**Index**

[**1.1.** **Phonetics** 2](#_Toc125358165)

[1.1.1. Defination of phonetics: 2](#_Toc125358166)

[1.1.2. Importance: 2](#_Toc125358167)

[1.1.3. Classification of Sounds: 2](#_Toc125358168)

[**1.2.** **Vowels and Consonant:** 3](#_Toc125358169)

[1.2.1. Vowels: 3](#_Toc125358170)

[1.2.2. Consonant: 3](#_Toc125358171)

[**1.3.** **Vowels and** **Consonant:** 4](#_Toc125358173)

[1.3.1. Monophthonges: 4](#_Toc125358174)

[**1.4.** **Diphthongs:** 5](#_Toc125358175)

[1.4.1. Diphthong Symbols: 5](#_Toc125358176)

**Unit-1 Phonetics & Basic Writing Skills**

# **Phonetics**

## Defination of phonetics:

We learn a native or foreign language for communicative purposes. There is thus a growing need in the modern world for people to communicate effectively through the medium of speech. The study of Phonetics is a branch of linguistics that deals with this medium. It is an academic discipline that can help the students to gain oral proficiency in an international language like English.

## Importance:

To develop oral communication skills, it is important to understand the sound system of English including various aspects such as individual sounds- consonants and vowels, production of speech, word stress, sentence stress, and intonation or the variation of pitch.

## Classification of Sounds:

Sounds are produced by the speech organs by forcing the air stream out of the lungs either through the mouth or the nose. All sounds are either oral or nasal. In oral sound, the air is released through the mouth and in the nasal, the air is released either fully or partially through the nose.

For example:

* + - Oral sounds: /al/, /k/, /h/ etc.
    - Nasal sounds: /n/,/m/.

# **Vowels and Consonant:**

## Vowels:

During the production of vowel sounds, the air from the lungs comes out in an unrestricted manner in a somewhat continuous stream. There is no closure of the air passage or fraction between any speech organs. In English, out of 26 alphabets, there are 5 vowels which have 20 sounds. These 20 vowel sounds are further classified as Pure Vowels (Monophthongs) and diphthongs.

## Consonant:

While pronouncing consonants, the passage is either completely or partially closed and the air passes through the speech organs with an audible friction. In English, there are 21 consonants which have 24 sounds. (12 voiced and oral, 3 voiced and nasal, 9 unvoiced and oral.

# 

# **Monophthonges**:

## Monophthonges:

Mono means one. A pure vowel (Single Vowel Sound) is called as a Monophthong. A pure vowel is a single sound marked by its steady quality. During the production of a pure vowel, its quality does not change.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Sr. no** | **IPA Symbols** | **Words** |
| 1. | /ə/ | (simple) away, around |
| 2. | /ʌ/ | (wide) but, cut |
| 3 | /ɜ:/ OR /ə:/ | (deep) girl, burn |
| 4 | /ɑ:/ | Basket, ask |
| 5. | /e/ OR /Ɛ/ | Bet, bed, men |
| 6 | /ǽ/ | Bat, bad, man |
| 7. | /I/ | Bit, bid |
| 8. | /i:/ | Beat, bead |
| 9. | Ʊ | Pull, put |
| 10. | /u:/ | Pool, root, hood |

# **Diphthongs:**

## Diphthong Symbols:

In the production of diphthongs, one sound position glides to another, as a result of which the quality of the vowel changes. For example, /i: / is a pure vowel as in “feet’, whereas /aI/ is a diphthong as in “fight’.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Sr. no** | **IPA Symbols** | **Words** |
| 1. | /eI/ | Day, afraid |
| 2. | /aI/ | July, decide, buy |
| 3 | /ɔI/ | Boy, voice, enjoy |
| 4 | /əƱ/ | Go, so, ghost |
| 5. | /aƱ/ | Town, mountain |
| 6 | /Iə/ | Hear, here, appear |
| 7. | /Ʊə/ | Sure, cure, January |
| 8. | /eə/ OR /Ɛə/ | Hair, wear, care |