accordingly depending on which Predator is being indicated through that alarm call the people in the faculty of Language also goes on to suggest that even the conceptual intentional system of the afl be just like the sensorimotor system is shared between humans and various other non human species the paper argues that Venus animals possess an impressive variety of abstract concepts which include information about how to use tools how to recognise and distinguish between geometric

relationships between 1 and 50 others how to recognise food how to recognise number 17 but the people then goes on to say something very interesting which I would like to quote directly from that text surprisingly however there is a mismatch between the conceptual capacities of animals and the communicative content of their local and visual signals in other words the conceptual intentional system and the sensory motor system do both present in various animal species other than humans are not mapped onto each other very well language faculty is remarkable primarily because it allows this mapping to happen effectively and the reason we can co-ordinate our conceptual intensity and our sensorimotor systems so effectively is the computational system that from ski and his colleagues referred to as f l n so as you can see here the answer to how human language myself originated or how did it Evolve within the larger context of vocalise communication in animal world is a not a very simple one the faculty of human language in its broad sense has components that weekly share with other species in the animal world shows how r language ability is connected with the cause of various other animals it reaches a very clear line of evolution but the same time human language is special because of the computational system or the NFL and that it incorporates which is according to scan is colleagues unique in the animal world but here again we need to be careful whenever we say something is unique to us humans because it holiday on the study of animal is still up rapidly evolving field and in the light of new information it might bring to us in the future years we might have to revisit such claims of uniqueness but leaving this debate about uniqueness aside the more fundamental question here is is what is it that the fln computes what is FL and return back to that question so well as mentioned before a Felon is primarily of computational system which might have different aspects but the paper planes that at the very minimum fln has the capacity of recursion recursion is at the basis of what the f l n computer or how the afl in computer right so what is recursion simply put the word recursion is associated with the root word Rekha and this Root Word Rekha peacefully means to repeat it happens when you embed or enfold something within something else which has the same nature and this is what results in the recurrence of the repetition now I know this might sound slightly confused but it is very easily explained by way of an example sentence like this Rahul knows it now what does Rahul know to answer this week and have another sentence Meena is happy now notice that we can infold or embed this second sentence within the first one to be get something like Rahul knows that Mina is happy so here we have an example of recursion when a sentence is embedded within another sentence and we can go on with this recursion by embedding more and more sentences within the parents structure so that we have something like those Roshan toys where there is a doll which is contained within another doll which is contained within another doll which is contained within another doll and so on and so forth by applying this principle of recursion we can have sentences like long sentences like Rahul knows that Meena thinks that social regrets that was him was not included in the team now do I have used a sentence with in a sentence with in a sentence as an example of recursion and also have examples where molar constituent parts are embedded one within the other for instance we can have precautions of now faces this example for instance the apples in the fridge now please but if you look carefully you will find another noun phrase already embedded within it which is the fridge now or previous example of recursion we can go on stretching this example infinite leave so we can say things like the apples in the fridge in the room in the house this whole thing is a noun phrase when you look carefully there is another noun phrase with the phrase that has another noun phrase that has

another noun phrase and just like that Russian dolls structure factors which we can generate because of FL and therefore the fundamental essence of any human language and allowances very importantly and infinite amount of information or data to be coded within a sentence that is to say because of this property of recursion we can actually carry on with our sentences infinite do we might have to stop because we have limited memory power or because the capacity of all lungs are limited the system of recursion the computational system of fln does not put any such restrictions so if you are only guided by the computational system and we are not bound by such other restrictions like memory for instance or breath we can actually go on and on and go on go on and it is this capacity to express an infinite series of information that makes human language such an effective tool of communication and like see the language of our closest non-human relatives with the animal world whose sensorimotor system can only very costly articulate the rich variety of ideas that their conceptual International system might be able to generate moving beyond the houses chomsky and Fitch paper I would like to point out some more interesting features that make human language very special and effective kind of communicative signalling system and again I would hesitate to call any of these features are absolutely unique to human language given as I see the Limited amount of knowledge that we have about animal behaviour but from what we know till now these features have a lot of parallel in the animal world in the kind of Communications that the use most of the features that I am going to discuss here in fact all of them are products of the study of an American linguist called Charles Francis Hockett identified around 13 crucial elements that number 15 ring throughout his carrier to model s13 crucial elements that he said underline the basic design of human language in its spoken formed and he referred to them as design features of human language the first such special feature that I would want to draw your attention to is what is referred to as double articulation or quality of patterning or simply as quality what does this mean it means the ability to use various combinations of a limited number of meaningless elements to produce a large number of meaningful elements now how does this principle operate within human language will let's try and think how many words do we know in in language that we are thoroughly familiar with a letter English how many words of English language do you know a probably the answer would be in thousands right path if I ask you how many distinct speech sounds for kids of English language can you articulate or distinguish between then the answer to that will be very different in fact it would not be more than hundred even if you are an expert in phonetics whose life work has been to identify and distinguish speech sounds right now this very fact that we can combine such a limited number of meaningless speech sounds to produce such a wide array of meaningful the validity of English language and the same would hold true for any human language let me explain this with an example take forces the word cap it consists of 34 mins or free distinct speech sounds right it is consisted of the car sound the sound and the person and so if V is write the word fanatically then it would look something like this and as you can see here that are phonetic transcription looks different from how we usually right these words because of phonetic transcription is a purely guided by the speech sounds and nothing else it so the sound or a or in themselves did not mean anything right I mean and mean something are combined together to form specific words and just like in a game of table where you can organise vs individual meaning list letters to produce different combinations of meaningful words here to you can combine Limited numbers of meaningless four names in different combinations to create different meaningful words so for instance we can use the same

set of four names and rearrange them and we will have a completely different word with different meanings. And then put a and then put on the same set of four names used in the word cap will now give us the very different word we can even add an extra phone 'm here and that will also give us a new word so for instance if you add the phone 'm at the end of the word back we get the word fact which is different words from the word back if we replace the following for instance a let's see if you're please the phone with the phone name then the word changes from cap to cat and this again we can rearrange this last word rearrange the four names and we will get another new word act to which we can add the phone 'p at the beginning and we will get the new word pact and if instead of 'p we repeat the phone 'm at the beginning we would get a new word so you already we have created a fair number of meaningful words by combining a limited number of meaningless phonemes and if you think of a set of around 40 phonemes per language and each language will have a different set of phone in this is because the human ability to produce speech sounds might be more than 50 and they are usually more than 50 part within a language to different speech sounds would be registered as meaningful if that is a very crucial question and I would briefly like to comment on this for instance take the two very different speech sounds and now in languages like Bangla for instance or in a language like Hindi for instance and are two different phone means that is their difference is recognised as meaningful right for this is the Hindi word of the Bangla Word cut is very different from the Bangla Word cut in meaning right but in English do I can very well imagine and individual able to produce these two different speech sounds the language itself does not recognise this difference as meaningful difference so in English they would not be considered as two distinct phonemes right anyways coming that our earlier discussed in a language of se around 44 names and different languages have different number of phonemes so 44 names at an average blessed with that small a number of phonemes we can produce so many words we can combine them and the amount of meaningful word that we can produce how to adjust 44 names is enormous and this capacity of duality is not observed in the communication of any other animals that we know about or we have studied special feature underlying human language is what is called displacement this refers to our ability to talk about things and even that are not happening in the present time or the present space within which we are located for instance you can very well imagine yourself having a conversation with a friend about a wedding party that you might have attended a week back and you can discuss about how good the phone was there and how wonderful the decoration was how beautifully the bride and groom attire things are present in the year and now within which the conversation is happening between you and your friend and yet you find it unusual or difficult to discuss these things which are not in the present time and in the present space within which the two of you are located right similarly it is perfectly plausible to imagine you discussing future events with your friends which are again not part of the here and now you might forces discuss travel plans you mine discuss the kind of course is that you would take up after graduation and such ability to communicate about things which are not part of the Here and Now or again you need to human communications with I will mention litre want a very interesting exception with an animal world but before we discuss that exception let me tell you of another special feature of human language which is productivity so this ability to discuss things on a great things which are not present in the here and now that is the the design feature called displacement now we move on to the third design feature which I will be referring after Hawk it as productivity now productivity

is the ability to use language to say anything that we Desire including things that we might never have saved or headphone for instance I can say something to you like I have never danced with the 6 feet tall chimpanzee in a nightclub of Port Morris be now I can be sure that this is a sentence that I've never seen before not only because I have actually never done that thing that is mentioned sentence but also because I never knew before preparing for this lecture that there exists a place called port moresby I found out that please very recently when I was trying to search the internet to know what is the capital city of other island Nation Papua New Guinea so now you know that port moresby is the capital of Papua New Guinea but I am also pretty sure that you have you had not heard this sentence before I had it a minute back and thanks to the productivity of human language I could speak those words and you could perfectly comprehend them without none of us having ever heard that or ever spoken that before now or other reason why I have distance from creating these features to be unique to humans is because every once in a while we encounter rare exceptions within the animal world where we see one or the other of these design features that I just mention in present as part of the communication of some species one such rare exception for instance is provided by the waggle dance that honey bees used to communicate a sources of honey to other members of their eyes does a winner Honey Bee scout finds a source of honey it therefore provides us with a simple example of displacement that we encountered while discussing the scenario where you and your friend were discussing about a wedding that you had attended a week back but fascinating as such instances of parallels between human and non-human communication might be there is no denying the fact that human communication as a whole is wonderfully unique and it is unmatched in its sophistication in its ability to transmit information knowledge ideas and emotions in this lecture I tried providing you with the snapshot of some of the basic features that make the language that even I speak 16 special from the next lecture onwards will try to seed how we can make even more effective our use of this wonderful communication tool that each of us possess thank you

Lecture 2

Dear friends welcome back to this lecture series on English language communication as you remember in a previous lecture we had familiarise ourselves with a few definitions as well as made a few distinct since we should allow us to speak about effective communication in a more informed way we started by pointing out that communication which is basically a transmission of Ideal information and knowledge can happen both voluntarily as well as involuntary is a second case that is in the case of involuntary transmission transformation happens to what we call communicative display and in the first case that is in the case of voluntary communication transmission happen through communicative single language in a narrow sense of being a system of spoken or written words and line by grammatical and syntactical structure is a form of communicative signalling and as we saw we humans have a unique capacity to produce language very complex language this is because we possess the ability to form conceptual ideas which we can then effectively articulate and every hand for organs like our voice box and our auditory mechanism and this weekend to thanks to the unique computer Chanel system that we have in our mind and it is this unique computational systems that linguists like chomsky forest refers to as the faculty of language narrow on F in inshot today we will see that apart from these Allow us to produce and comprehend elaborate language there are certain external technological innovations to which have a profound impact on how we communicate and how we use R language give an example here when I was young mobile telephones have just started becoming a part of our lives and I remember how sending and receiving SMS became a new mood of communicating this short messaging service required us to transform the traditional ways in which we spent hours or use punctuation in in radically new forms actually it and I still recall how some of our elders were deeply concerned about how it made us proud the rules of conventional grammar and orthography so they feared that that this use of SMS would permanently corrupt our language use get SMS was not the first technological innovation that changed the way in which we use language in such changes in language has accompanied all major changes in the medium of communication that has happened during the course of human history Let Us Sing The example of calligraphy which in the nineteenth century was as major technological innovation in the field of communication as mobile phone has been in the and each I don't know how many of you are familiar with this thing called The Telegraph I don't know how many of you have personally received any telegraphic message probably not minutes but he was 50 years back it was a pretty common thing in India people would communicate the most important of news like the birth of a child for the demise of a family member to the distant relatives and friends through telegrams which were more efficient way of conveying messages over a long distance of cost more elaborate letters would follow those telegrams but the telegrams were the first message that was sent out to people living in a long distance in the days when telephone was still not widely used these telegrams were in fact not only the most efficient but also the fastest way of sending messages out this particular mode of communication reduced the message into a coded form of dots and dashes known as a morse code and transmitted through electrical wires now transmitting messages over long distance by coding them in the form of signal has been actually a very long practices in earlier times would use Beacon signal a for lighted the girls were used to convey simple messages over a long

distance in certain places of Africa for instance drum sounds were used in a Highly Effective manner to communicate long distance messages but what we understand as electric based calligraphy only developed the second quarter of the nineteenth century it was first put to use in England in 1837 but its potential it is were truly developed in America where a person called Samuel Morse simplify the technical process involved and also invented the code which soon became the International standard in sending out telegrams in India electric Telegraph came in 1850 when communication wires will lead between a place called Alipur in Kolkata and put Town Hall Diamond Harbour around 40 kilometres away the degree of important that the colonial masters of India associated with this new medium of communication can be easily be judged by a letter that the governor-general Lord Dalhousie route to the court of directors of the East India Company notwithstanding the continued pressure of Finance I regard this matter of electric Telegraph as of such infinite Movement in India that I recommend the sanction of government to whatever some may be necessary for conducting the experiments on a scale sufficiently large to enable those charged with that to carry on their labours with Graffiti and the fullest efficiency the reason why so much importance was ascribed to electrical telegrafi was because for the first time in human history it really made communication independent of Logon what do you mean by let us try to think of the ways in which we can send the message from one place to another now in its purest form we can increase the spatial range of our communication simply by raising our voice if you are situated on the opposite end of a big crowded room for instance I can probably convey message to you by the routing it allowed right but this does not take us very far because if you are further Re let's see if you are situated in another City shouting won't help me very much right now 200 years back I could have communicated to you situated in a different city by writing a letter to you and this letter would then be conveyed to you in whatever mode of Intercity transport that was then available with was probably a horse-drawn carriage or something like that and then when the technology improved our mode of locomotion when we got Railways for instance letters started being delivered faster because now of course my message could reach you at the speed in which the Railways traveled so it was a definite improvement from my letters reaching to you in horse characters or if I was writing to your from a very great distance it would travel at the speed of a steamship foreign thus 200 years back if you are situated in London and I were to write to your letter from Calcutta it would take a minimum of six months to reach on ship think however improved when the Suez Canal was opened up but even then it would take not less than a few weeks before you could read my letter the speed of transport has in the increased immensely since those days and today Delhi to London flight takes less than 9 hours but how long does it take to convey a message for the same amount of space over same amount of space in the form of list and email for a phone call it is only a minuscule fraction of the time taken by the fastest of aeroplane to travel the distance right this is because the speed of locomotion today and the speed in which communication can travel they are no longer the same they are no longer connected and this disconnect first happened in a significant wave with the invention of electric Telegraph in the 19th Century so just like today when a phone call or an email is able to reach much faster than the fastest aircraft back then telegraphic message could could reach your long distance friend or your long distance relay 12V much faster than a steam profile train for shift work but for the purpose of this course what is more important to know what is how this revolution in the medium of communication affected the way we use language in order to understand this we will first need

to understand the Economics of calligraphy now unlike a tree and arrow shape which can carry a huge number of letters together a single telegraph line can transmit one message at the time this means that when you are sending a letter a ship or an aeroplane up by wheat in other words the more heavy your letter is the more you pay if it is just one page missing the money required to send it would be less but if it's the multipage outpouring of your heart and soul to your friend that of course it would be more and it is cost you more I remember how in the good old days of letter writing people would try their best to reduce the size of the handwriting and fit as many words in a page or a postal card as possible because the main concern there was to reduce the number of pages rather than restricting the number of words in contrast in the case of a telegram for economics revolves around time rather than wheat how many words and letters were there in your message determine the amount of time required coded and transmitted and this in turn determined the cost that you had to pay in order to send that message this Peculiar Economics of telegraph as a medium of communication resulted in people trying to reduce their sentences as much as possible and using rather forwards or even shortening long words whenever possible as David of elder in his study title The Telegraph in America notes and I quote from the beginning of commercial telegraph operators dropped words of low information content and abbreviated long words a few days after the first Washington to Baltimore telegraph line open for business in meeting 44 Samuel Morse at Washington directed his colleague Alfred wale at Baltimore to convince your language more leave out the whenever you can and to send only the beginning of a long Commonwealth this extreme on inflation of sentences that calligraphy introduced in mid 19th century had a profound impact on the way American literature was written this becomes evident if we turn to the writings of one of the foremost American novelists of the early 20th century Ernest Hemingway hemingways colleague who work with him for the newspaper Toronto star remember how excited he was about the new writing style that calligraphy had brought about the recall how Hemingway came in one night inside look at this cable no fat adjectives and adverbs nothing but Blood and Bone and muscle it's great it's a new language Hemingway while producing his novels and short stories slide shaping his prose after this telegraphic style and align it with what he identified as a new language and which he thought was most suitable for his contemporary period let us look at an example of hemingways prose here because that give us a more concrete idea about what we are talking in terms of a new language and used it to this is opening paragraph from hemingways famous short story a clean well lighted place it was very late and everyone had left the cafe except an old man who sat in the shadow the leaves of the tree made against the electric light in the daytime the street was the but at night the dust settle the dust and the old man like to sit here because he was deaf and now at night it was quite and he felt the difference the two wheelers inside the cafe new the old man was a little drunk and while he was a good client then you that if he became too drunk he would leave without paying so they kept watch on him even a casual reading this passage should convince you that the language being used here is V to the level of bare minimum with no added frills the first thing that comes to a notice here is probably the vocabulary used by Hemingway you set of words employees in this passage are all very simple everyday words in which school has only been probably learning English for a few years would have no problem in understanding this passage it is the words employed in this message lack of long and difficult sounding exotic words give this passage a wonderful degree of lucidity and likeness which is in fact the Hallmark of hemingways pros the next thing that we

know this is how the passage is almost completely built with nouns and verbs adjectives and adverbs are almost absolutely absent as you will see in a letter lectures nouns and verbs are the most fundamental building blocks of a language and adverbs and adjectives are in fact of an introduced as added decorations to create a more flowers style that's when your first try and affect a motor pump style by rewriting tool and phrases like there is an old man very writing it as there is an old bordering Man right or we tend to Spice up Simple sentences like he was running across the street by adding adverb like history or purposefully after the verb but in the telegraph inspired style of Hemingway we find the author doing every with all such flag and giving the reader a new language which he described as nothing but blood and bones and muscles the third thing to note is about the telegraphic style of Hemingway is the brevity of sentences now looking at the paragraph that I have just quoted you might say that none of the sentences are actually very short but if you look carefully you will see that all of these long sentences are basically constructed of extremely short self contained units that are glued together with sample conjunctions like but or and indeed you can separate into short sentences these self-contained unit by simply replacing the conjunction with full stop and that will not affect the overall style in any major way let us take this sentence from the quotation in the data and the street was dusty but at night the dust settled the dust and the old man like to sit late because he was there and now at night it was quiet and he felt the difference it's apparently a fairly long sentence in fact there are 40 words in it but notice how it is actually a conglomeration of the unit which can be easily broken up so if we simply replace the conjunctions part and and here with full stops you will get a cluster of very short sentences and it will read something like this in the data in the street was the city at night the dust settled that are the old man like to sit late because he was deaf now at night it was quite if it the difference understand house strikingly new this language of Hemingway was which is it under the influence of the new communication medium of Telegraph I will please here before you and the piece of writing from the free telegraphic error this is from a piece called life of Mr Richard Savage written by Samuel Johnson and the publication date here is 1744 Johnson who is more popularly known as doctor Johnson was a major english prose style of the 18th century in Johnson's writing style was so unique and celebrated during his day and age that it gave birth to the word johnsonese which refers to an elaborate literary style in English that is characterized by the use of a number of long words of Latin origin and and extravagant physiology example of his writing style does his phone contributed nothing to the elevation of his poverty it was such as very few could have supported with equal patients but to which it must likewise be confessed that few would have been exposed to receive punctually 50 pounds a year a salary with 2 by no means equal to the demands of vanity and luxury pound sufficient to support families above want and was undoubtedly more than the necessities of life require as you can see here there is no attempt by the author to cut the writing style to the bare minimum rather the main Thrust is to create a writing style which needs to be savoured slowly in order to be properly understood clearly a very different economy is operating here economy of writing is in Operation here than the one which solve in Hemingway to begin with this use of language that we see in Dr Johnson is much more elaborate and the vocabulary is much more latinate also the sentence structure is genuinely long and convoluted that is to say it is not composed of very short self-contained units which are glued together by conjunctions in Johnson style the elements of the sentence are indeed so thoroughly involved that you cannot simply replace any single word for a group of words for that

matter with full stops and arrive at shorter sentences does do the centre that have quoted is an incredibly 78 words long one we are forced to take all of it in together and make sense of it as a whole I find the way in which the 20th century literary critic William S. Suttles describes the writing style of Johnson to be exceptionally apt talking about Johnson Suttles states that he writes like a man and a Court Who are marked as a sort linked in One Direction hitting to right and left as he goes hammers three times at the end then turns at right angle or back again and repeats this to and fro movement marked by repetition and reinforcement is very Unlike the unidirectional movement of Hemingway's prose which resembles the piece of a high speed train rather than the pace of a man walking at a leisurely pace now what does this comparison show us the first thing that it shows is obviously what I've been trying to half at for some time now what is the change in technology that affects the medium of communication changes the way in which we use language Dr Johnson's prose style was what it was to a large extent because of the medium of communication available during that period by the time Hemingway was composed his prose the error of leisurely letter writing was on the wane and a new mode of communication demanded a crisp and more economic prose style of course the greatest effect of this change was felt in the journalistic prose used in newspapers because at the end of the day telegraphic communications were mostly been used by newspaper offices to receive and send messages about important developments and events but as we have seen the influence of calligraphy a new medium of communication was far more widely spread and even influence the way in which literature was produced the comparison between Dr Johnson and Hemingway also shows another very important thing which is that what is considered to be good and well crafted use of language changes from time to time Johnson and Hemingway were regarded as Master Pro stylists of their time we were both writing the same language English and yet as we have seen David dramatically opposite in the ways in which approached this language and framed is language in their communication now I am sure that most of you are must have found the language of Hemingway much more accessible than the language of Dr Johnson and this is not really surprised because the kind of technological forces and economy of communication that was in operation during Hemingway's period have only accelerated The Telegraph which for people to shorten the words in sentences to the minimum finds a lot of resonance today when a popular communication app like Twitter asks us to Limit our messages between two characters if Dr Johnson was ever to take to Twitter and tweet the same sentence that I have just quoted it would require him around 3 to do that and it will be absolutely infeasible to the point is that in this course we do not speak of how to write good English that is because what constitutes a good English communication in terms of style has really very from time to time what we speak of is how to communicate in English effectively and what is effective communication is actually context-specific Johnson language is simply not effective as communication today because most of us are not used to writing for processing such long and involved sentences filled with letter meet expressions that doesn't necessarily make it a bad use of English language in a simple Google search I will show you that there is a huge amount of scholarly writing available which prove to The Reader how Dr Johnson was other for stylist this course when I suggest to you ways of improving your communication style keep in mind that we are talking in a context specific we are concerned with how to communicate effectively today rather than extracting some eternal evalon rule of good English usage talking about technology and how it affects communication I think all of us will admit that the greatest

technological innovation which change the shape of communication for ever was the invention of writing and since much of this course will focus on how to write well let's well a bit on the story of the written word not to begin with we need to remember that we are evolutionarily hardwired to speak we have specialised organs like our vocal cords and our ears to speak and to listen to others speaking writing on the other hand is not something for which we are evolutionarily hardwired in fact it is entirely and artificially cultivated practice and for the most part of it we need to hijack one or the other organ we have or use for instance our hand to put them to the use of writing and if you think about it you will see that for most part of its existence as a species human beings have managed to survive just fine without either writing or reading writing text in fact even today in this age of apparently Universal literacy exist a substantial number of people who can neither read nor write so when and why did humans pick up this art of writing well finding an exact answer to this question is difficult but what I can tell you is that human beings did have access to tools which would have enabled them to produce writing for a very long period of time in fact as early as three hundred thousand years ago humans knew the use of three kinds of darker colours and other colours you know are naturally occurring pigments which are produced in a because of the presence of iron oxide right so usually there are two major kinds of darker colours red ochre and yellow colour and a because these pigments happen naturally in a it becomes possible to the device tree crayons with which we can make a mark on a surface now how exactly the Prehistoric man and woman use these click on this is not precisely known but one assumes that they use it to paint their own bodies and Indian even today some try use such naturally occurring colours to ritually tattoo their bodies the humans gradually found another use of these crayon and this is interesting because they started using these crayon paint the walls of their cave with fascinating images of animal that is around them this is one brilliant example of such a painting it is the image of a bull painted in red ochre colour and it is in fact one of the earliest evidence that we have of a cave painting of an animal and it probably dates back to more than 50,000 years this is found in a cave in Borneo we have many more such examples of cave paintings from the upper paleolithic period that stretched roughly between 50,000 years to about 12,000 years back this for instance is a series of rhinoceros found painted on the walls of the cave in Southern France painted some 30,000 years ago and this is image of a charging Bison from the Altamira cave of Northern Spain that is probably around 15 to 20 thousand years old in India the earliest cave paintings that we have are to be found in a place called Bhimbetka which is in present in Madhya Pradesh and this painting is the back to about 3000 BC between they are almost 10,000 years old and as you can see in this image the depict human figures and animals in a uniquely formalized manner which we still encounter today in India in the form of folk paintings now why did I spend so much time discussing cave paintings to tell you about the story of writing well firstly I did this to show you that do we do not have writing samples from so earlier period we do have evidence that humans knew how to use tools which would have been here towards writing and secondly these paintings are the earliest forms of graphic symbols used by humans through them are Prehistoric and humans expressed only what was in front of them but also what they thought and tells about them thus the bulls and the Horses and the Rhinos and the humans that we encounter in the cave walls are all stylized figures which doesn't merely depict the reality but also present the sense of fear for energy for jubilation that this reality produced in the mind and heart of our ancestors in that sense these paintings can be regarded as precursors to our language

because ultimately what is a written language if not a representation for graphic symbols of horse and our emotions indeed the earliest form of written language that we would today recognised as human writing per se are mostly pictograms where we would have a very hard time distinguishing the borderline between pictorial art and the more utilitarian form of a written symbol please pictograms started gaining widespread relevance when human beings started giving up their Nomadic life of hunting and gathering and settle down as agricultural communities the economic and administrative life of settled communities required the emergence of a princely class and also the emergence of a class of slaves in order to take care of leadership and in order to give spiritual care to the community in turn the hierarchical society that developed around the two classes the class of Princess in the classes fees required community members to pay regular access to them now as you can well imagine and organised for tax collection necessity some form of Record Keeping because the tax account of a whole community cannot be stored in memory in the urban society that develop in Mesopotamia about 10,000 years ago we see the use of clay tokens with signs and symbols to keep track of tax offering donation and other such financial transaction please individual token soon give it when organised system of graphic symbols which could be used for the purpose of Record Keeping and if we look at such ancient system of graphic science used for record-keeping like for instance if we inherit lyrics we can see how most of the symbols used for writing are derived from pictorial symbols in such a graphic representation still on the line the writing system of a modern language like Chinese now at this point I would ask you to imagine a writing system where one pictogram stand for one concept that is to say one pictogram or equal symbol for fish another pictogram for a bushel of wheat and other separately pictogram let's say for the depiction of a Chariot and so on and so forth if that is the case and indeed that was the case in a most of the Ancient writing systems when understandably you will need a huge number of pictograms to Express even the most basic necessities of life and you'll need to remember that huge array of pictograms in order to decode what has been referred and in this remains a major aspect of any pictographic writing system even today is as for instance a student of Chinese language is expected to learn 8000 different characters in order to write efficiently however during the course of the development of the writing system in human history our ancestors gradually realise a very important thing which is that there need not be any one on one pictorial correspondence between the written symbol and the thing that is depicted by that symbol this realisation revolutionized writing because now a more simplified alphabet could be design to signify things concept and most importantly speech sounds this led to the development of a phonetic script where random sign random symbols were used to stand for specific words or speech sounds and this phonetic script then transform the act of writing into something like the process of voice recording now just like you can record your voice using a tape recorder for a mobile app which code is it and then please it back to you the written script the phonetic script started operating like a coding app for the spoken word for instance as I am lettering to you you can use a phonetic script to write down what I am saying and then a third person can read it and the exact thing that I am saying here will replay back in his or her mind this form of writing as you will not is very different from the ancient form of graphic symbols or Science images were used to stand for individual things rather than for spoken words this is precisely the invention which allows us to recreate a huge number of words simply by having a limited alphabet which will only represent the speech sound operational within a particular language now with the

gradual development of writing and communication started to require certain passages which it did not possess earlier when speech was the only medium every the most important of this facet is standardization now the first thing that writing does is to give communication a degree of permanence and stability and sounds are as you all know effervescent things which disappear as soon as they are spoken at least they used to disappear before the invention of recording devices writing give language a more permanent form and this stabilized and standardise the language now as we have already noted with reference to the writings of Dr Johnson and Hemingway the way in which the structure language and we use it in our communication changes with time but before the advent of writing such changes very much faster on your period of time but also over space writing especially writing that uses of phonetic script stabilizers this tendency for variation and providing a standard form with set an example for generation of people of course the stabilization of language through its written form can only have a widespread effect if a written documents are widely produced and read and this widespread circulation of written documents does not happen in human history till the invention of the new model movable type printing technology in the 15th century as you all know the modern printing press was invented by a person called guttenberg and that really revolutionized our access to the text because now cheap versions of written text could be produced and could be circulated to a wide number of people before that in the manuscript age writing material was extremely expensive right and the very process of getting a text written with would mean someone painstakingly copying one text from another in order to produce a new text that very process of producing a text was extremely costly which meant that writing and reading was an extremely confined activity it would not be available to early person in general written text starts becoming available to ordinary people only after guttenberg invention the modern printing press and that makes things makes the text the written word much more cheaply available and therefore a lot of people are exposed to the written form of their language and you can see this for yourself if you try and read a page from geoffrey chaucer 14 century book The Canterbury Tales when I was writing this book it was still an error while printing press was not available and therefore the written text was not largely available which meant that there was no large-scale standardization of English grammar and English pronunciation right and therefore you will find the structuring of the language in process as well as a spelling use by him a largely unfamiliar to you do you also know how to read and write in English in contrast if you come down to hundred years in history and read a page from one of Shakespeare's plays will find it much more comprehensible the language of Shakespeare is still very different from the language that you will employ while creating a WhatsApp message for instance but the degree of variance is much smaller than the one that exists between your writing and the writing of chaucer and this is because by the time of Shakespeare printing had already started standardizing English and giving it the grammatical in syntactical structure which we are familiar today and if you come to think of it this is actually a stupid this achievement because more than 400 years separate you Shakespeare in the free printing error language for deaf change much more drastically within a similar period of time and it would have produced many more linguistic variations and of course in a free writing period such changes would have been probably even faster but having seen this I would also like to emphasize that the presence or absence of or written form of language a widely disseminated written form of language is only one of the many determinants of why a language changes or remain stable but it is definitely a major determinant after the invention of

the printing press which popularized the written text changes in the medium of communication have emerged and other side before with each major change the way we communicate has transformed as well that's the way communication happen little shape 500 use ago did not remain the same when audio visual media emerged as a significant force within human society and again the way communication happened in the era of audio visual media has not remain exactly the same when internet has become a major factor in how we Express ourselves and how we interact with others if you are interested to know more about these changes in communication and how they are connected with technological innovations in the field of the medium of communication I would recommend to you Marshal pose Book title history of communication now before I conclude today's lecture I would like to talk a bit about the history of the English language because this course is not just an introduction to communication it is also an introduction to English communication there for a better family attitude with how English language immersion how it develop would help us frame our future conversation better now the island of Britain which is today regarded as the epicenter of english language was in fact originally inhabited by a group of people who did not speak English they spoke videos keltic languages in fact some of these languages like Wells virus Scottish gaelic are spoken even today what ultimately developed as English language started emerging in Britain from around the 5th century CE when tribes from Continental Europe invaded the east coast of England by crossing the English Channel please write the primarily the shoots the angles and the sections but they are together referred to as the anglo-saxons and it is the language that these in reading people brought with them that gradually developed into what is now known as English to English is is at its root the language that Anglo saxons brought to Britain as Anglo Saxon influence spread over the entire Island from the east coast English language to become all pervasive and nearly replaced the other kailtech languages of the island except in certain borderline areas this language of the anglo-saxons was further changed by subsequent band of Invaders who brought with them their own cultural and linguistic influences the first it was the Danes who arrived around the late 18th and early 9 century and they introduced a lot of words in the English language but it was the French in reason that happened in the 11th century in 1066 to be precise which had the most long lasting impact on the english-language the most profound impact on of the long-lasting because even the Danish influence survives today but the French influence that happened from after the 11th century was the most profound Sewing 1066 a person called William who was the Duke of Normandy and normally is a region in Northern France he arrived in England and he the ruler there in the famous Battle of Hastings and became the new king with the exception of William To The Throne almost the entire aristocratic class that existed before was dismantled and a new friend speaking aristocratic class was imported from Continental Europe as a result for sensual is French became the spoken language of the court and of the cultured classes in England this had a major impact on the English language and when it finally emerged from out of the shadows French we see that it was thoroughly impregnated with French loanwords and these loan was define the character of present-day English to a very large extent relinquished auto yes how the social changes that followed the fresh concrete the 1066 reflected in the domain of language and I will cook from yes passenger while the names of several animals in their lifetime are English like Ox cow calf sheep sign board there they appear on the table with French names beef wheel marking Park Dekhen Grand venison explained from the French Masters living the care of the living animals

to the anglo-saxon lower classes while they did not leave much of the meat to be eaten by them but it me with just as much right become tended the use of the French word here is due to the superior Rati of the French cuisine which is thrown by a great many other words as well such as source boil fry roast post PC PS3 super sausage Jelly green tea while the Hamla breakfast in English the more something smells like dinner and supper as well as fees generally are French effect of social change brought about in the wake of the French conquest can be seen in the means other than food to the persons in the area of politics for Judiciary for organised religion which were all under the direct control of the king and the aristocratic class we see an abundance of French loanwords as well as lekin loan was because do friend was spoken language in the court then letting was used for the purpose of writing and the French rulers in England who we find an abundance of these loan was in any discussion on topics such as politics on topics such as Judiciary topics such as religion or for that matter anything that pertains to high culture to Fashion princes you cannot use English language in these field without using a lot of words that have their origin in French this history of English language word invasion and adoption played a big role should give some degree of confidence about our own engagement with English language of course introduces the English language because of colonialism and given the violent and humiliating process that any colonial subjugation is we have developed a love-hate relationship with the English language on the one hand we do concealed that English is an important language that allows us to connect globally and therefore it is a language that is important to learn we also regard English as a kind of colonial hangover that we somehow need to get rid of while I respect the underlying sentiments here I think that there are other ways of thinking about the English language firstly we should realise that even in England English was not a native language but was imposed through a violent conquest indeed it was a series of violin conquests of the British oil that made the English language what it is today but as we have seen this social violence has left its mark on the language the letters of the British Island have appropriate to the language as their own to in our turn have appropriated a lot of things which were associated with coronavirus initially the miles and miles of railway tracks for instance that Criss cross the whole of the Indian subcontinent are as much a colonial input as is the English language and yet in spite of our national sentiments we never speak of getting rid of the railway tracks just because they were induced by the colonizers as an independent Nation we have appropriate the railway system and we have learnt how to use it to serve our own purpose English language has by now a very long history of being appropriated and used by Indian not to engage in utilitarian communication but also to express final thoughts and feelings in the first substantial piece of literature written in English by an Indian which is incident liya travelogue written by a person called Sheikh Din Muhammad who was originally from Patna back to 1794 a recently been Muhammad was also the person who introduced the art of sampling in England with travel to England and then there he opened a shampoo parlour and of course the English word shampoo is ultimately derived from the Hindi word Hampi which means a head massage now what I'm trying to underline here is 200 years is a sufficient amount of time in the life of a national community to feel in possession of a language in this sense of position is important if we are to communicate in English effectively so my suggestion is whenever you communicate in English the confidence that you are expressing yourself in a language that belongs to you rather than in a language which is a colonial baggage and is a sign of foreign oppression with this I end my letter today thank you

Lecture 3

We have discussed 4 such components 3 of these components are internal to us and one is external to us the internal components constitute of firstly are sensory motor system that allows us to produce and hear verbal sounds speech sounds the second internal component constitutes of our ability to conceptualize ideas that can be coded as language and transmitted as language the 3rd and of course the most important internal element is what is referred to as the FLN which is as you know basically a computational mechanism that connects our ability to conceptualize ideas and knowledge and our ability to articulate it verbally as language these 3 internal components are supplemented by one external component which is the medium of communications now as we have seen in the previous lecture the medium of communication keeps changing with time and the main force behind such inj is technological innovations it was availability of coloured clay crayons that first thought our ancestors to make graphic signs on the walls of the kiefs these graphic signs as expressions of thoughts and emotions later give way to the more utilitarian writing system that were used for record keeping the earliest form of human writing that we have today are impressed on clay tablets but later on with technological innovations other writing medium started becoming available like the skin of animals for instance or leaves off various trees the most important technological innovation in the field of writing materials was perhaps the invention of papyrus and this of course gives rise to the later more familiar word people as you know papyrus looks and feels something like a very thick and coarsely textured people and this was first being used by Egyptians around 5 to 6000 years ago now this was a definite improvement over clay tablets or even animal skins because a papyrus ways much less and therefore can be transported and stored more easily also you could make large rules of papyrus which allowed you to communicate more volume in us messages but here we need to remember that irrespective of the availability of such writing materials like papyrus for the greater part of the human history the medium of writing and consequently the written text was not very easily available to people at large for the majority of the people on this earth communication therefore meant verbal communication and the ability to communicate message over a long distance was extremely limited an ordinary man for instance could communicate only as far as his voice would go or as his legs would take him this however changed dramatically with the invention of the modern printing press in the 15th century around the middle of the 15th century Johannes Gutenberg a German Goldsmith used what is called the movable type printing press for the first time to print a copy of the Bible and this ushered in the era of mass communication now here let me explain this link between printing and mass communication a bit as I have already mentioned before the availability of printing presses the process of reproducing a book was difficult and cumbersome and because it was difficult and cumbersome it was also very costly think about our Indian sage vidyas for instance and his dilemma he said to have composed the epic of Mahabharata in his head but then he wanted someone to write it down this was because otherwise the only process of transmitting that text would be too get hold of someone who would be able to memorize that text and then for that person to get hold of someone else and make that person memorize so that text is transmitted now I haven't red the Mahabharata in Sanskrit but I can tell you that the most recent English translation of the whole text runs for more than 5000 pages and in a fairly small print size too so

you can very well imagine the practical problem involved in transmitting such a text merely through memorization and thus do the text does mention about how it was transmitted orally through individuals like me some porn for instance sarthi it also mentions where's Dave's quest for a scribe now here we are not interested in the historic city of the figure of vasdev rather what we are interested in is the practical problem that someone in his place would have faced which is the problem of finding a scribe in any society before the arrival of printing press the literate population was extremely limited think about it if you were a medieval present or if you are a present living in ancient India why on earth would you take all that pin that is required to learn to read and write because for all you know you'd never be able to see the face of a written book in your entire life and also as a present you would not be able to afford the writing implements even if you want to sell off all your properties the scribe was there for a highly specialized person practicing a highly specialised profession and to find someone who could write down your text was rare indeed of course if you were a King or nobleman you could keep some scribes in your page so as to maintain the official documents of your state but for an ordinary person finding a scribe was almost an impossibility Mahabharata tells us that vysya ultimately found his scribe in the elephant headed God Ganesh but again historic city apart even if one in vss position would have managed to find a divine Scribd the problem of writing down and transmitting the text in its written form would not be over because Ganesha or an equivalent scribe would produce only one text right if you really wanted to spread that written text among a number of people you would have needed an army of scribe to copy it down and produced several volumes of that same text and as you can very well understand if finding one scribe was difficult how much more difficult it was to find an army of Scribes who would be ready to copy and produce replicas of the same text again and again for transmissions if we shift from the India of versus time to the Europe of the medieval period we would see that there existed a section within the church a section of clergies who where educate Ed and who acted as that army of scribes the painstakingly reproduced the written text using their exquisite handwriting and produced multiple copies of texts illuminated with beautiful designs and paintings which we can see even today in a number of museums this for instance is an illuminated page from a gospel produced most probably in the early 18th century in a place called Lindisfarne in England now as you can see this is nothing less than an artwork and just like any artwork today both its production and its consumption was limited to a very narrow circle of elites who could afford to buy it the invention of the modern printing press revolutionised this process of production and consumption by allowing one to print mechanically hundreds of copies of the same written page in a matter of minutes this greatly cheap and the price of the book and over the course of time written materials started becoming available to a large mass of people this meant that weather you were sitting here or somewhere else or some distant corner of this world whatever you were thinking you could write it down not only could you write it down you would also get it printed 1000 thousands copies of that print could then be dispatched to the different corners of the world and with the speeding up of the transport system thanks especially to the innovation of the steam engine it meant that your written word printed could travel to the 4 corners of the world in a matter of months similarly irrespective of wherever you are situated you now felt more connected with the rest of the world because you could read about what was happening and what was being taught and written and published in different corners of the world because printed text were now available to you so let say whatever was being printed in 19 century

London would be available to a person sitting in 19th century Kolkata in a matter of months if not weeks in our previous lecture we have seen how are technological innovation like electric telegraphy I will further revolutionise the circulation speed of messages and how this process of speeding up has continued even upto our digital age we have also discussed how with each such technological revolution the way we communicate have drastically changed the US as we saw the popularization of the telegraphic messages brought with it a completely new prostyle which was championed not only by journalists but also by important novelists like Ernest Hemingway today I'm going to start moving towards a different direction by picking up on something that I mentioned in my previous lecture which was standardization I had said how the invention of writing and the popularization of the written text through the availability of printing press standardised language such standardization of language happens as an effect of codification of the language use and qualification means laying down of certain rules and normative patterns of grammar syntax orthography etcetera and as you will understand from common sense such codification of a language can happen only when we can regularise the language in the more stable form of writing now one of the various things that writing regularises and standardises in a language is its pronunciation here you might note something interesting a phonetic script used for writing is supposed to faithfully inscribed faithfully duplicate the sound of speech right which means how we pronounce is supposed to control how we write however since writing codifies and standardises it also starts standardising are pronunciation and therefore the relation between speech and writing often gets reversed here here we have to remember that any kind of standardization of language happens over a very long period of time and standardization of pronunciation only happens when the codification and regularisation of language reaches an extremely advance stage let's spend some time here to see how the history of standardisation of English language unfolded and how it reached a stage where even the pronunciation of English words got standardised a modern standard English started emerging during the period of Geoffrey Chaucer who was a 14th century poet and the composer of the famous poem the Canterbury tales this trend toward standardization was greatly I dead in the next century when a merchant named William Caxton brought the technique of modern printing from continental Europe to England incidentally won the first books that Caxton printed in England was choices the Canterbury tales by early 17th century we see various proposals being floated for the establishment of an English Academy by the government which would ratify language use and help you NI formalised the English language do such a proposal never fortified we see the similar Academy was in fact established in France in 1635 to oversee standardization of the French language in England in 1755 we see doctor Johnson whom we have already encountered in our previous lecture publishing his English Dictionary and this dictionary had a widespread effect in regularising the spelling and meaning of English words 18th century was also a period when several books were published including Robert loads influential a short introduction to English grammar that codified and standardised the usage of English grammar again it was in the late 18th century that we see the popularization of pronunciation dictionaries like John Walker's critical pronouncing dictionary which set the standards regarding how to articulate English words however it was only in the beginning of the 20th century that English pronunciation was fully qualified and standardised by someone called Daniel Jones and this was what came to be regarded as standard English and was referred to in fact still referred to as a received English pronunciation and is officially regarded by institutions

like the BBC British Broadcasting Corporation as standard pronunciation of British English now in this lecture I would try to give you a few pointers about how to work on your articulation of English word so that you can approximate the received English pronunciation but before that we need to confront something head on in my own experience of speaking English as well as teaching basic English communication to students who have had limited exposure to this language I've seen that this notion of quote unquote correct pronunciation I've always acted as a boogie which makes us afraid to even open our mouth it is not unusual to see people being mocked and I mean humiliated to a very great extent for their accent and pronunciation and given that there is a certain status associated with the English language in Indian society people often regard those who cannot pronounce English correctly as socially inferior the fear of such stigma naturally hinders our desire to speak in English in DD tremendous Lee increases our frustration when we are compelled to speak in English in certain contexts and yet we are unsure of our pronunciation now the only way out of this frustration is to consciously work on articulation of English words but at the same time I would also request you not to be too overwhelmed with this notion of correct pronunciation for instance you only have to listen to anyone of my lectures to know that they're quite filled with pronunciations which are very different from how the received pronunciation of a BBC broadcast sounds and yet I'm sure that you are being able to comprehend perfectly well whatever I am sharing with you So what I want to stress here is that effective communication does not always require a very high degree of abidance to the norm it is always good to try and approximate the standard English pronunciation as closely as possible but just the fact that there exists a gap between the standard pronunciation and the way you articulate your English words does not mean that you cannot communicate effectively in fact according to the celebrated Irish playwright George Bernard Shaw there will always exist such a gap and absolute standardisation of English pronunciation is indeed impossible in practical terms to give you some courage about speaking in English in spite of all your anxiety is regarding the possible shortcomings of your pronunciation and your accent let me read out a bit from a radio message that Bernard Shaw delivered in 1927 in that message show States and I read whether you are a foreigner or a native the first thing I must impress on you is that there is no such thing as ideally correct English No 2 British subjects speak exactly alike I am a member of a committee established by the British broadcasting Corporation for the purpose of deciding how the utterances of speakers employed by the Corporation should be pronounced in order that they should be a model of correct English speech for the British island's that committee knows as much as anyone knows about English speech and yet its members do not agree as to the pronunciation of some of the simplest and commonest words in the English language the 2 simplest and communist words in any language are yes and no but No 2 members of the committee pronounce them exactly alike I hope these lines by show will give you the impetuous to overcome your hesitation if you have any regarding your English pronunciation and you would start speaking in this language however I'm not saying that you completely disregard any effort to improve your English pronunciation in fact you should so let me now offer you a few pointers towards that direction now the pronunciation of any word in any language involves articulating 2 different but related components the first component is a consonant and the second is a vowel now you really when I tell my students about these 2 components they appear to be on familiar territory that for instance when I ask them about the vowels the immediately answer that there are 5 vowels in

English language and oh you some smart students even add a few semivowels to this list like W&Y but if you look at this list carefully you will see that as far as pronunciation is concerned this list is really not a very great help take the first vowel in the list here are a few words which have a as part of its spelling and yet if you try and pronounce these words and pronounce them fairly correctly you will see that the sound of the letter 'a' is different in each of them thus the first word is pronounced as bat where the 'a' sounds like in the second word bar the 'a' is pronounced as AA in the 3rd word ball the 'a' is pronounced as all and in the 4th word bet the 'a' is pronounced as a so in all these 4 words it is only in the last words pronunciation somewhat resembles how we usually pronounce 'a' as a stand alone later this should make us realize at least 2 points the first is that there are many more vowel sounds in English language than merely the 5 Secondly there is no one to one correspondence between the letter signifying a vowel and the vowel sound the same letter may indicate different vowel sounds here we can complicate the picture even further by considering these 2 words ball and caught in both the words the vowel sound is somewhat similar it sounds like all however if you look at the first word the spelling of it you will see that the letter indicating the vowel sound is just a whereas in the second word the same vowel sound or at least a similar vowel sound is indicated by 2 letters A and o so this should alert you to the fact that in English language there is a distinction between what we call vowel letters and vowel sounds now you might remember that in my earlier lecture I had mentioned that languages like English are written using a phonetic script which means that the writing system should ideally reproduce faithfully the sound of the spoken word right so why is there a discrepancy between how we pronounce English words and how we write them and as we shall see in English this discrepancy is not only confined to vowels but also to consonance that's for instance the consonant S is pronounced differently in the word seat and the word Ledger so why are there these differences well to understand that you will first have to understand that the writing system that we used today to write English is borrowed from Latin you remember that the English language developed from a language or a group of languages that was brought to Britain by the Anglo Saxon tribes from continental England during the 5th century however the writing system that we used to write English today was borrowed from Latin as I mentioned and was introduced by Irish Catholic missionaries around 8th century so how does this affect the phonetic transcription of English language well imagine a situation where you are using the same lacking script which you used to write English today to write an Indian language like bangla for instance or Hindi or Tamil we in fact do it all the time while writing WhatsApp messages for instance or while sending informal emails don't we Now in such a situation you must have realised that you have to deal with a set of letters that are often not quite suitable to reproduce the sound of Indian languages I will give you an example from my mother tongue bangla in bangla there is a very relevant difference between the sounds after 'ta' the 2nd and 3rd however while using the Latin script we are stuck with either the letter T or the letters TH brought together to signify all these varieties of sounds that I just mentioned this automatically results in confusion indeed this same problem is also present in the English language where the Latin script an autography often forms the basis of a language whose pronunciation is slightly different from the written script however the major reason why we are often left confused while trying to judge the pronunciation of an English word from its spelling is the great vowel shift now this term was coined by the Danish linguist Otto Jespersen whom we have already met in our previous lecture the great vowel shift that he worked on and that he

coined actually refers to the major ways in which the articulation of English vowels changed primarily during the 15th and 16th century which took the pronunciation of the English words very far away indeed from how they are written now there are different and often conflicting views about how and why this vowel shift occurred so we will not go into that we will also not go into the technicalities about the various changes that were affected by this shift but what I would like to stress here is because of this shift and also because of certain other factors the English language in its written form does not replicate the English pronunciations very accurately which is why as we have seen in our first lecture we use a different set of alphabets known as the international phonetic alphabet or IP in short when we are required to transcribe exactly the speech sounds of an English word or indeed of any word in any language for that matter Sachin international phonetic alphabet is required because various amounts of discrepancy can be found when we compare the spoken form of a language with how it is written down with its script however one must admit that the discrepancy in case of English is specially know table and most particularly in the pronunciation of vowels and I think this is the primary reason why many of us feel unsure about speaking in English I'll try and sort out some of these difficulties about Lancing English vowels in this lecture but before that let us briefly develop on the pronunciation of English consonants So what are consonants and how are they different to and related to vowels let me quote here from Lesley Jeffries book discovering language and I will again and again refer to this book in this lecture so explaining the 2 terms consonants and vowels Jeffries writes we've already seen how speech is produced by modifying the outgoing air from a speakers breath the qualitative difference between consonant and vowels is due to the different kinds of modification the 2 categories of sound make to this Airstream Wiles consonance squeeze and constrict the air flow to the extent of sometimes stopping it altogether vowels allow free passage of air through the mouth and nose but with a variable shaped cavity in which the sound resonates differently causing the different sounds of the vowels so the basic idea is that consonants are formed through restricting the flow of our breath whereas vowels are produced by manipulating the shape of the cavity in which the sound resonates while allowing the breath to flow freely without any stoppage now as far as pronouncing the consonants are concerned 3 things are important to note first is the place of articulation that is to say which part of the vocal tract is being used to restrict the flow of our breath while we pronounce a particular consultant the second is manner of articulation this deals with the manner in which the breath is restricted and released and the 3rd is whether the consonants are voiced or not whether they remain unvoiced now the difference between voiced and unvoiced is in case of voiced consonants we vibrate our vocal cords while pronouncing them whereas in unvoiced consonants that vibration is missing now as far as the place of articulation is concerned the restriction of the breath can be caused by pressing together or bringing closer various parts of our vocal tract like our lips for instance or one lip and the teeth or the tongue and various parts of the roof of our oral cavity and so on and so forth so for instance if you pronounce the consonant pee supersound you will see that we are pronouncing it by restricting our breath with our lips again when pronounce the consonant T touch sound you will see we are restricting the breath by pressing our tongue against the Bony Ridge just behind the upper set of our teeth if you pronounce the consultant ke kar sound we see that the restriction of the breath happens deeper down inside our oral cavity and while pronouncing the consonant G ga sound we move even deeper down within a vocal tract now depending on each of these places of articulation consonants are divided into different

categories I'm not going to go into the terminology of these different categories because I think that would unnecessarily complicate your life at this point however if you are interested to learn more about it I would definitely recommend Leslie Jeffries is book discovering language as a preliminary read now let us come to the manner of articulation as I have just mentioned while pronouncing consonants we restrict and release our breath in different ways and we can categorise consonance on the basis of these ways or manners in which we deal with our breath during the pronunciation of particular consonants now think of consonants like PT or ke upar sound dutter sound and the curse sound if you pay attention to how you are pronouncing them you will see that each of these consonants have different places of articulation but in all of them the manner in which the breath is restricted and released remains the same that is to say while pronouncing each of these consonants we create a restriction in different parts of our vocal track and then let the outgoing breath buildup behind that restriction till the pressure from that breath bus open the channel so each of these consonants are produced in the form of small explosions and are referred to as close live consonants that is the name of the category compare this to how we pronounce consonants like F and we the far and sounds and you will notice that the manner in which the breath is restricted and released is different here in case of these leader consonants a part of the vocal tract is highly constructed but the flow of air is not entirely stopped thus instead of an explosive sound you get the sound of a friction so the consultant articulated in this manner they're called the fricatives again there are number of such different categories of consonance depending on the manner of their articulation and again the book by Leslie Jeffries is a good first read if you want to look into all these different categories finally I come to voice and unvoiced consonants here as I have already told you the distinction is based on whether while pronouncing the consonant you have vibrating your vocal cords or your vocal folds or you are not vibrating them now try pronouncing the 2 consonants S&Z the Sir sound and the sound so in the first case if you prolong the sound of that consonant you will get something like a he is right on the other hand in the second case if you prolong the sound you will get a buzz something like if you observe carefully you will see that one key difference between the first sound and the second sound is that the second one is produced through a vibration of your vocal folds in fact you should be able to feel that vibration down your throat This is why we will say that the pronunciation of the zoo sound is voiced whereas the pronunciation of the Sir sound is unvoiced you can try out the same experiment with other consonants like the first sound and the word sound and if you do that you will see that their pronunciation of the word sound is voiced and the first sound is unvoiced now as you might have noticed I've deliberately not presented in a diagram of the vocal track or a list of categories of consonance this is because I do not think memorising them would be of any help to you as far as improving your pronunciation is concerned what you need to remember is as far as pronunciation of consonant Sir concern these are the 3 key elements place of articulation manner of articulation and vibration of vocal calls and these are the 3 key elements which make all the difference I'm sure in today's day and each the Internet provides you with ample resources to listen to standard pronunciation of a particular word and I would really encourage you to do that whenever you are in doubt about the pronunciation of a particular word however when you listen to the standard pronunciation and try and imitated you should remember the 3 things that I just mentioned and we can use the acronym VPM to remember the 3 things so we stands for voice store on voice P stands for place of articulation and M stands for manner of

articulation however since one is not always sure about what the Internet teachers as the Internet teacher as a lot of things are not all of them are correct I think a safer way of learning about the standard pronunciation of a word is by consulting a dictionary and by the way here I want to stress that if you are serious about polishing your English or if you are serious about using the language more effectively you need to have access to a good dictionary and there are a number of them available in the market I remember growing up with my father's Cambridge learner's dictionary as a constant companion so I can definitely recommend you that also if you are a member of Institute like for instance IIT Kanpur then you will have online access to the Oxford English dictionary and you can and you should also use that now either way the point is you need to be able to consult a good dictionary regularly now usually we consult a dictionary to find the meaning or meanings of a word a word as we will find out can have number of meanings but we can and we should consult a dictionary also for pronunciation and for various other language functions as well you will come to know about some of these uses apart from just finding the meaning of a word for which we can use a dictionary as we go along but for now let me focus on how we can decide for the standard pronunciation of a word by consulting dictionaries now if you consult any good dictionary you will find its pronunciation inscribed next to the main word entry in phonetic transcription here for instance you can see the entry of the word communication as it appears in the online version of Oxford English Dictionary as you can see at the very beginning of the entry the dictionary gives you the phonetic transcription of the word indicating its standard pronunciation in Britain marked by the word Brit and in North America mark by the word us the 2 play buttons can be used to listen to those 2 versions of the pronunciation but let us focus the phonetic transcription for the moment and more specifically on the phonetic transcription of the British pronunciation now any dictionary which gives you such a phonetic transcription in the form of a phonetic script will also give you a phonetic key usually placed at the beginning of the entire dictionary and this phonetic key will be more or less a variation of the IPA so the phonetic key of Oxford English Dictionary looks something like this this is only part of the list of consonant symbols that are used and in fact it continues a little longer if you scroll down you would be able to see that and then you have a similar list for vowels as well the important part here is that each symbol represents a very specific speech sound and you can know the speech sound of that particular symbol by knowing how to pronounce the simple words written next to it which are used indeed as examples now if we go back to the list of symbols used in Oxford English Dictionary to signify the consonant sounds and if we look at the consonant symbol used in this list you will see that the word used as an example is jet which means the sound that that particular symbol represents is the just sound as it appears in the word jet you can similarly find out from this key the exact speech sound of all of the phonetic symbols used in the dictionary and you can then use this phonetic key to decode the phonetic transcription of all the words in this dictionary now that we know the method of checking the standard pronunciation of a word let us look at a few words and let us see how we pronounce the consonants there now let us start with a very simple word van now if you go to any IPA symbol key available widely on the Internet just do a Google search and you will get it you will see that the pronunciation of the first letter is work and this is in fact the same pronunciation as you have of the letter v in words like view or heavy or move for instance now let us analyze this pronunciation using the vpm model that we discussed before firstly the consonant that we have in front of us the word sound is a voiced sound so if you are

pronouncing the consonant without voice in *git* then you are doing it wrong let us now come to the place of its articulation this consonant is what is technically called a labio dental which means it is produced by restricting the breath by joining the lower lip and upper set of teeth now I've heard many pronounce this consonant as a bilabial rather than a Labio dental which means that they use their lips to stop the breath rather than the lower lip and the upper set of teeth and they produce a sound like *bho* in various Indian languages *bhabha* is a very popular speech sound but it is absent in English so if you are pronouncing *van* as *ban* for instance you will know that you are wrong by checking the place of articulation and you can correct yourself simply by shifting from the bilabial position to the Labio dental position incidentally if you are pronouncing *wanis ban* you are also getting the manner of articulation wrong the consonant sound here is affricative That is to say while pronouncing it the air flow is constructed but never completely stopped the sound here on the other hand is a plosive so again you can correct yourself by adjusting the manner of articulation that's whenever you are in doubt about a consonant just analyse the sound through applying to the Vowel model and you can make the necessary adjustment regarding voice in the consonant or regarding its place of articulation and manner of articulation and you will get it right now let us look at the set of 3 words here they are and as I have already mentioned the way English words are often proves to be a very poor guide about how the words are pronounced the way in which the letters TH is pronounced in each of these 3 words provide us with a very good example of how what we see written on the page as far as English language is concerned can misguide us in the first case the pronunciation is *ture* in the next case the pronunciation is *author* and in the final case the pronunciation is the word *teams* is there for pronounce with a consonant that is unvoiced *clusive* articulated by joining the tongue with the alveolar Ridge that is a Bony Ridge behind the upper set of teeth the word *Theatre* *intern* is pronounced with a consonant that is an unvoiced fricative which is articulated by placing the tongue behind the upper so the place of articulation as well as the manner of articulation changes here in case of the word rather the consonant is a voiced fricative which again is articulated by placing the tongue behind the upper set of teeth you can similarly find out the difference between the pronunciation of the letter S in words like *pleasant* and *pleasure* the pronunciation is very different in one word if you compare it to the other and you can also look at how the letter S is pronounced in the word *sin* and compare it with how it is pronounced in the word *shin* and they are very different talking about English spellings miss guiding you about how to pronounce a particular word I also need to caution you about how insert an English words the consonant sounds are dropped altogether do you find them written on the page take the word *nee* for instance it starts with K but as far as its pronunciation is concerned we do not have any *kare* sound at the beginning incidentally Geoffrey Chaucer in 14th century might have pronounce the word *knee* with that initial *car* sound which tell you something about how the pronunciation of English words have changed over a period of time but please don't use Chaucer as an excuse to miss pronounce the word today there are other common words which drop one consonant or the other for instance the word *island* is pronounced without the sound the word *Wednesday* is pronounced without the D sound the word *fare* is pronounced without the *are* sound and there are many more such examples I just give you a few now here I wish I had some simple room to share with you so that you could then detect which consonant if any is being dropped just by looking at a particular word but I'm afraid there isn't any simple rule like that so just listen to a great deal of English

and listen consciously that's the key and as far as a consultant Sir concern do keep referring to the vpm model and keep checking your pronunciation again and again and use a good dictionary and you will be sorted so now let us move to the vowels the problem with vowels is that unlike consonants we do not have a vpm model here to help us to begin with all vowels are voice so there is no question of having a set of voiced vowels and having another set of unvoiced vowels the place of articulation and the manner of articulation again they are not very dramatically different in case of vowels and therefore the vpm classification does not quite work this however does not mean that there is no classification of vowel sound someone like Daniel Jones for instance has classified English vowels under various categories like close an open front and back etcetera and here again if you want to study about these classifications do refer to the book by Leslie Jeffries but I am not going to discuss these categories because I don't think that these categories are really going to help you pronounce English vowels of course if you are very keen into understanding the phonetics of English language you should go into these classifications but otherwise I don't think they're of much help so again the key is listening consciously and imitating what you hear carefully but having said that I would nevertheless like to talk about a few things which might help you with your pronunciations of English vowels the first thing that I want to focus upon is the length of the vowel sound now as Indians we often mix up the length of English vowels and this often changes the meaning of the word that we are speaking take for instance these 2 words ship and sheep in the first word the pronunciation of the vowel is short and in the next word in the second word the pronunciation of the vowel is long in fact this length of the 2 vowels is the only difference in the pronunciation of these 2 words and intern is the only difference that distinguishes the meaning of these 2 words so if you pronounce ship as sheep you immediately change the meaning of the world similarly check these following pairs of words cut and cart foot and food caught and caught in each of the pairs the first word has a short vowel and the second word has a long vowel so do keep these things in mind the second thing that I wanted to mention about vowel sounds is diphthong diphthong is a sound where there is a glide between 2 vowels the vowel sound is constituted of a glide which makes it sound more complex its a compounding of vowels you can look at it like that take the example of the word try for instance now when you pronounce it you will see that the vowel sound glide from the ah 2l try and therefore has a composite and complex character now as Indian speakers of English we often miss out on the diphthongs and we end up therefore deviating from the standard pronunciation take the word big for instance now if you carefully look at the pronunciation of the letter a you will see that it involves a glide a diphthong where the vowel sound starts with a and ends in I bake similarly note the word Stew here again there is a glide involved as far as the wall sound is concerned on the other hand i have also seen Or diphthong eising vowel sounds when actually the vowel sound is pretty straight forward take for instance the word blue I've heard people pronouncing it as blue that's actually not the standard pronunciation the standard pronunciation is pretty straight forward blue just like clue the final point about the vowel sound that I would like to give you is that often the vowel sound of a word changes when any additional component is added to the word take the vowel sound of the word clean for instance it changes dramatically when we encounter it in the form of the word cleanliness clean cleanliness similarly look at the word pronounce right now the sound of its vowel again changes dramatically when we encounter it in the form of another word pronunciation pronounce pronunciation so to keep yourself alert regarding these changes that

happen but I would like to end my talk by again stressing that don't get scared by the boogie of correct pronunciation deviating from the standard articulation of the words does not mean that you will not be understood or that your communication will not be effective so be confident and keep speaking in English.

Lecture -4

communication previously we have discussed how we can improve a pronunciation we have discussed some crucial things that we need to keep in mind as far as English language pronunciation is concerned we talked about how the vpm model can help us to locate the correct pronunciation of English consonants by focusing on whether that consonant is voiced or unvoiced by focusing on its place of articulation and also by focusing on the manner of its articulation and we also talked about the three elements that we need to be careful about as far as English vowels are concerned and just to remind you these three elements were firstly the length of the vowel sound the use of the diphthong and also if the sound of the vowel changed with the addition of new elements like prefix or suffix to the root word now before we move on I would really like to touch upon another aspect of English pronunciation which you might want to work on this is the aspect of stress or intonation now if you pay attention to the language that you are speaking and this can be any language not necessarily English you will notice that while speaking you employ a rather complex pattern of stress now there are segments of individual words as well as segments of sentences that you are emphasizing by either speaking the words loudly at or by modulating the frequency of your pitch or by changing it in the pronunciation these techniques of emphasizing or of intonation are very important and they need to be learnt very carefully in case of a Chinese for instance just a variation of tone can drastically change the meaning of a word in English these techniques of emphasis seldom if ever have any grammatical import or any effect on the meaning of a particular word however this is not to say that pronunciation of English words and sentences lacks stress in it like any other language they do employ a complex pattern of stresses and intonation and observing them carefully would help you make your English sound closer to the normative speaking style of the received pronunciation I will give you an example take these two words for instance of first word photograph is usually pronounced with the stress on the first syllable which you can see underlined in the slide here however if you move on to the next word photography which they arise from the first word you will see that the stress has transferred from the first syllable to the second as underlined here now at this point I would want to emphasize two things for sleep there is no simple rule regarding the use of stress in English communication process of words stress might change depending on the structure of the sentence that you are inserting that word into the use of correct stress in English language is not a deal breaker in terms of grammar or even in terms of meaning as I just pointed out so please remember that even if you are getting your stresses all wrong your English is still actually making sense to most of the native speakers of that language who are willing to listen to you carefully having said this I would definitely encourage you to pay more attention to this aspect of the language as it generally improves the quality of your English verbal communication and helps people understand you better sadly like many things in life there is no easy way of doing this but if you remain aware of this aspect of the language and if you pay attention to stress and intonation while listening to BBC radio for instance or any such high quality resource of English language then you will soon find that your English speech is improving in clarity so now that we're done with a discussion of English pronunciation let's see how the language works and in the course What is when we encounter one in a language that we know right and yet if I tell you to define what is the word for to ask you

to draw very rigid boundary of distinction between what is and what is not a word that you will see that the task is not quite simple take a piece of writing for instance of what is writing but a piece of paper with words inscribed on it right now we will usually not have any difficulty in identifying whether a word begins and where a word ends in that Britain piece of paper write the reason for such confidence is that when you look at the page you will see that there are strings of letters which are divided which are separated by blank spaces before and after them so we assume that each cluster of letters that an isolated like an island on the page surrounded by blank spaces their present individual words get such an understanding of a word has at least two problems what is that such need separation of words by blank spaces loose meaning the movement was shipped from the written text to verbal communication example these written words do you want to come with me and eat word is clearly separated from the other by space now trying read out this word as if you were asking this as a question to a friend and you will see that if you try to do that you end up eating something like do want to come with me this means that in its verbalize form the blank spaces that we see separating words in a written text they are often not replaced by equivalent pauses effect if you try and insert to pause in a place where there is a blank space you see that your language spoken language is becoming very mechanical in fact this is precisely the problem that we noticed when we have a computerized was reading out a text to us is it because each blank space is turned by that was into a pose thereby resulting in an artificial rendition of the text however the point is that even when we speak natural and do not insert such artificial poses a competent Lesnar who is familiar with the language does not have any problem identifying the word in a speech if I say something like I have a glass of water How many words I just wanted you have no problem in counting in finding the third 7 words before spaces separating classes of letter they are not very accurate way of understanding how a word works to second problem with and orthographic understanding of the word results in a and a caused by orthographic I mean the written word look at this sentence for instance I have been invited by my girlfriend's family for a lunch in a restaurant which is a short walk from my apartment building on the 31st Street no of letters with which the sentence begins on paper the form and isolated unit separated by space but is it one word or is it to come to this other cluster of letters 31st do we count the hyphen as equal to a blank space and read the cluster of letters as towards or do we read the whole thing as the same word then again as a whole of girlfriends single word for is the word simply girlfriend or even girl in friend and the apostrophe followed by the air is something else that is not part of the word now at this point some of you might argue that I am unnecessarily complicating matters here a word is anything that conveys a concept or has a particular meaning and therefore we need not look at a people to understand how a word or Parichay what is the work we do not need to have an autograph understanding of word at all we can simply mapdand to the notion of meaning exam concept and what we know what it is but here again we will encounter some major problems in confusion is go back for a moment to a sentence that you are discussing just now classes of letters that are there is pronounces department the other is building now of a graphically they are two distinct words and it but and the conceptual level they signify a unified idea of a building that is separated into a number of Apartments we are still talking about single building a single concept so does this make apartment building one word or two because it conveys a single concept a single entity so now that we have become familiar with the problems that plague are common sense understanding of the term word here is what I propose rather than looking at words as the

meaningful unit that make couple language I suggest that we try and understand the meaning making process through the concept of morphemes now this is a new term for most of you so let me define this term what is a Morphine and how does it differ from a word or how does it relate to a word understand this let us take the cluster of letters w r i t or right now dinner Accountants understanding this is a word and it has a very specific meaning for instance if we consult Oxford English dictionary this is the meaning that we get every without to form letters symbols words it's a trap by carving engraving or insufficient to trace in or on a hard or plastic surface especially with the shop instrument to record in this week this is the meaning The Oxford English dictionary gives of the word write now if I add the two letters are and at the beginning of the word write we get another meaning which adds and once the original word right and Oxford English dictionary defines this new word which is rewrite as to write again especially in a different form now I am so whatever you are common understanding of a word is the letters are we will not be considered by you as an individual work interestingly these two letters taken together has a stable meaning in English language it conveys the sense of repetition of a particular action take the word reannounce for instance the little re Aa Re To the initial question what is a morphemes morpheme Morpheme is the smallest meaningful unit of a language I repeat Morphine is the smallest meaningful unit of a language here are some of you might think that we are back to the tricky is true of mapping a unit of a language to a particular meaning or concept and we already so when discussing this in our attempt to find out what word is that this can be electrically is now in order to answer this without if you have it latest elaborate things a little here when I talk about more I am not just saying that they are meaningful units what I'm saying and this is important is that they are the smallest meaningful unit which means that more fumes cannot be further divided if you try and divide them up in any which way they would cease to be meaningful units at all in a particular language and example will make this clear pic of the cluster of letters that is pronounced as girlfriend if I ask you whether it's a single word or not you will need if you realise that I am pushing you towards the same confusion that we had discussed earlier orthographical is a single word conceptually to it refers to one single entity we also know that the word is constituted of two other commonly known words namely girl and friend to the answer to the question whether girlfriend is a single word or not is confusing because the term work is rather weak as a form of categorisation we are on much former Grounds when we talk about morphemes so if you rephrase the question as to whether girlfriend is a single more feel or not the answer will always be no without any doubt white because girlfriend can be further broken up into two other meaningful unit girl and friend which means it does not represent the smallest meaningful unit in English other hand both girl and friend or examples of morphemes why again because they cannot be any more divided into smaller meaningful unit so as I said a more is the smallest meaningful unit in a language girl or friend is a more often because you try and avoid these letters up and you will not be able to arrive at any smaller meaningful unit within the parameter of English language so now that we know what a morpheme is is going to be much more confident in our attempt to understand how a language like English is put together well here I would like to make it clear that do I presented the term word as problematic and as far as I am not suggesting that you stop using the term altogether are common sense understanding of the term word is absolutely fine most of the time it serves as a fantastically well most of the time until unless we start thinking about setting complicated cases that I just mentioned so for casual conversation we can we still would like to

retain the use of that term in fact I myself will continue using the term word from this course but having said that we also need to wear in mine from now on the distinction between a word and a morpheme and also note that the first is a rather fuzzy category useful but for the category and it is the second which offers a deeper insight into the way language functions now to continue with the discussion of morphemes when I said the letter cluster Re Are Re is a morpheme and girl is a morpheme to notice that there is a difference between the two well the second more him that is a girl can stand alone and is used in English language even in its isolated form where is the first morpheme that is really cannot be used on its own in English language and must be attached to some other component to we have actually to of language used now the most common form in which we find bound morphemes operating in English language is in the form of a fixes but then what are affixes will affixes are basically bound morphemes which are added to a core meaningful element of a word which is called 20 persons look at the word and 2 year the core meaningful element the central meaningful element is signified by the letters de do when is the morpheme is attached to it in this particular case is the effects where is 2 is the base will not take up into these two thing is the effects and the base separately and try to unpack the way they function to start with affixes in English language there are two types of suffixes the prefix and suffix what is the graphics graphics is a morpheme which receives a 20 that is it attaches itself Films and the other is called bound morphemes free morphemes emotions that can stand alone and bound morphemes are morphemes that need Now the most common form in which we find bound morphemes operating in English language is in the form of a fixes but then what are affixes will affixes RBC clean bound morphemes which are added to a core meaningful element of a word which is called 20 persons look at the word and 2 year the core meaningful element the central meaningful element is signified by the letters de do where is the morpheme is attached to it in this particular case on is the effects where is 2 is the books we will not take up into these two thing is the effects and the base separately and try to unpack the way they function to start with affixus in English there are two types of graphics is the prefix and suffix what is the prefix graphics is a morpheme which receives a 20 that is it attaches itself in front of the base is there for a prefix in English because it attaches itself at the beginning of this is for example we find this prefix in words like Ondu unnecessary unpardonable on rest unfulfilled Instagram is a bound morpheme that fixes itself at the beginning of bases in English language and therefore again acts as a prefix so we have words like rewrite redo reorganize reconsidered removal at home and bound morphemes likely l y f or ING ING or EST IST aur even apostrophe s for that matter occur after the basis and are therefore referred to as suffixes examples will include words like friendly lively walking running typist pianist girlfriends with apostrophe s boyfriend with an apostrophe s science with an apostrophe s so on and so forth now here we need to wait a few important things the rules of exercise are predetermined within a language that is to say that which are fix would attached to which part of the base is already determined by grammatical laws and cannot be changed by individual language uses that if you want to use the effects on or tree or trans or enter this kind of exercise in English language you will see that you have to use the necessarily compulsorily as prefixes did you cannot attach them to any other part of the base thus it will have to be International and it cannot be national inter because there is a grammatical rule prohibiting the letter use similarly it will have to be on forgiving and it cannot be forgiving on or forgive can be something like that because the same set of letters resembling popular affixes are present in a word that automatically mean that they

function as affixes everywhere for example take these two words singer and finger now both of these words ends in e in the first word singer or is actually a suffix that is attached to the base Singh is a second word however we are is not a suffix in lead singer is a single morpheme and it cannot be broken down into feet and Earth there is another interesting thing about the fixes that you should I mention that as far is English language is concerned there are primarily to kinds of excess a prefix and suffix now are there other kinds of exercise to available in other languages which are either not operative in English language or are very rarely used in the example of infix

comes to my mind here is the use of the word apps bloody rupees right but as you can see such use it is very rare in English language and is completely Absent from within any formal context of conversation now what have discussed about affixes sofa related to the rules of the positioning I will now therefore trying talk something about how the functions and as far as the functionality of affixes are concerned again we see that they can be divided into two broad categories the first category is called derivational morphemes and second category is called inflectional morphemes now do these words might sound technical and therefore difficult they are actually not very difficult and you'll see when I explain it to you so let me explain with a few examples here forward like do the if you add and effects like an to create Word like Andrew and effects library to create Word like free to order and effects like earth to create a world like Dua you are actually adding important to the meaning of the original words the moment you add any of this effect was so when you add the graphics on and arrived at the word and who is meaning will be very different from the base with which your general started not only that its meaning will also be very different from the other word redo that you are arrived at by adding the graphics Re to the base 2 and similarly both undo and redo would signify meaning that are very different from the meaning of the word do work with you arrive at by adding the suffix ER to the base on the other hand adding the suffixes ES or to the same base do you see the meaning is actually not majorly altered because the word do does and doing all of them basically refer to the same action this difference is the key to understanding if we attach and effects which adds a new no answer the meaning of the base then that affects is called derivational morphemes and the word resulting from the addition of derivational morphemes is called a drive toward however when an effects does not changed substantially the meaning of the base but nearly has a grammatical function of indicating things like tense like number live person is 17 then it is called inflectional morphemes the word sleep if I have a sentence like I sleep every night then other words sleep appears without any 6 is right now look at this if I change the subject of the sentence and instead of I I replaced it with the word she then immediately you will see that you have to add the suffix is to the verb sleep inflectional morphemes why not to make any Che change in the meaning of the word but nearly for grammatical reasons the suffix is that I add to the words sleep would indicate the subject of sleep is here acting as a verb in the sentence is actually third person singular if I have a sentence like you walk everyday then the word walk is without any affixes but later site with the sentence into Something Like You Walked yesterday the suffix ID does not add any major change in meaning to the base word work but mainly fulfills the grammatical function of indicating tense in both the sentences the action remains the same but the first sentence the action is something that is regularly happening do not assume that verbs are the only kinds of words that can take inflectional morphemes the word girl in the sentence the girl is very quiet here the word girl is a noun right now we can add the suffix S to make it into

a sentence like the girls are very quiet and the second sentence the effects again does not substantially changed the meaning of the base word girl but simply provides the grammatical function of indicating plural number to the first is it was singular in the second case with the addition of the suffix we know that the number has changed from singular to plural it is performing grammatical function also look at the word friends where I've added the suffix apostrophe s to the base friend again the suffix act as a new fractional morpheme performing the grammatical function of indicating positions so I hope that the distinction between derivational morphemes and inflectional morphemes is now clear to you next letters come to the element that I've been referring to as 20 20 is the core meaningful element with the word to which and effects is attached to the base can be a free morpheme example of this would include words like onru intercast refill walking friendly girlish the true if you see the bases in these words and had been teaching them by underline in them in the slide that you have here you will see that all of them are free morphemes now basis can also be formed by found more fields difference is English word receives and here actually the effects Re is attached to the base c e r i v e which is a bound morpheme because it cannot be used in isolation within the English language now you might read and objection here you might say that if morpheme is the smallest meaningful unit within a language how can something like see you be called the morphing because it does not have any meaning in English language will I would agree with you there partly but this happens I will save operates as a separate morpheme bound morpheme within English language primarily because of a peculiarity and that peculiarity is all of these cases of mountains in fact most of these cases I should not see all this is most of these cases of bound morphemes are found in English language in words that are of Latin origin and 12 speaker series C IV is actually a meaningful unit it is just that within English language that meaning is not operative do this bound morpheme is plentiful be used including inverse like conceive this is perceive Instagram example of a bound morpheme acting as a business can be found in words like permit admit submit at 17 again the base MIT MIT would be perfectly meaningful to a Latin speaker but that meaning is in operator in English so met to act as a bound morpheme just like sleep now in all the examples that I have just quoted to explain the concept of base used only one more acting as the base but that did not me the keys look at the word and helpful for instance the graphics is attached to the base helpful which contains two moorings what is the root word help and the other is the suffix full f u l which is attached to it to the Bees can contain a root word that is attached with any number of affixes take another example the word unbiased and here is added to the base which contains a root word the root word is by and then that Root Word has access attached to it the first suffix is ad media II suffix is Li l y now let us try to do this exercises like it differently latest Ek the word sure it is a single morpheme that in standalone in other words it is a free morpheme we can use this as 20 and add a prefix like on for instance to arrive at the word answer and then we can make this whole word into a new base and that the suffix Li l y to arrive at the word on surely example we begin with the root words Scribe within add the graphics we have been dealing with suffix is given example with graphics take the base words Scribe now add a prefix like in in2 this 20 word and you arrive at a new word inscribed to this even add yet another graphics to you can use this whole new world inscribe as a new base and you can use a prefix like re Aa Re before it becomes very inscribed here the route it is described and you have to prefixes attached to that route so as you can see here a number of such permutations and combinations are possible

and if you now look at any Complex English word carefully you will see that you can easily divided up as a structure of morphemes attached together this morphological composition of a word will give you a much better understanding about how a word is put together and how the sense of meaning is built into it layer by layer by adding various affixes now I know that I have already introduce the number of new concepts in today's lecture and things might have started jumping up in your mind therefore let us do a quick recap utilisation of everything that was shared with it will help you unclutter your mind again so first started with word but then we saw that it is a very clearly defined category we found that we understand words better we have to dig deeper and study what are called morphemes more from the smallest meaning for unit of a language and here I need to remind you that just like phonemes morphemes to our language-specific now morphemes are fundamentally of two types as I said free morphemes and bound morphemes free morphemes can stand the loan was bound morphemes are those that need to be attached to other unit in order to be used for films with attached to bases are called a fixes and they can be categorised depending upon their location visa be the beast so if placed before the base it is called effects if placed after the base it is called as suffix within discuss how depending on the functions of fixtues can be categorised into two parts derivational morphemes and instructional offerings derivational morphemes are basically it fixes which adds of essential new launches of meaning to the base the word virus infection of insurer fixes which does not change the meaning of the base in any significant way but simply functions grammatically to indicate thing that thence number person is it finally we discuss the bases and how they can be constituted of standalone root words or a combination of root word in a variety of affixes I hope now with the summary things are more clearly organising your head now a college going person would typically no between 40000 in 60000 words of English if he or she has studied that language well this is a vast number of words and actually new words keep getting added to or repository very regularly and this happened not only because we keep learning new words that had already existed but we did not know but also because newly minted words get regularly added to the English dictionary words which actually did not exist or not in currency before one such Hindi English dictionary for instance is the word unfriend this verb I unfriend you you unfriend me separated into existence around the early 20th century when social networking sites like Facebook for instance gradually started gaining popularity dictionary defines the word as the act of removing a person from the list of friends or contacts on a social networking site now as this definition makes clear this word could not have been in circulation in the way it now is before the advent of internet or before the advent of social networking sites and effect Oxford English dictionary records the first example of the use of this word in this particular sense only in 2003 example of such a new word entering the English dictionary would be the construction of this is a word that the French philosopher newly to describe a theory of critical analysis that he came up with in the 1960 now this vast array of words which keeps expanding with time and contributing to the richness of the vocabulary of a language are referred to as content words in the book titled an introduction to language Victoria fromkin Robert rodman and Nina hands define content words as and I got nouns verbs adjectives and adverbs that denote concepts such as objects actions attributes and ideas that we can think about like children anarchism so and purple content words are sometimes called the open class words because we can and regularly do add new words to these classes such as Bollywood blog this and 24/7 pronounced 24/7 with also readily open themselves up to modification through the use of affixes in fact If you

know the rule of using affixes you can really be very creative with this content words take the word Bollywood for instance I can add the suffix *ishk* to the word Bollywood and arrive at a new word Bollywood *ishk* performance a Bollywood distance and the interesting part is I will not even have to check the dictionary to find out whether such a word like Bollywood *ishk* actually exist formerly or not because if my listener knows English and understand how affixes work within this language should have no problem figuring out what I am saying this like right now you must not have had any problem figuring out what I meant when I said something like it was a Bollywood this performance right but content words are not the only category of word with another language or within English language for that matter apart from content words there also exists in another class of words which are referred to as function words from Ken and her colleague define these as an eye quote words which do not have clear lexical meaning is obvious concepts associated with them including conjunctions such as and or and but prepositions such as in and of the articles the and a or an and pronouns such as it these kinds of words a call function was because they specify grammatical relations and have little or no semantic content for example the articles indicate whether noun is definite and indefinite the boy or a boy of indicate position as in the book of yours but this word indicates many other kinds of relations to the IT in it's raining and the address of found it advisable are for example the words whose function is to be grammatically where required by the rules of Syntax and we can hardly do without them now unlike content words new function words are almost never added in the repertoire of a language neither can you easily modify them by adding affixes they exist as free morphemes and they do not readily of themselves to any kind of combination now I am English vocabulary is concerned all of you know the function words for his most of them here we must however their usage using the function words can sometimes be tricky and we will work upon that during the course of all lectures but what is important is when someone advise you to expand your vocabulary they usually do not refer to function it's because you know the function words of any language that you are even really familiar with what expanding your vocabulary usually means is expanding your stock of content words and what are you advise you to do his work on expanding your content words but work on its monthly so whenever you hear a new content word or read an important word make note of it but also try to figure out the ways in which that content word can be modified by adding to it other morphemes which gives it new meanings other derivational morphemes this will make you more flexible with your use of language and also this will make your language rich not talking about the richness of a language's vocabulary I think I should introduce you to the concept of a lexicology which opens up a very interesting dimension as far as the meaning of words are concerned it is basically the study of the Origins of words and how individual words develop through the course of time take any word that you want if you look into it I'm always even more often than not find the fascinating history associated with the context in which the word originated and how which developed into its modern form in my previous lecture I've already giving one example of a fascinating etymology which I mentioned with regard to the word shampoo and you'll remember it from a discussion of Sheikh Mohammed now as you know by now the modern English word shampoo originally derived from the Hindustani word *Hampi* information tells us an interesting story about the British colonial history of India we have long been accustomed to reading that colonial past as characterized by the imposition of the British culture on us tracing the etymology of words like shampoo for instance revealed that the cultural influence during the

colonial period was a two-way traffic it was not really the British colonizers who changed the us culturally we change them as with and another word for instance that proves the influence of Indian Culture on the British is the word Mulakat Hona soup now is a spicy soup and I remember having it for the first time when I was important that in my mind it is almost always associated with British quizzing if you look up the etymology of this word you find an interesting fact which is that the soup with the English have been enjoying since the late 18th century is actually at is the name of the soup is actually a modified version of the Tamil words milagu anthonys milagu means pepper and the need means WhatsApp Swift search history in UAE would strongly recommend that you have access to a dictionary like offering a dictionary which gives elaborate etymology of words and if you study these at home illogical references it will not only make your English vocabulary Richa it will also offer surprise you with nuggets of interesting historical information that would force you to read think about the past from a good dictionary I would also recommend the reading of Amitav ghosh's novels them easily but what is more important is that many of them will give you fascinating etymology of various words and show how these etymologies hide behind them equally fascinating histories of human interaction and cultural networks in fact atomology is at the very core of his most recent novel Gan Island which was published in 2019 and that novel unfolds like a mystery story where the protagonist embarks on an enchanting journey connecting India and Italy of modern as well as mediaeval times as it tries to trace the etymology of the word Bandoor rich in various Indian languages means can I would not like to say anything more than this about the novel because revealing the etymology will reveal the entire mystery and therefore destroy your reading experience but if you are interested in the historical origin and development of words I would definitely you to read the novels of Amitabh Ghosh in general and gun Island in particular finally I would like to end today's lecture by giving you a few practical tips on the spelling of English words as you would already know from your experience there is a great deal of disparity between how English words are written and how they are pronounced and we already discussed in the previous lecture that there are a number of reasons as to why this disparity is there at all the only survey of learning how to spell correctly is actually through a conscious attempt carried over a very long period of time to familiarise yourself with how English words are written to their advisers read a lot of English texts and read it it so that your register the spellings in your mind but because such a task is easier said than done we all know that and in any case it's a time-consuming process will have to go through it that is how you learn the spellings of words but today I would like to help you on your way by sharing a few mnemonic devices at forest English spellings are concerned however before they do that I would like to stress that these are rules of thumb which means do they would serve you effective the most of the time they are not infallible so if you are applying these rules remember that there will be exceptions to these rules as well so having given you that warning letters focus on a couple of such rules now one of the difficulties that people often fees while Rai writing English word is when the letters I and B are use side by side sometimes in some words you find the letters by in that order and sometimes the order get changed and you have and there is very little help that you can get from the pronunciation of those particular words to tell you in which order you should write I saw it now that is one of your problems then I can help you with The Rime that I learnt while I was in school I don't know whether you know of it but probably some of you will probably some of you don't The Rime is right I before e except after C Auron sounded like a as a

neighbour and weight so this line is basically a rule right and now if you apply this rule you will see things become easier when would you put l before e well in words like achieve persons belief believe brief cashier friend look at all of these words l is it first and later because the preceding letter is not see neither does any of these words pronounce improve the speech sound a like and neighbour and rich so achieved believe believe brief cashier friend all of them put the letters l and ll in that order l first and follow in that the order is received in words like ceiling why because that is following the letter C d i l l n Ceiling conceive family's you and then we receive d c then l receive receive Sonu so that I say that these rules have exceptions and education see the exceptions include words like caffeine for either via protein Sone support now just another interesting rule for today which pertains to words English words ending in easy words ending in an is a final is dropped when the word is joined to a suffix beginning with a vowel searches in ING able or else they finally however is retained when a suffix beginning with a consonant such as mint less Li of ul is going to such a word and examples of finally being dropped Woh Din glued the word believing so when you convert believe into believing by adding the suffix ING the final key of the word believe is dropped similarly care caring hoping same saving the final is retained when you convert the word arrange into arrangement by adding the suffix ment amiantit similarly base retained its final if when is converted to 20 list require retains the finally was converted to requirement hope populous same thing happens again here there are exceptions like for instance these words at knowledge acknowledgement the age of acknowledge the final year of acknowledge is dropped When you add the suffix ment however the rules if something different right so you can look at all of these exceptions are have noted down here and you will know why that rule that I just mentioned is not infallible every time so 99 are you argument to truly judgement Hole Hole is it so we will conclude a lecture here today but I will keep sharing with you more of such interesting spelling tips in our future lectures as well thank you for listening

Lecture 5

Welcome back to another lecture in this series on English language communication at the last lecture might have been a bit heavy for some of you in terms of the new ideas that were being introduced that I am sure that a couple of listing must have sorted out the difficulties for you today we're going to shift attention from the morphological study of words and locate words from a grammatical perspective and we are going to see how all the words that we use when communicating can be categorised into various grammatical word classes for what you might have learnt in your school as part of speech so today's lecture is partly going to be a revision of some of the things that you might already be familiar with from your school days but we will try to add some useful advances to this known items so that they become effective tools of your communication rather than being simply boring grammar lessons which need to be learnt in class regurgitated in the exam hall and then forgotten as so many irrelevant pieces of information but before we set ourselves to this task latest look back at some of the things we discussed in a previous lecture so that we can build upon them a little what are the key things that we discussed in a previous lecture was morphemes which be defined as a smallest meaningful unit of a language we also discuss how there are two varieties of morpheme bound and free right now free morphemes what are they are those morphemes which can be used in their isolated form in a language where is bound morphemes are those which need to be attached to some other component in order to be used in communication now in the previous lecture we have seen how in English language bound morphemes are combined with free morphemes in a number of different ways the most common format here is that we have a base which is a free morpheme and then we have affixes which is a free morpheme and then bound morphemes are attached to it either as prefixes or as suffixes this is the most common format that we encountered a cause we also encountered other formats like having a bound morpheme as a prefix like in the world receive that we discussed but the most common format was having a

20 which is of afeem afeem and then we have bound morphemes acting as prefixes and suffixes to that so inverse like relocate or unfit for predetermined we have examples of a bound morpheme attached as a prefix to a free morpheme which acts as a base on the other hand in words like usable or like or apples we have examples of bound morphemes acting as suffixes to free mafi basis we have also talked about how was single free morpheme root can have a number of bound morphemes attached to it simultaneously as prefixes and suffixes the forest is the word an inscribed has a to bound morphemes attached to the free morpheme root Scribe as prefixes and one bound morpheme attached to the root as a suffix in the word and then I believe we find the root word in I attached to three bound morphemes out of which one is acting as a prefix and acting as suffixes apart from this we have also seen that in the English language bound morphemes canfin occasionally act as root as I told you in words like receive receive conceive permit admit it's what we have not discussed is a possibility of two free morphing coming together to form a word now this process is called compounding to put differently when free morphemes come together to express a single meaningful entity then that results in the formation of a compound word and this process for me new words to compounding is actually a very important aspect of how English vocabulary operates how many words are generated within English vocabulary to give you an example let us look at the word greenhouse buy now all of you know how to look for morpheme within a words so if I ask you to identify the constituent morphemes here you will immediately recognise that the word is constituted of two morphemes green and house now you will also recognise that neither green 9 house is a bound morpheme both of them are regularly used in English language as standalone words and therefore both of them are free morphemes when these two free morphemes are brought together as I told you the process is called compounding and the resulting word greenhouse gives us an example of a compound word now here we need to keep in mind to things first is in the word greenhouse neither of the two more fields are affixes that is to say green does not act as a prefix to the base house neither does House act as a suffix to the base green you remember from our earlier discussion that any kind of FX is basically a bound morpheme in other words prefixes and suffixes can only be formed through bound morphemes and not proof remodel this is very important to remember that we should not look at a word like greenhouse through the lens of affixes and trying to locate a b Ace and then what is attached to it as a prefix and what is attached to it as a suffix that would be a very long lens through which to interpret the formation of compound words the second thing that we need to know about compound is that when two or more free morphemes in fact are brought together the meaning of the resultant word the resultant compound word is not simply a sum total of the meaning of all of the constituent fumo creams different entity all together which may or may not have any close linked with the meaning of the constituent morphemes other compound word greenhouse for instance is not simply a house that is green write it signifies a different entity altogether as many of us will know green house in fact is a special kind of a structure that is often found in Gardens this structure is usually made of glass walls or at least they have a lot of glass or plastic pains in their surrounding walls which create a very special climatic condition within these structures and these climatic conditions are created to sustain the growth of certain special kinds of plants that why we create green houses in a garden another example of an English compound word is butterfly which again you can see there are two free morphemes that combine together to form this compound word the morphemes are of coarse butter and Fly now just like greenhouse

butterfly to signify something that is not a sum total of the meaning of its constituent morphemes does a butterfly is not a fly made out of button that means a special kind of insect which feeds on nectar and has large pairs of brightly coloured wings that were butterfly is in the word butterfly is an example of how far removed the meaning of the compound word can be from the meaning of its constituent morphemes I mean the morpheme fly for instance can still somehow be associated with the meaning of the word butterfly because they are both flying insects but the morpheme butter has almost no relationship with the nectar feeding insect in fact while preparing for this lecture I got interested in the etymology of the word butterfly to know how the term was got associated with this word in the first place and what you got from Oxford English dictionary was a rather fake set of etymological connections surmises really not very confirm statements and this is what the dictionary states the motivation for the name is unclear and has been previously explained it may arise from the pale yellow appearance of the wings of certain European butterflies perhaps specifically the brimstone butterfly or from a supposed tendency to feed on or over bottle buttermilk or from a folk belief that butterflies steal butter now even if we believe in any of these suggested etymological derivations then we will have to admit that whatever tenuous link that butterfly had with butter at some point in history is no longer operative in English language today's show the compound word butterfly is very different from the meanings of the two free morphemes that constituted it within the English language as we know it today now at this point I want to introduce an orthographic complication in English compound words we find while writing them there are different ways of writing compound words in English language for instance sometimes a compound word is written as a single word separated from other words by space example of this would include was like greenhouse butterfly grapefruit notebook things like that but in other times we find compound words to be written in a way where each constituent free morpheme is treated as a separate orthographic word examples of this would be stir fry for resistance tester is written as a separate word in fry is written as a separate word but nevertheless they are morphologically one compound word other examples here would include dinner table real estate think that there is yet another way of writing compound words in English wherein the constituent free morphemes are not fused together but they are written separately as separate words and then connected by example of this would be a word like mother in law for instance where mother-in-law written as separate words and then they are connected by hyphens now there are other examples of such hyphenated compound words in English merry-go-round where again like mother-in-law 3 free morphemes are connected through these are also good examples of three free constituent morphemes coming together to form a compound word so do usually we find two morphemes coming together to form compound words in English it need not be two always there can be other numbers of free morphemes coming together as well as we can see in the case of mother in law and in the case of Merry Go Round the problem here is that there is no hard and fast rule that determines how compound words are to be written in English that is to say I cannot tell you why some compound words are written as one single word and why in some cases the constituent words of India written separately and why in some other cases the words are used to join this free morpheme these are mostly determined by conventions and such conventions I know it's frustrating but such conventional 2 change over time princes Oxford English dictionary records that greenhouse was written with the hyphen-separated greenhouse in the early eighteenth century and it was only from the late 18th century that we find green how is being written as a

single word without in a hyphen or space between the two more fields the case of the compound word ice cream is even more curious if you study all the entries for the word in Oxford English dictionary you will see that for centuries now some authors have chosen to write it as two separate words while others have written it with the hyphen in between Ice and cream if we move on to another word icebox we see it being written in all the three different ways that I am just mention two you namely I sandbox are sometimes written as two separate words ice box is written as a single word and also there are instances where I sandbox are separate words but connected with hyphen to use it is impossible for me to give you are rules here but the more you read English text you will get familiar with the current conventions and you will know in which we a compound word is usually written today having said that there is no rule to all of this I would want to tell you that there is actually an exception this exception to the rule of adding a hyphen in certain cases where compound words are used as adjectives let me explain this with an example take the word middle class now it is a compound word and as per convention it is written as two separate words the free motions middle and class they are kept separate while writing letters now build the sentence around this compound word for example think of a sentence like I belong to the middle class now so far there is no confused because everything here is working as per convention the milk glass even in this sentence appears in the form of two separate words but if we click this sentence abate and if we come up with the sentence like this one I am part of the middle class society then here you can see the compound word middle class gets written with hyphen and there is a rule that takes such use of hyphenation to understand the rule note is that in the sentence I am part of the middle class society with compound word mil class acts as an adjective or as a qualifier 2 the noun society and is placed before it so what is the rule that is being played out here with the rule is that any compound word which is conventional written as a set of different words needs to be connected with-when being used as an adjective or as a qualifier in front of is the sentence I belong to the middle class the constituent elements of the compound word was not connected with hyphens because it was not acting as an adjective that was placed in front of a noun on the other hand in the next sentence the hyphen is necessary because middle class their acts as an adjective placed before a noun it is take another example is start with the compound word coffee-table again the convention is to write this compound word as two separate words but if you have a sentence like this is a coffee table book then you can see we would need to hyphenate the words coffee and table because it is acting as a qualified to the noun book and is placed in front of it and is placed before it the last bit is very important to the placing of this compound word as a qualified before announce that location is very important why because you only have to hyphenated convention Leon hyphenated compound word when you are placing it as an adjective in front of a noun if it is placed after the noun then the hyphen is not required so for instance in the sentence is something like the book is meant for the coffee table then of course no need to hyphenate the compound word coffee table here I need to question you about something which is that this rule that I just mentioned is sometimes Raval loosely followed by authors who are writing informal E and a large part of the text that filled the internet today is written by authors were not careful enough so do know that this rule exist and to be careful about it when writing formal it and don't get confused when your internet searches through up text that do not strictly follow this rule or even other rules of using English language which I will be discussing in the subsequent lectures just remember that internet is a wonderful source but

often it can create confusion for us so don't get confused while searching the internet ok now that we have talked so much about the English word I would like to send this discussion by leaving you with a few thoughts on the acquisition and the use of English vocabulary the first thing that I want to note here is the importance of using the right word and I will lead to screen share what I mean by the phrase right word but before I do that let me tell you the source from where I derived this advice and from where I have derived the number of advice regarding writing in fact and I've tried implementing them to better my communication style I am sure you have heard about the American novelist mark twain in fact every 2 versions of his two humorous novel The Adventures of Tom Sawyer and Adventures of Huckleberry Finn were in fact two of my most constant companions as a child so if you haven't theatre read these novel then I would request you to do so only because they contain a wonderful stories absolutely thrilling but also because Mark Twain is a great role stylist and if you read it carefully you would definitely learn thing or two about the art of writing anyway twain was once asked for his advice about writing and what are the important things that he said in his advice is that young writer will notice in the course of time as his reading goes on the difference between the almost right word and the right word is really a large matter is the difference between the lightning bug and the Lightning so the point here is that it was in writing if not in all other forms of communication the difference between a right word and the word that is close enough but not quite right is still tremendous it is as tremendous as the difference is between the searing luminosity of a lightning that spreads across the whole sky and the tiny amount of luminescence produced by a lightning bug or a glow worm question is what do I mean by the right word and how is it different from English how is the right word different from what I have referred to after Mark Twain at almost right word will you see each word has a very specific ones of meaning and do the broad meaning of a number of words might be similar their exact meaning or never quite the same and what doing suggests is that we grow more acquainted with this exact meanings of the words that we use so that our communication becomes more sites I will elaborate on this by giving an example from AP string by the Indian memorist and scholar Neeraj Chaudhary is often remember today for his controversial views on the British colonialism of India but what concerns us here is his master League craft over the English language really Indian jewelry made himself so proficient in the English language that he would often point out mistakes in English pieces written by British authors so for instance in one of his essays that show the route for the British magazine the spectator in 1988 he started by pointing out how the contemporary British have grown relax with the use of their English language and to prove his point he produces a head line from a recent edition of the times newspaper which for more than 200 years now is regarded as one of the foremost English dailies not only in Britain but throughout the world in fact that line that has a problem with is this Royal Fuchsia lead salutes princess without cname the news item under this heading actually dealt with the birth of a princess in the British royal family and what the headline hoped to suggest was that the birth of The Princess was a happy occasion with your celebrated by a gun salute now Chaudhari ensures that in trying to do so that it uses the word fusillade in a very incorrect me Chaudhari also argues that not only the title of the headline but in the whole newspaper article shows a very limited knowledge of English words so according to Chaudhari the problem that exists with the word fusillade with the use of the word fusillade in the title is only compounded by the use of the word volley in the article to describe the same phenomenon now what is the problem here because both fusillade and wally are indeed quite

commonly used to signify discharge of gun ammunition gun firing points out that competent English speakers should know the ones that each of these words carry and the times articles along with its head line according to Chaudhari has got the nuances of these words horribly wrong he explains this by coating the meaning of the towards future lead and wally from his dictionary and I reproduce sure what Chaudhari rights fusillade is defined as a simultaneous discharge of many firearms in Rapid succession of these charges hence execution by such discharges velly is defined in turn as in modern artillery fire 1 round for gane battery fire without regard to the order of firing all the intervals of time between shots so as even see here to both fusillade and wally signifies a discharge of Gan emanation they signify a very different kinds of ammunition discharge than what usually happens during the course of a gun salute which is a very formal ritual that commemorates certain column occasions now to begin with fusillade and volley are both fired with an intention to kill and secondly they do not convey any suggestion of a commemorative ritual brother as a Chaudhari points out the use of these towards the picture of a horrible scene of chaos massacre and bloodshed which is very far removed from the ritual stick moment of celebration of commemoration that marks the gun salute can solute specifically on the occasion of the birth of The Princess which the article tries to discuss indeed to revert back to the court of Mark Twain these two words are as for removed from the reality that they are trying to describe as the luminosity of a lightning bug is from the searing luminosity of the lightning the right word that Chaudhari suggests in the place of fusillade and wallet is Sulphur whose dictionary definition is as follows in monetary fire one round for Gandhi ne battery fire in a prescribed order and with the prescribed interval of time between shops now for many of you all of these rivers fusillade volume salvo might be unknown and if that is the case then you can already see the need to increase your vocabulary but you should also appreciate the fact that nearly acquiring a number of words without paying attention to the precise meaning would make you commit the same kind of mistakes that the writer in the times committed therefore please do not trust blindly set yourself the goal of acquiring a large vocabulary full of big and exotic words this activity in fact of you communication depends not really on how many words you possess in your vocabulary but how conscious you or to the nuances of meanings that a particular word contains and how accurately you can put those nuances to use will get great examples of using simple words in a number of very effective ways to make our English communication Richa when we discuss phrasal verbs available right now I want to introduce you to some of the things that one of my favourite authors wrote about the acquisition and use of vocabulary which is very relevant as far as the point that I am trying to make him now I do not know how many of you have heard of the American novelist Stephen king I assume any of you work because he is a rather popular novelist and he writes wonderfully engaging fiction that usually have a Supernatural aur of fantasy Ben to them for those who might not have read his novels you might have encountered his work in the form of films because a number of his novels have been converted into a very successful Motion Pictures for instance I am sure you must have heard about Stanley Kubrick classic movie the shining which was in fact based on a novel a psychological horror reply King wearing the same name where other famous adaptations of Kings novel for instance year and thinking about the Tom Hanks started The Green Mile and then also the film Shawshank Redemption starring Leonardo DiCaprio and model free month and all of these are adaptations of the writings by king however as much as I enjoy his novels they are not my favourite pieces of writing by King what I enjoy reading mostly it is this very

thing book that he wrote which is titled on writing and this book it is partly a modern paath liya commentary about how to become a writer and I would absolutely recommend each one of you to get hold of this extraordinarily inspiring book and read it from start to finish it is to this book that I would like to turn now and read out to you a wonderful piece of advice on the acquisition and the effective use of vocabulary that King presents to his riddles don't make any conscious effort to improve your vocabulary you'll be doing that as you read of course can pack comes later in the really bad things you can do to your writing is to dress up the vocabulary looking for long words because you maybe a little ashamed of yourself at once this is like dressing up a household bete in evening clothes the petals embarrassed and the person who committed this act of premeditated cuteness should be even more advanced than you can see things book is written in an interesting with colourful weight and this is in fact one I like most about reading undo most of his advice because of the way he puts them across might sound idiosyncratic I have come to realise that if you follow them they make your style less c***** more direct and more easily comprehensible and we need to remember that comprehensibility is the very core of effective communication so the vocabulary should not be used as the show because as King points out that is plain and simple embarrassing in other words the vocabulary that you have must be acquired without any special effort to the natural course of your reading English text and they should become an organic part of your thought world so that when you put this vocabulary in use they will not appear to be stilted and artificial for King therefore spontaneity is the keep both in acquiring the vocabulary and in using it as you right and I could again the basic rule of vocabulary is used the first word that comes to your mind if it is appropriate and colourful if you hesitate and quantitative will come up with another word of cost you will there's always another word but it probably won't be as good as your first one aur as close to what you really mean however all this talk about effortlessness and sponsors and it should not lead you to think that I am asking you to be careless and sloppy with your use of word far from it spontaneity does not mean killer status what I am suggesting here is that make the acquisition of new words and organic process read more read well and you will automatically in by new words so you really do not need to sit with the list of 100 words per week and memorize them to increase your vocabulary in fact I think that that is a thoroughly artificial we are going about increasing your story of words structural earnings out of context and they will not help you with improving your English communication in any significant weight what I am also suggest thing is that when speaking or writing you should not worry too much about how poor or rich your store of vocabulary is right now at present I mean you go on increasing the size of your vocabulary organically but at any given moment while trying to communicate do not feel afraid about the fact that no I only have a very few words in my vocabulary English vocabulary because whatever the size of your vocabulary you can use it effectively provided you are conscious of the meanings of your words and try finding out the various Shades and one such that each of the work that you have a new vocabulary contains this is important because it is carelessness that create all the difference between our right word and an almost right word now let's move on to the discussion of the parts of speech and arrival told you you must be familiar with a lot of what I am going to discuss from your school days and we will therefore in a way be covering familiar characters now in a previous lecture you remember we had talked about the distinction between content words and function was now these words have different names the content word for instance is also called the open class words or even lexical words where as function

words are also known as grammar words but whatever name we might use for them the distinction as you remember is pretty straight forward the content words were not concepts such as objects actions attributes and ideas where is a function words specify grammatical relationships and have little or no semantic content now within the category of content words we have four groups namely nouns verbs adjectives and adverbs and it is on these groups of words for this word classes that we will be focusing today at every will take up the category of function words and the various sub classes that are there and that cat after we complete our discussion on content words now I keep telling you much of this will be familiar to you but while going over familiar grounds we will also try to remove certain confusion regarding them that I've seen many people to have so let's start with nouns what are nouns in schools nouns are usually defined and discussed as naming words and dosage definition of noun is usually found upon in more advanced books of grammar kind of still think that they are useful enough that definition is useful in f and it provides a fairly correct understanding of what a noun is and what are now does so again what noun is for the purpose of this course we will retain that school definition that nouns are naming words that is noun power that are used to name particular objects or entities however we need to remember that the objects or entities that nouns name or not only material objects like persons places of things but they can also be abstract entities like qualities for instance feelings concepts activities even measures so just like shopkeeper shop and books are words that function as nouns in English sentence and their course refer to very concrete things there are other words like good for instance or happiness parenthood reading sentiment these are all was that name abstract things and even the naming words they are also regarded as nouns with in English language the other thing to note about noun words is that they can be divided into two categories namely proper nouns and common nouns proper nouns whose first letters are always capitalised while writing refer to one specific person or place or thing like Amita for instance the name of a woman that during the name of a place for Statue of Liberty name of a thing or another nouns are common nouns and their first letters are not capitalised in English except in special circumstances like for instance when you are using them to open a sentence of girls than the first letter gets capitalised now this distinction is very well understood so I will not well too much on this distinction but there is another distinction that is used to classify nouns and other categories and that needs some attention these are the categories of countable nouns and uncountable nouns so all the nouns that we have can be divided into countable nouns and uncountable nouns now the names of these categories might seem to be pretty straight forward and you might assume that well countable nouns are the names of objects that can be counted and uncountable nouns name objects that cannot be counted right pretty straight forward now for most of the cases this is a good enough understanding but the problem here is what is regarded as countable and what is regarded as non countable in English language is determined not really by common sense but by grammatical convention so for instance furniture in English is non countable noun do it might technically be possible to count how many pieces of furniture one is referring to similarly in English gold is a non countable noun and so is luggage so you will need to be alert while learning English language and all of us are learning English language we adjusted with different levels of proficiency so while picking up this language all of us need to be careful that the nouns that we're picking up are the countable or are they be used as not come to be because that distinction will determine what grammatical rules coming to play while using them and different grammatical rules in fact

coming to play depending on whether you are using a countable noun or whether using an uncountable noun and Lizzie Jeffries in her book *Discovering Language* is a book that we've already referred to in one of a previous lectures gives an outline of these distinct grammatical rules. Countable nouns can occur in combination with numbers with the indefinite article *a* or *an* and can be pluralised by the addition of the plural morpheme. These include cats, tables, children, ideas and bicycles. The numbers of the other subclass, non-countable or mass nouns, do not occur with numbers for the indefinite article and cannot be pluralised. These include air, sugar, water, horror, peace in future. So what is being saved here well if you are using a countable noun then three distinct grammatical features or grammatical rules come into play. What are they? The first is that these nouns can be used along with the mention of specific numbers that reveal their exact quantities. For instance I can say we have three tables, two chairs and one bed. In the sentence we can refer to specific numbers because the nouns that we are associated with these numbers name list tables, chairs and benches are all countable nouns. The second grammatical rule that Jeffries refers to is that these nouns, countable nouns, can be used with the indefinite article *a* or *an* when they are being used in the singular form. For instance I can have a sentence like we have a brown cat or I saw an elephant. Again I can use these indefinite articles *a* or *an* and because a noun with which I am associated with them in the first case a cat and the second case an elephant both of them are countable nouns and the third rule, Mantra by Jeffries is at these countable nouns can be expressed in plural forms by adding to them plural morphing. Now in English the most common morpheme added to convert a noun from singular to plural is *s*. So table becomes tables, chair becomes chairs and becomes beds but then there are also more feels like *ren* which are used to make plural which are used to convert into the pluralised form was like child or brother so you get children and brother and brother is also more often I think truly *lyse* brothers but brother and is also informed on the other hand in case of the mass nouns or non-countable nouns what they freeze is saying is firstly we cannot use numbers we cannot associate numbers with them secondly we cannot associate indefinite articles with them and thirdly we cannot convert them into pluralised forms. These rules are very important to understand because we often make mistakes. You look at these sentences each of them is wrong because each of them mixes up the rules of countable nouns and uncountable nouns so the first sentence is Bangalore has a fine view whether the second sentence is I carried the heavy languages upstairs the third sentence is I bought two furnitures from the store now each of the underlined words represent uncountable nouns and yet they have been mistakenly treated in this sentence is as if they are countable once take the percentage for instance here weather is uncountable nouns and here we have introduced an indefinite article which have marked in red colour so in order to correct the sentence what do we need to do just go back to rules specified by Jeffrey can you see one rule is that you should not use indefinite articles with non-countable noun so if you remove that article from the sentence it becomes grammatically correct now if you move down to second sentence we encountered a different kind of error here here we have taken to try to pluralise the non-countable noun language by adding *s* and this is in fact a very common mistakes that we often make because we often try to pluralise non-countable nouns and we end up saying things like I have been given a lot of home works or I want some informations or he brought many equipments or she has a lot of emotional back images so here again in the sentence I carried the heavy languages upstairs the way to correct it would be to simply drop the *s* because non-countable nouns cannot be pluralised if you look at the third sentence

you will see that we have committed to mistakes here the first mistake is that we have added a number to specify the non countable noun furniture and the second mistake is of course that we have tried to relising furniture by adding and SO2 this second one is a mistake that we completed in the second sentence as well how do we corrected well as far as the plural morpheme S is concerned we can just to drop it but in order to correct the sentence you'll also need to do something about the number 2 and we cannot simply drop it because I do that might make the sentence grammatically correct we will lose an important piece of information that the speaker is trying to convey so what is the option then will be rephrase the sentence that I bought two pieces of furniture from the store what this does is it introduces the noun piece which is a countable noun and therefore can be qualified by numbers as well as pluraleyes the number to others becomes a qualified of the plural is countable noun pieces and the sentence becomes grammatically correct while at the same time retaining all the information that the speaker originally wanted to convey ok now before I move on to the next word class that is verbs I would like to point out a couple of things about this distinction between countable and uncountable nouns firstly and I've already mentioned this is the reason why A noun is judged as countable or why it is charged as non countable has less to do with common sense and more to do with grammatical conventions and in most of the cases common sense might work but I can point out the number of cases where it doesn't take for example the apparently easy division that one of my students came up with ones and she said that well if all nouns referring to concrete objects come under the countable category and if all nouns referring to abstract entities come on the noncount all categories that is basically the underlying division will in the first glance Sachin assertion might sound logical because after all most if not all concrete objects can be counted in one way or the other where is abstract things like emotions for instance can be counted but things actually don't quite act that we win the grammatical purview of the English language Where are concrete things and one might say even easily countable concrete things that are referred to by nouns which are regarded as an uncountable like luggage for instance or furniture rice sugar gold I already mentioned that on the other hand there are abstract things which are referred to by nouns that are slaughtered as countable noun idea for instance an abstract entity and yet it is regarded as a countable noun in English language similarly the noun dream again and abstract concept and again a countable noun also nouns like everything motion right again and abstract entity but regarded as a countable noun in English language the second point that I want to remember is that these rules about the use of countable and uncountable nouns that I just mentioned are unfortunately not watertight and again I know this is somewhat frustrating because the rules can be violated in certain contexts and jefferies deals with this in her book and I would ask you to read it up if you are interested here I would not discuss them because it might make the whole thing more confusing for you but secondly also and this is more important I think is because you'll be doing just fine even if you choose not to transgress the laws that I am just the only thing that you need to remember is that there are ways of using noun in certain contexts that do not strictly follow the grammatical regulations that have mentioned however even if you do not know how to break those regulations in certain contexts which are mostly in formal contexts you will be doing just fine you can stick to the rules and you will be absolutely correct in your grammar it's just that you might encounter other people apparently breaking news rules in certain cases and the thing is that they are also grammatically correct so don't come to the conclusion that ok these rules haven't

talked to me and I know these rules and these people they are transgressing those rules and therefore they must be dramatically wrong there are certain contexts in which those rules can be treated teeth now let's move on to the word class called verbs in this lecture will just go over some very rudimentary aspect of this word class because in any case we will have to revisit verbs in our future lectures why we deal with things like tense for instance all subject verb agreement so a to begin with what is the verb you again like nouns most of us carry from our school days a rough and ready definition of a verb and what we remember most is that a verb is a word that depicts some kind of an action right now this is not entirely wrong but then verb as a world class does much more than simply depict actions these three sentences for instance Rahul bakes a cake the cake has sweetness Rahul is happy now in each of these three sentences I have underline the verbs but apart from the verb in the first sentence which depicts the performance of an action namely baking not the other words they Pick any action per se the verb in the second sentence actually the pic idea about the various things a verb can actually signify does a more comprehensive definition of a verb would actually be that it is a word which signifies an action or an occurrence or a state of being by the way you please note that some nouns and verbs might look similar but they are very different in the grammatical function take for instance the word swimming now if you are using this word to name the activity of moving through water then you are using it as a noun as a naming word and you are doing that in a sentence like swimming is my favourite activity right here swimming is a noun why you are using it is a naming word you are using it to name a particular activity you can also use the same word to signify the performance of the action the performance of the action of moving through water and then you are using it as verb like in the sentence I am swimming so keep that in mind and with this we come to the end of today's discussion in our next lecture will carry on with the discussion of other parts of speech will complete our discussion on adverbs and adjectives and then we will move on to the various classes that come under the category of function words thank you