

## 2.1 Phonetics

### Q.1 What is phonetics ?

Ans. : Phonetics is a branch of linguistics that focuses on the production and classification of the world's speech sounds. The production of speech looks at the interaction of different vocal organs, for example the lips, tongue and teeth, to produce particular sounds. We can say phonetics is the scientific study of production, transmission and reception of speech sounds.

### Q.2 What are the applications of phonetics ?

Ans. : Phonetics as an interdisciplinary science has many applications. This includes its use in forensic investigations when trying to work out whose voice is behind a recording. Another use is its role in language teaching and learning, either when learning a first language or when trying to learn a foreign language. The Phonetics is of great help when it comes to learning to pronounce English words correctly in English. Many words may have the same pronunciation but different spelling and meaning. (Sea, see to, too, two etc.) On the other hand some words may have same spelling but different pronunciation and meaning. Not only this, phonetics helps us to know the stress while pronouncing any word as well.

### Q.3 What is the difference between phonetics and phonology ?

Ans. : Phonetics looks at the physical production of sounds, focusing on which vocal organs are interacting with each other and how close

## 2.3 Transcription

### Q.8 What is the need of phonetic transcription ?

**Ans. :** With phonetic transcriptions, dictionaries tell you about the pronunciation of words. In English dictionaries, phonetic transcriptions are necessary, because the spelling of an English word does not tell you how you should pronounce it.

### Q.9 What do you mean by phonetic transcription ?

**Ans. :** Phonetic transcriptions are usually written in the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), in which each English sound has its own symbol. Phonetic transcription (also known as phonetic script or phonetic notation) is the visual representation of speech sounds (or phones). The most common type of phonetic transcription uses a phonetic alphabet, such as the International Phonetic Alphabet. Phonetic transcription can provide a function that the orthography cannot. It displays a one-to-one relationship between symbols and sounds, unlike traditional writing systems. Phonetic transcription allows one to step outside orthography, examine differences in pronunciation between dialects within a given language and identify changes in pronunciation that may take place over time.

For example, the IPA-based phonetic transcription of the word **home** is /həʊm/ and the transcription of **come** is /kʌm/. Note that in spelling, these words are similar. They both end in OME. But their phonetic transcriptions are different, because they are pronounced differently. Phonetic transcription is usually given in brackets, like this: /həʊm/, /kʌm/. Phonetic transcription of word **phonetics** is /fəˈnetɪks/.



## 2.4 Accent

### Q.15 What is an accent ?

**Ans. :** An accent is a stress or emphasis on a particular part of something, usually a word. Pronounce the word "doofus" with the accent on the first syllable : **DOO-fuss**. Accent comes from the Latin *accentus*, which means "the intonation of singing." ... In music, an emphasized note is accented.

Accent is a distinctive way of pronouncing a language, especially one associated with a particular country, area or social class. A distinct emphasis given to a syllable or word in speech by stress or pitch.

'a strong American accent'

'she never mastered the French accent'.

In sociolinguistics, an accent is a manner of pronunciation peculiar to a particular individual, location or nation. An accent may be identified with the locality in which its speakers reside (a regional or geographical accent), the socioeconomic status of its speakers, their ethnicity, their caste or social class (a social accent), or influence from their first language (a foreign accent).

Accents typically differ in quality of the voice, pronunciation and distinction of vowels and consonants, stress and prosody. Although grammar, semantics, vocabulary and other language characteristics often vary concurrently with accent, the word "accent" may refer specifically to the differences in pronunciation, whereas the word "dialect" encompasses the broader set of linguistic differences. Often "accent" is a subset of "dialect".

Accent, in phonetics, that property of a syllable which makes it stand out in an utterance relative to its neighbouring syllables. The emphasis on the accented syllable relative to the unaccented syllables may be realized through greater length, higher or lower pitch, a changing pitch contour, greater loudness, or a combination of these characteristics.



2. How many... (a) may (b) can (c) Either could be used here (d) would?

3. I \_\_\_\_\_ not do this if I did not have to.  
(a) will (b) would (c) should

4. If you stopped talking, I \_\_\_\_\_ get some work done.  
(a) Can (b) might (c) could (d) Either 'might' or 'could'

5. \_\_\_\_\_ a visa for Malaysia?  
(a) Need I to get (b) Need I get (c) Do I need get

6. You \_\_\_\_\_ better start saying thank-you.  
(a) have (b) had (c) should

7. Let's go for a walk, \_\_\_\_\_ we?  
(a) can (b) shall (c) will

8. You \_\_\_\_\_ work on Sundays.  
(a) needn't (b) don't (c) Either could be used here

9. She really \_\_\_\_\_ to mend her ways.  
(a) should (b) ought (c) must

10. She ..... speak six languages.  
(a) may (b) can (c) Either could be used here

11. Life \_\_\_\_\_ be more interesting when I was a child.  
(a) used to (b) would (c) use to

12. Granny \_\_\_\_\_ always bring us nice gifts.  
(a) would (b) shall (c) Either could be used here

Ans.:

- |               |         |             |                  |
|---------------|---------|-------------|------------------|
| 1. would      | 2. can  | 3. would    | 4. could / might |
| 5. Need I get | 6. had  | 7. shall    | 8. need not      |
| 9. ought to   | 10. can | 11. used to | 12. would        |

### 3.7 Redundancies

Q.18

**What do you mean by Redundancies in communication?**

Ans. : Redundancies are another cause of wordiness. Redundant writing can take two forms: writers may include redundant words or

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English Common Errors in Writing

redundant information. Redundant wording is most often found in descriptive writing. This occurs when writers attempt to describe something and overuse synonyms. Take this sentence: "Mark is a funny, hilarious, and comical person." Here, three words that basically mean the same thing are used to describe Mark. The second form of redundancy is likely familiar to students worldwide. Redundant information occurs when writers say the same thing many times, but in different ways. Readers are forced to read more and yet learn nothing new. Redundant information often crops up in essays: "Scientists have found that cancer cells can be repressed through the twice-daily consumption of carrot juice. Carrot juice, when consumed on a twice-daily basis, has been found to repress cancer cells." The two sentences, while written differently, contain the same information. Redundant information should be avoided in order to reduce wordiness in your essay writing.

**Key points to remember about redundant expressions**

Getting rid of unnecessary words will make your writing clearer and more effective.

Using a dictionary or thesaurus will help you to identify redundant expressions in your writing.

**Q.19 Provide few examples of redundant expressions with explanation.**

Ans. : Examples of redundant expressions;

- They are constantly working on new innovations in research.
- He was the younger of the two twins.
- The events will start at 11 a.m. on the following dates below.

They are all redundant expressions: groups of words in which at least one word is unnecessary because it just repeats the meaning that's already contained in the other word or words. An innovation is 'a new method, idea, product, etc.', so there's no need to use new to describe one; following means 'coming after', so it's not necessary to say

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question: "What happened then?" . Key points of narrative essays are ;

- A person tells a story or event.
- Has characters and dialogue.
- Has definite and logical beginnings, intervals and endings.
- Often has situations like actions, motivational events, and disputes or conflicts with their eventual solutions.

## 5.2 Defining, Describing and Classifying

**Q.4 What do you mean by the term 'definition' ?**

**Ans. :** The term 'definition' has been derived from the Latin word 'definiendum', which means 'to be defined'. A definition is a statement which states the meaning of the term and also describes the characteristics of the given term. The aim is to make an unfamiliar idea familiar or a generally known idea, specifically known.

A form of words which states the meaning of a term or statement of the exact meaning of a word of the nature of something is known as definition. It can be linked to a verbal map, where just as a map provides an outline of a place, a definition also provides a definite outline or description of an object, process or term.

**Q.5 What are different parts of any definition ?**

**Ans. :** Generally a definition is stated in one single sentence, but sometimes, more than one sentence may be used to completely define something. The process of definition consists of two parts '**genus**' and '**differentia**'. We start the definition of a particular object by identifying broadly its kind (the genus), to which category the object belongs. Then we specify the distinctive features (the differentia) of that object which set it apart from all the other things of its kind.



'Man is a social animal.'

'Orange is a citrus fruit.'

'Viscosity is internal resistant force of a liquid.'

In the given examples, in 1 animal is genus and social is differentia, in 2 fruit is genus and citrus is differentia and in example 3, force is genus and internal resistance is differentia.

#### **Q.6 What are the rules of writing definitions ?**

**Ans. :** We must follow following rules while writing definition.

- Use grammatically correct language.
- Highlight the essential and specific characteristics of any term, process or object.
- Use simple and appropriate vocabulary.
- Don't use synonyms or antonyms.
- Don't use negative expressions in definition, if they are not needed.
- Don't use decorative language.
- Use simple sentences.
- Don't do unnecessary repetition.

#### **Q.7 Define the following terms :**

Drilling, base, binder, Celsius, cement, conductivity, inert, infrared, insulation, thermoplastic, velocity, ion, atom, gravity, electrolysis, modem, acceleration, refrigeration, engineering, momentum, mass, enthalpy, molecule, isotope, radioactivity, electrolyte, electrode, inertia, electricity, ultrasonic, metallurgy, distillation, multimedia, computer, e-commerce, e-mail.

**Ans. : Drilling :** It is the operation of making holes in wood, wall or metal by employing a rotating tool called drill. A hole is drilled deep either by giving axial movement to the rotating drill or moving the object axially against the drill.

business and personal contacts.

**Q.8 How to describe an object ?**

**Ans. :** When you wish to describe anything, you must have an eye for the detail. You must be a good observer. Suppose you were going for a walk. There was a middle aged man struggling up the road on his bicycle. Suddenly, a car came at a great speed, its horn screaming, and its fend struck the cyclist. The bike and the man fell down. The car did not stop. There was an enquiry. The police inspector asked you :

The Inspector : Can you identify the car ?

You : It was a big car. I think it was a Tata Sumo.

The Inspector : Are you sure ? What was its colour ?

You : Yes. It was a Sumo. And it was olive green.

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The Inspector : Can you remember the number of the car ?

You : No, I am sorry. It happened so quickly. I was looking at the cyclist who fell down.

The Inspector : Couldn't you at least see if the car was from this state or from outside ?

You : Well, the first letters were definitely MH 12 or something.  
Quite certainly MH.

The Inspector : Well, thank you.

You can see how details are very important. The inspector can now concentrate on a Sumo car or cars registered in Maharashtra. The search can, thus, be restricted to those cars only. Note the pattern of descriptive sentences :

It was -----

The car was -----

The first letters were -----

In the description of an object, we use simple present tense. If we are talking about the things in the past, we can use simple past tense. But in any case we describe the appearance, the parts, function and usefulness of the object we are describing.

#### **Q.9 Write description of personal computer.**

**Ans. :** The personal computer is suitable for personal usage. The main parts of a personal computer are - Display, Motherboard, CPU, Primary storage, Expansion cards, Power supply, Optical disc-drive, Secondary storage, Key-board and Mouse. The detailed functions of these parts are as follows :

**The motherboard :** It is a primary circuit board. All the parts of the computers are directly or indirectly connected with it. It is connected with CPU.

**CPU :** Its main function is in executing software programmes and in operating systems. A personal computer's primary storage is directly accessible by the CPU.