

UNIT II

Introduction to Phonetics

- Introduction to Phonetics
- English Pronunciation
- Introduction to Consonants and Vowel Syllables and structure
- Word stress and Intonation in English language

PHONETICS

- ▶ Phonetics is the science of speech sounds, which aims to provide the set of features or properties that can be used to describe and distinguish all the sounds used in human language.

INTRODUCTION

Anybody with the desire to reduce their accent can reduce their accent. Change begins with the desire to change. When we combine our desire with proper instruction and practice, we achieve success!

The key to learning to speak English clearly and correctly is training and practice. Clear and accurate speech comes from "doing."

- ▶ Reducing your accent is different than other skills such as grammar and vocabulary. Studying accent reduction is more like studying dance, music, sports or martial arts. It involves the training of muscle groups. Everybody is born with these muscle groups located in our tongue, lips and jaw.
- ▶ All that you need is the desire to change, proper instruction and most of all practice and training! Accent reduction is about "doing."
- ▶ Simply observing or knowing how to, is not enough. Awareness and knowledge is important but we have to *use it in action in the while*.

INTRODUCTION

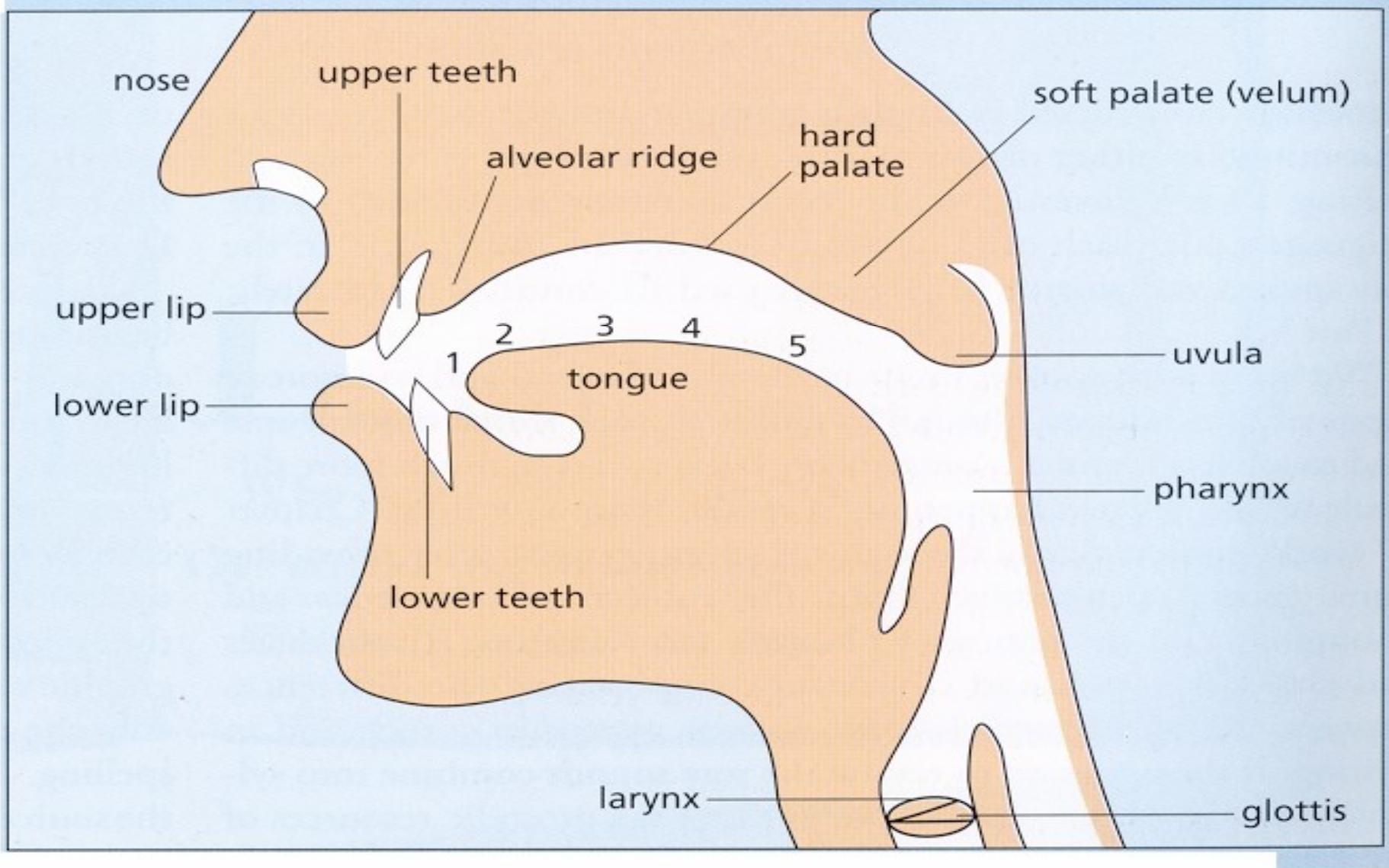
There are 3 level of English pronunciation:

- ▶ Level 1: People often don't understand what you want to say. You use the wrong sounds in English words.
- ▶ Level 2: People understand what you want to say, but it is unpleasant to listen to you.
- ▶ Level 3: People understand you, and your English is

INTRODUCTION TO CONSONANTS AND VOWELS

THE ORGANS OF ARTICULATION

The diagram shows the anatomical location of the vocal organs involved in the description of English vowels and consonants. It is not a complete representation of all the vocal organs – the lungs, for example, are not shown.



- Languages are made up of vowels and consonants sounds.
- There are 44 sounds in phonology of English.
- They are broadly divided into consonant and vowels- 20 vowels and 24 consonants.

Vowels

- No obstruction to the air stream and the vocal chords are either held apart or brought closer.
- All vowels are voiced sounds. The vowel letters are: A, E, I, O, U.
- Sounds are made by vibrating the vocal cords (voicing).
- Most vowel sounds are modified by the shape of the lips.
- (rounded / spread / neutral).

Vowels can be

- **Monophthongs** are single sounds, called as pure vowels. They are 12 pure vowels.
- **Diphthongs** are double sounds and combinations of two sounds English has 8 diphthongs.

Consonants

- Consonants are produced with obstruction to the air stream and the vocal chords are either held apart or brought closer.
- The Articulation of sound based on received pronunciation.
- 21 consonant letters produces 24 sounds.

Section - A

The Sounds of English

(A-1) The Vowels of English

(A.1.1) The Pure Vowels :

You will now hear the pure vowels of English said in isolation and in with the vowels occurring at the beginning, in the middle and at the end of Each vowel in isolation will be said TWICE and the words will be said each. Listen carefully.

Sl.No.	Vowels	Word-initial	Word-medial	Word-final
1.	/i:/	eat, easy	meet, seed	tea, key
2.	/ɪ/	in, ill	bid, kit	city, pity
3.	/e/	egg, envy	bed, sell	{ doesn't occur finally in word
4.	/æ/	ass, ankle	pad, sat	doesn't occur
5.	/a:/	art, arm	card, part	far, car
6.	/ə/	ox, odd	pot, nod	{ doesn't occur finally in word
7.	/ɔ:/	ought, order	port, caught	saw, law
8.	/ʊ/	ooze	food, shoot	two, blue
9.	/u:/	doesnt occur	book, shook	{ occurs only in word "to" in expressions like "to open"

(A.1.2) The Diphthongs of English :

You will now hear each diphthong of English said TWICE in isolation words in which the diphthongs occur initially, medially, and finally words will be said once each.

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Diphthong</i>	<i>Word-initial</i>	<i>Word-medial</i>	<i>Word-final</i>
1.	/eɪ/	aim, eight	paid, late	play, v
2.	/aɪ/	ice, island	wide, tried	<u>but</u> , t
3.	/ɔɪ/	oil, oyster	boil, soil	boy, r
4.	/aʊ/	owl, out	crown, found	how, u
5.	/əʊ/	oats, over	code, goat	so, k
6.	/ɪə/	ear-ring	fierce, nearly	hear, e
7.	/ʊə/	doesn't occur	tourist, poorly	tour, ɔ
8.	/eə/	aerial,	"May, careful	care, ɛ

(A.2)The Consonants of English :

You will now hear consonants of English in isolation, followed by sentences in which the consonants occur initially, medially and finally. The consonants in isolation will be said TWICE each and the words in which they occur once each.

Sl.No.	<i>Consonant</i>	<i>Word-initial</i>	<i>Word-medial</i>	<i>Word-final</i>
1.	/p/	pen, press,	spin, upper	nip, c
2.	/b/	bin, bun	rubber, about	nib, c
3.	/t/	ten, tray	stand, butter	cat, k
4.	/d/	dog, dine	curlle, ordain	red, b
5.	/k/	kill call	skill uncle	clock

7.	/tʃ/	chain, chill	lecher, teache	catch, each
8.	/dʒ/	jam, jump	suggest, engine	badge, edg
9.	/m/	mat, moral	smile, smoke	come, com
10.	/n/	nice, neat	snow, banish	cane, pain
11.	/ŋ/	doesn't occur	singer, finger	sing, ring
12.	/f/	fine, five	effort, coffee	cough, lau
13.	/v/	vine, village	never, ever	love, live
14.	/θ/	think, thin	author, ether	tooth, path
15.	/ð/	then, there	whether, neighter	with, loath
16.	/s/	soap, sun/son	passive, risky	pass, kiss
17.	/z/	zoo, zip	easy, rosy	rose, nose
18.	/ʃ/ /tʃ/	shoot, shine	bishop, pressure	cash, wish
19.	/ʒ/	-doesn't occur	vision, leisure	-doesn't o
20.	/h/	heat, hero	behind, behave	-doesn't o
21.	/l/	leave, love	pulley, sly	pull, ball
22.	/r/	red, reel	very, memory	{ -doesn't o It does in English
23.	/j/	you, yard	beyond, million	-doesn't o
24.	/w/	wet, west	sweet, beware	-doesn't o

SYLLABLES

Dr.Udayakumar.HM, Assistant Professor, RIT

Introduction to Syllable Types

veto

napkin

submit

enjoy

fumble

nation

What is a vowel?

- A vowel is a sound made by sending air out of the mouth without closing your mouth or moving the parts of your mouth.



What is a vowel?

- All vowel sounds are voiced, which means you can feel the vibration of your vocal cords if you touch your hand to your throat.

a e i o u



What is a vowel?

- The two main types of vowel sounds are often called short vowels and long vowels.
- These terms can be confusing because we can't hear any difference in the actual length of the vowel sounds.
 - Another name for short vowels is lax.
 - Another name for long vowels is tense.

a e i o u

What is a consonant?

- A consonant is a sound made by moving part of the mouth to touch another, such as the lips, tongue, or teeth.



What is a consonant?

- Consonant sounds can be voiced or unvoiced.
- Say each sound, and touch your hand to your throat to see if these consonant sounds are voiced or unvoiced...

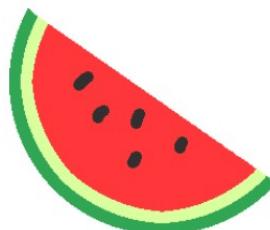
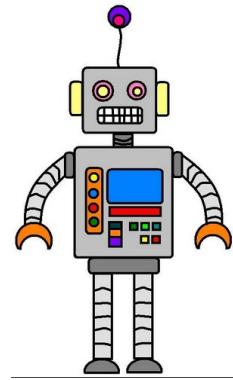


m s k g t v

What is a syllable?

- **A syllable is a word or a part of a word with one vowel sound.**
- A syllable can be pushed out in one breath. Your chin will usually drop slightly as you say each syllable in a word.
- Say the word for each picture and count the syllables.

How many syllables?



Closed Syllables

- A closed syllable can only have one vowel.
- The vowel is followed by one or more consonants.
- The vowel sound is short.

hop kick fast

Open Syllables

- An open syllable has only one vowel.
- The vowel is the last letter in the syllable.
- The vowel sound is long.

hi

go

she

Syllable Structure

Syllables

- The syllable is a constant feature in every spoken language in the world and most people have an intuitive sense of what a syllable is. Each language has its own rules about which kinds of syllables are allowed, and when language is used the general structure is the same everywhere.

Syllable structure

- A syllable can have as many as three parts: onset, nucleus, and coda. The onset and the coda are consonants, or consonant clusters, that appear at the beginning and the end of the syllable respectively. The nucleus forms the core of the syllable; it is most often a vowel, or a combination of vowels – but there are exceptions to that.

Syllable structure

- In the word **cat** for example, [c] is the syllable onset, [ai] is the nucleus and [t] the coda.

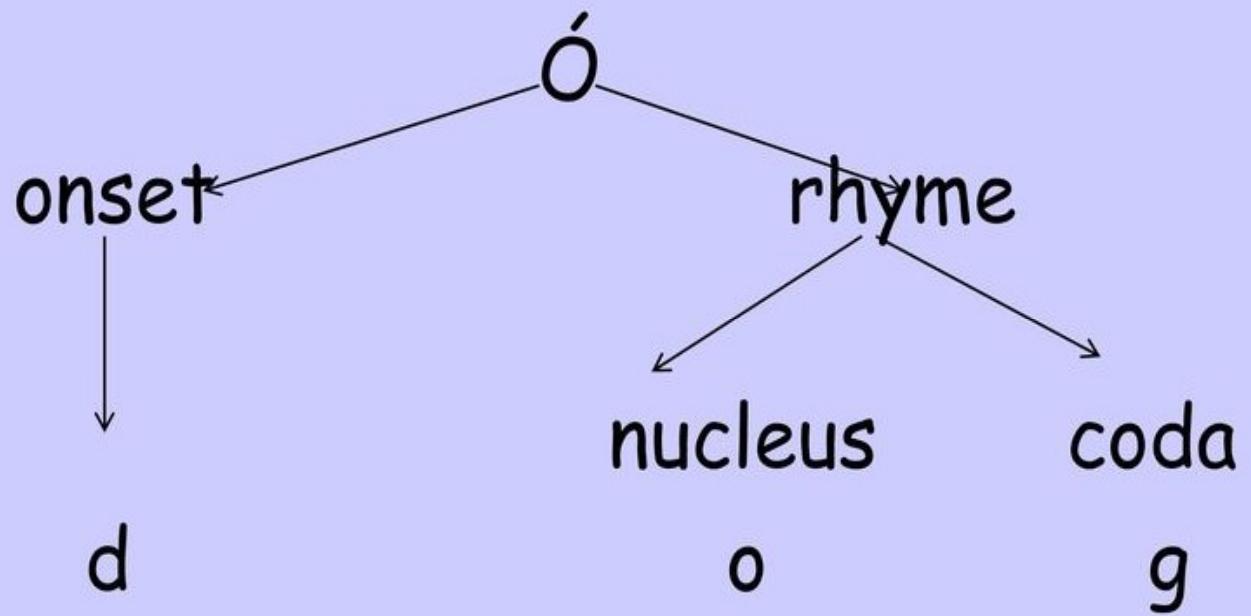
Syllable structure

- Even in English, syllable nuclei are not restricted to vowels. For example, in the monosyllabic word, “hmm”, the syllable nucleus is the nasal consonant (m). The small dot underneath the character m indicates that the sound represented is a syllabic consonant, which is any consonant that forms a syllable nucleus. Vowels are not marked with the same diacritic because they are always considered to be syllabic.

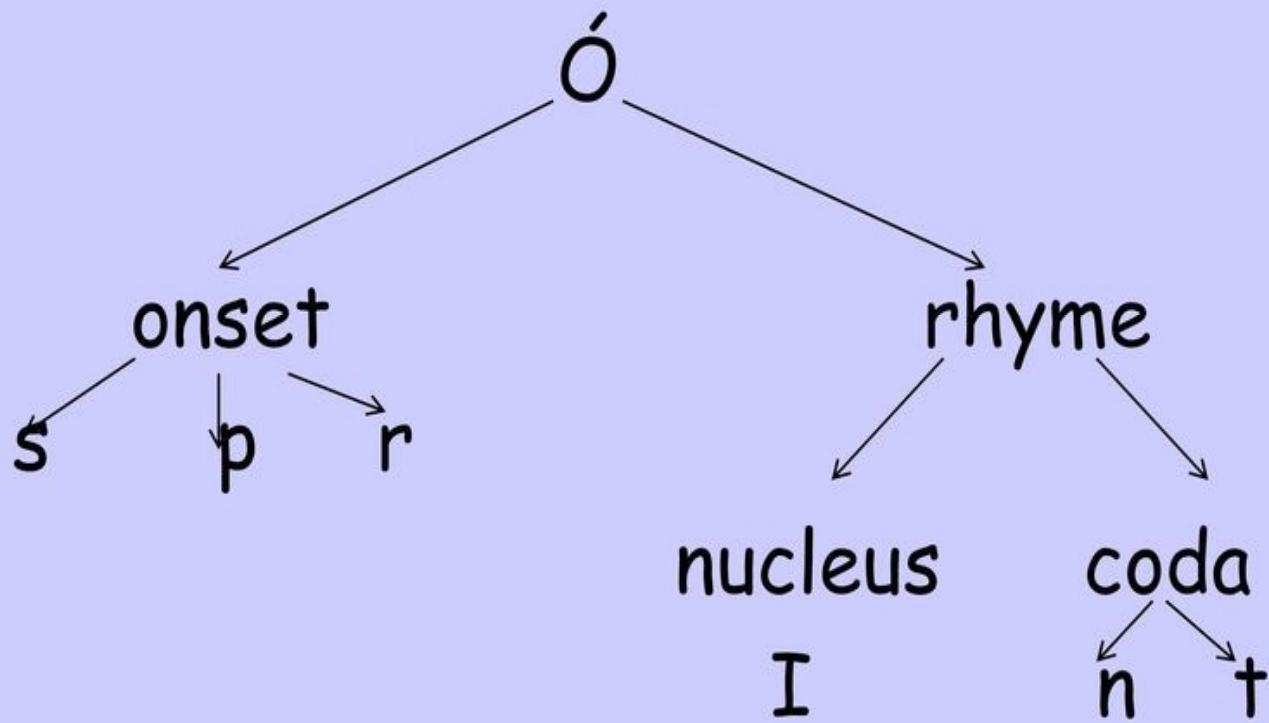
The structure of syllable in English

1. The syllable **onset** - me, so
2. **Nucleus**
3. The syllable **coda** - cat, jump
4. **Rhyme** - the combination of nucleus and coda.

dog



sprint



Types of syllable

- V (8%) - uncovered open, e.g. I, oh
- VC (15%) - uncovered closed, e.g. all
- CVC (34%) - covered closed, e.g. man
- CV (30%) - covered open, e.g. be
- V type - fully open, e.g. be
- CVC - fully closed.
- CV - initially covered
- VC - fully covered
- CVCC (6%)

Word stress and Intonation in English language

WHAT IS WORD STRESS?

- All words that have more than one syllable have stress.
- One syllable is longer and louder than the others.
- English words have its own rhythm.
- Word stress plays an important role of correct pronunciations of English words.

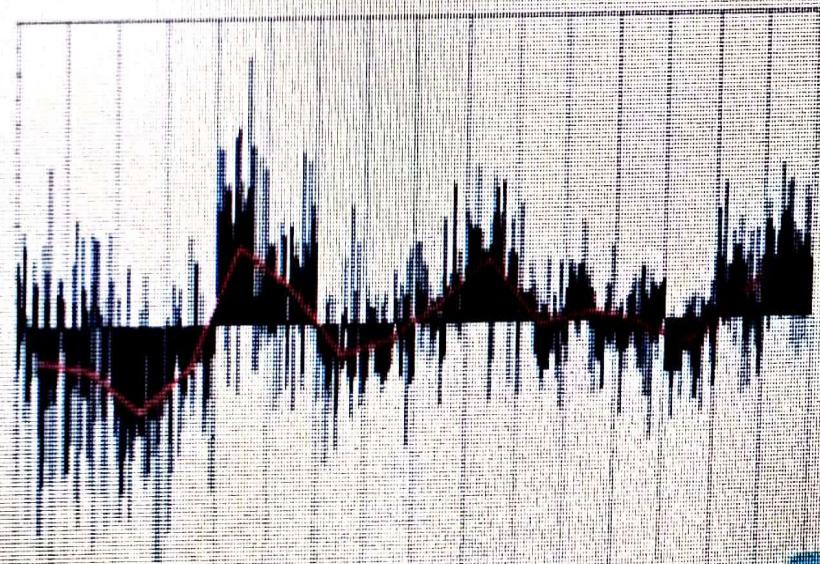
CHI-na

com-MIT-tee

HOW TO PRONOUNCE WORD STRESS?

When a syllable is stressed, it is pronounced

- longer in duration
- higher in pitch
- louder in volume



THE IMPORTANCE OF WORD STRESS

- Stressing the **wrong syllable** in a word can make the word **very difficult to hear and understand**.
- stressing a word differently can **change the meaning** or type of the word.
- Even if the speaker can be understood, mistakes with word stress can make the **listener feel irritated**, or perhaps even **amused**, and could **prevent good communication** from taking place.

DE-sert



de-SERT



- Easy to understood for example in conference call when speaking with native speaker .
- Usually the **stressed** words are the **content words**.

- Easy to understood for example in conference call when speaking with native speaker .
- Usually the **stressed** words are the **content** words.

RULES OF WORD STRESS



THINGS TO REMEMBER

1. A word can only have one stress. In a long word you can have a secondary stress but it is always a much smaller stress.
2. Only vowels are stressed, not consonants. The vowels in English are

TWO SYLLABLE NOUNS AND ADJECTIVES

- In most two syllable nouns and adjectives, the first syllable takes on the stress.

Examples:

- **SAM**ple
- **CAR**ton
- **CO**lorful
- **RAI**ny

TWO SYLLABLE VERBS AND PREPOSITIONS

- In most two syllable verbs and prepositions, the stress is on the second syllable.

Examples:

- reLAX
- reCEIVE
- diRECT
- aMONG
- aSIDE
- beTWEEN



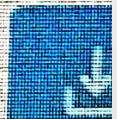
- **More about word stress on two-syllable words**
- About 80% or so of two-syllable words get their stress on the first syllable.
- There are of course, exceptions to this rule, but very few nouns and adjectives get stress on their second syllable.
- Verbs and prepositions usually get stress placed on the second syllable, but there are exceptions to this too.

WORDS ENDING IN CONSONANTS AND IN -Y

- If there is a word that ends in a **consonant** or in a **-y**, then the first syllable gets the stress.

Examples:

- **RARity**
- **OPTimal**
- **GRAdient**
- **CONTainer**



WORDS ENDING IN - ER, -OR,-LY

- For words ending with the suffixes **-er**, **-or**, or **-ly**, the stress is placed on the first syllable.

Examples:

- **DIR**ect/**DIR**ector
- **OR**der/**OR**derly
- **MAN**age/**MAN**ager



PREFIXES

- Usually, prefixes do not take the stress of a word.

There are a few exceptions to this rule, however, like: **un**, **in**, **pre**, **ex** and **mis**, which are all stressed in their prefix.

Examples:

- **ex**: EXample, EXplanation, EXamine
- **in**: INside, INefficient, INterest
- **mis**: MISspoke, MISTake, MISspelled
- **pre**: PREcede, PREarrange, PREliminary



WORDS HAVING DUAL ROLE

- In the case of words which can be used as either a noun or verb, the noun will tend to be stressed on the first syllable and the verb on the last syllable.

Examples:

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| • IMport(n) | imPORT(v) |
| • INcrease(n) | inCREASE(v) |

WORD STRESS FOR COMPOUND WORDS

A. Compound noun

- A compound noun is a noun made out of two nouns in order to form one word. In a compound noun, the first word usually takes on the stress.

Examples:

- ICEland
- TOOTHpaste
- SEAfood

B. Compound adjectives

- A compound adjective is an adjective composed of at least two words.

Often, hyphens are used in compound adjectives. In compound adjectives, the stress is placed within the second word.

Examples:

- ten-METER
- rock-SOLID
- fifteen-MINUTE



C. Compound verbs

- A compound verb is when a subject has two or more verbs. The stress is on the second or on the last part.

Examples:

- Matilda loves bread but detESTS butter.
- Sarah baked cookies and ATE them up.
- Dogs love to eat bones and love DRINKing water.

D. Noun + compound nouns

- **Noun** + compound Nouns are two compound nouns. In noun + comp noun, the stress is on the first word.

Examples:

- **AIR**plane mechanic
- **PRO**ject manager

EXERCISE

Determine which of the following is the correct stressed syllable

1. a) con-VICT X

b) CON-vict ✓

why b? because **convict** is a noun, thus the stress in the first syllable

2. a) sym-BOL X

b) SYM-bol ✓

why b? because **symbol** is a noun, thus the stress in the first syllable

3. a) be-GIN ✓

b) BE-gin X

4. a) fun-NY

b) FUN-ny

why b? because funny is an adjective, thus, the stress is on the first syllable

5. a) black-BOARD

b) BLACK-board

why b? because this is a compound noun where the stress occurs on the first syllable

6. a) mis-SPELL-ed

b) MIS-spell-ed

c) mis-SPELLED

d) MIS-spelled

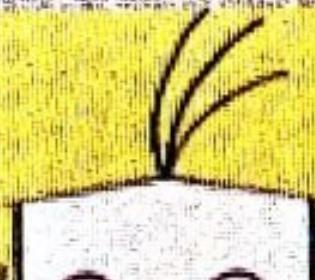
why b? because mis in mispeled is a unique prefix that takes stress in it.

INTONATION

Dr.Udayakumar.HM, Assistant Professor, RIT

What is « Intonation » ?

- Intonation is the rising and falling of the voice in speech.
is about how we say things, rather than what we say.
- Intonation adds attitude or emotion to the words.
- Wrong intonation causes misunderstanding !!
- It is the way the voice rises and falls when speaking.
words : Intonation is the music of the language.



- There are two main intonation patterns in English
- The other two are used to give a different meaning or to make a different place

a) Rising Intonation

b) Falling Intonation



RISING INTONATION

- The pitch of the voice rises at the end of the sentence
- Rising intonation invites the speaker to continue

Let's take a look at some example sentences.

Rising Intonation

✓ Yes/no Questions :



(Questions that can be answered by 'yes' or 'no')

- Do you like your new ~~teacher~~ teacher?

- Have you finished ~~already~~ already?

- ✓ Questions tags that show understanding
(real questions):
 - We've met already, haven't we?
 - You like fish, don't you?
 - You're a new student, aren't you?

FALLING INTONATION

- The pitch of the voice falls at the end of the sentence.
- Falling intonation is the most common intonation in English.
- It is commonly found in statements, commands (information questions), confirmatory questions and exclamations.

Let's take a look at some example sentences.

Falling Intonation

✓ Statements :-

- I'll be back in a **minute**.
- Nice to meet **you**.
- She doesn't live here **anymore**.
- Dad wants to change his **car**.
- Here is the weather **forecast**.



✓ Commands

- Write your name **here**.
- Show me what you've **written**.
- Leave it on the **desk**.
- Take that picture **down**.
- Throw that **out**.
- Put your books on the **table**.
- Take your **laptop**.



- ✓ Wh- questions (requesting information) :
(questions beginning with 'who', 'whose', 'what',
'when', 'which', and 'how')



- What country do you come **from**?
- Who is **that**?
- Where do you **work**?
- Which of them do you **prefer**?

✓ **Contrary tags** that are used to contradict people
rather than question them.

**Not all tag questions are really questions.
Some of them merely ask for confirmation
agreement, in which case we use a falling tone.**

- He thinks he's so clever, doesn't ~~he~~ he?
- She's such a nuisance, isn't ~~she~~ she?

• Exclamations •

- How nice of  you!**
- That's just what I  need!**
- You don't  say!**
- What a beautiful  voice!**
- That's a  surprise!**

STRUCTURE OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Dr.Udayakumar.HM, Assistant Professor, RIT

Definition of Structure of English

It refers to the structure or unit of language. It focuses mainly on a variety of basic and complex structures of English. (grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, spelling, comprehension and writing) phonology, semantic, lexical, syntax and morphology comparing them to structures of other languages.

SoE requires us to gather and analyze information and data on English usage in

How do we study SoE (communicative competence)?

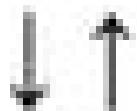
- the sounds of words (perception and pronunciation or articulation)
- how they form patterns of knowledge in the speaker's mind (phonetics and phonology)
- how standardized written forms represent words (orthography).

- The most basic units of meaning are simple words (e.g.: dog, yes and swim) or the elements of compound words (e.g.: un- -happi- and -ness in unhappiness). These basic elements are called **morphemes**, and the study of how they are combined in words is **morphology**.
- The study of how words are organised into phrases, clauses and sentences is usually referred to as **syntax**.
- A longer stretch of language is known as **discourse**. The study of its structure as **discourse analysis**.
- This hierarchy is partly explained by the table in David Crystal's *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Language*. The right hand column should be read

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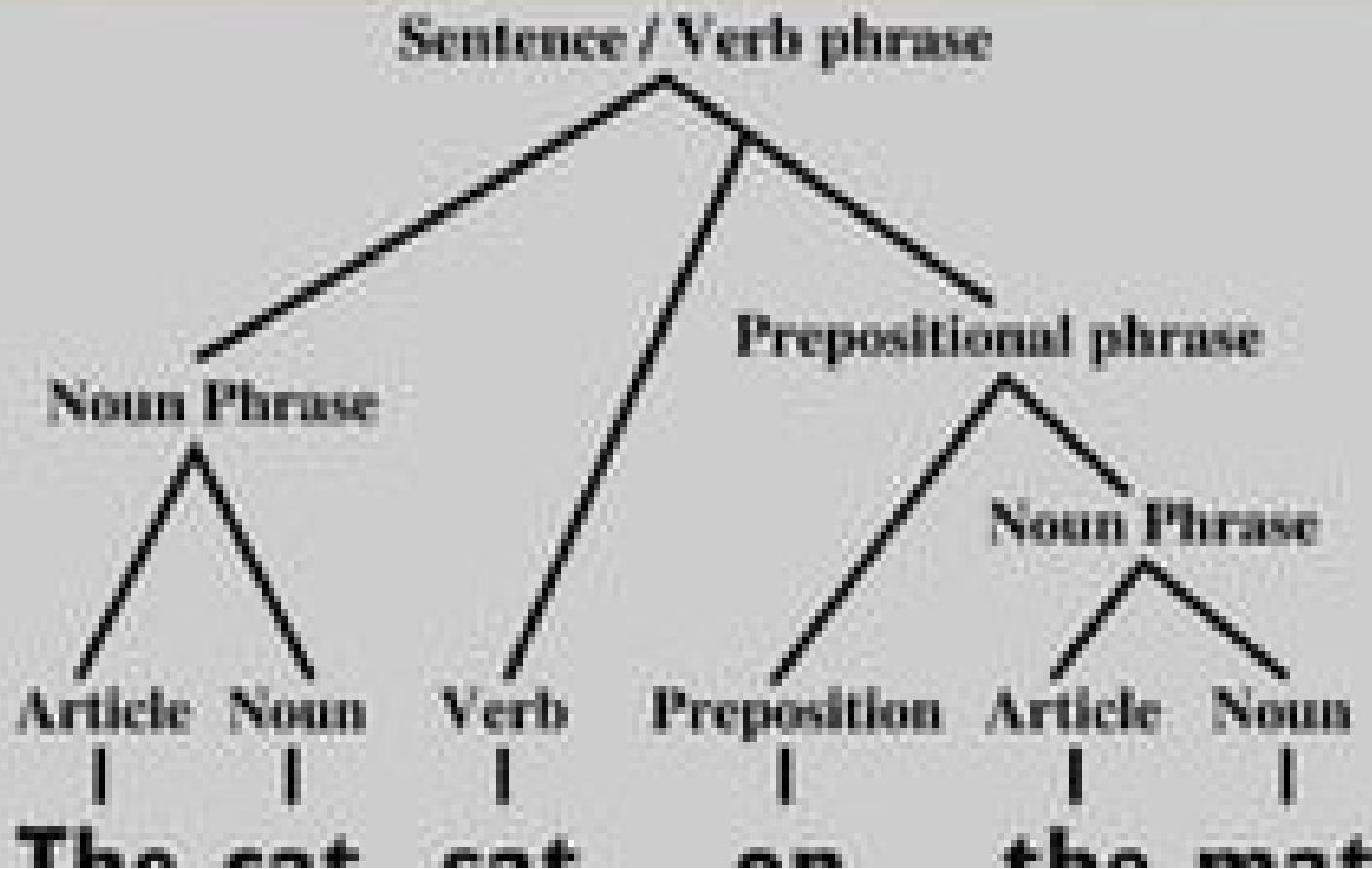
Outline structure of English

sentences
are analysed into
clauses
are analysed into
phrases
are analysed into
words
are analysed into
morphemes

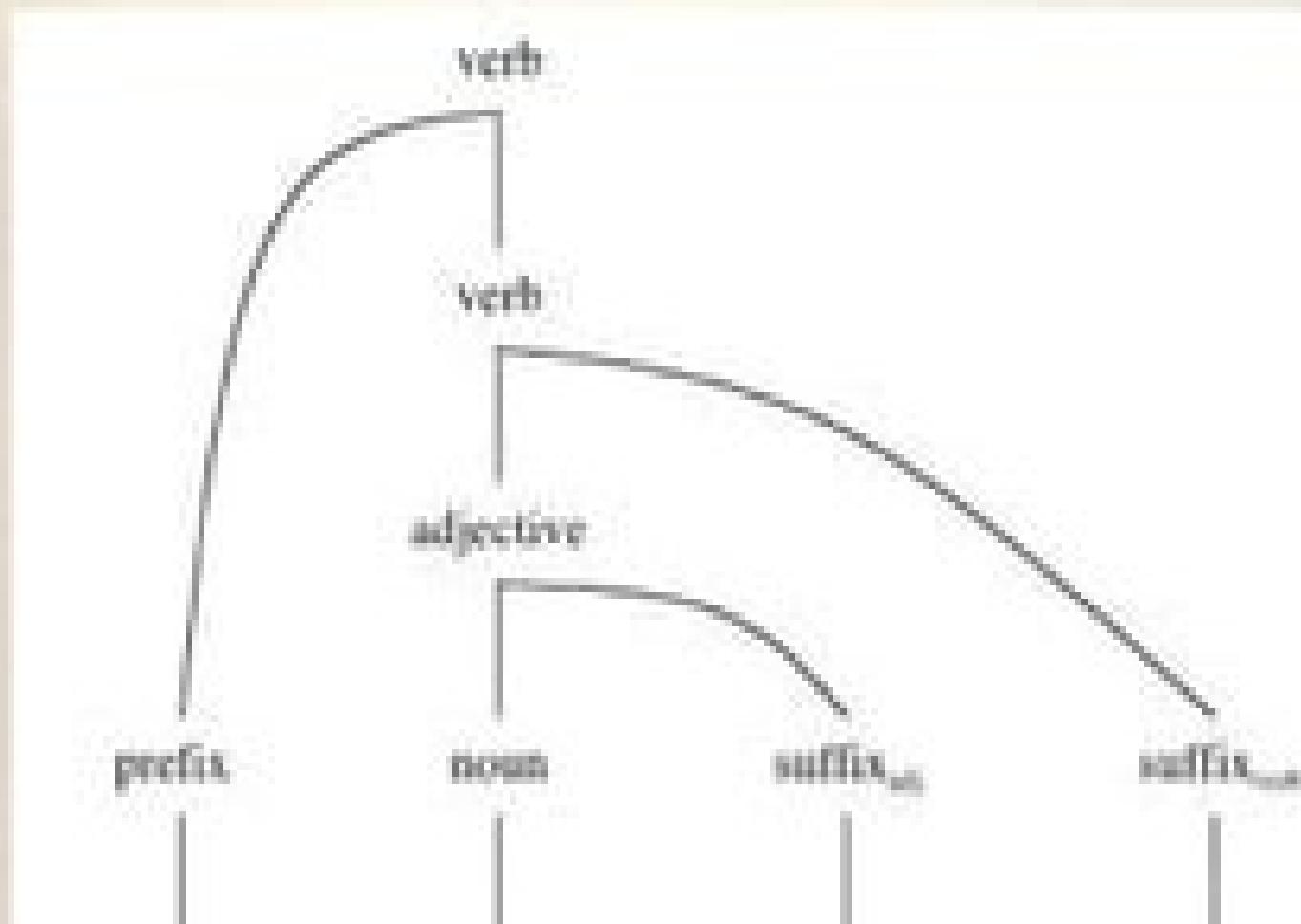


sentences
are used to b
clauses
are used to b
phrases
are used to b
words
are used to b
morpheme

Basic constituent structure analysis of a sentence



Morphology: the study of the structure of words



Thank You



The English language is nobody's special property.
It is the property of the imagination; it is
the property of the language itself.

(Derek Walcott)