

Communicative English

PHONETICS & PRONUNCIATION

Basic Phonetics: IPA and its use, syllable

- Phonetics: is a branch of linguistics that studies how humans produce and perceive sounds
- Phoneticians: linguists who specialize in studying Phonetics the physical properties of speech

Phonetics deals with two aspects of human speech:

Production—the ways humans make sounds

Perception—the way speech is understood

Phonetics is the study of speech sounds

The three branches of Phonetics are:

Acoustic: The physics of sound

Auditory: How the ear processes sound

Articulatory: How we produce speech sounds

Because of Mother Tongue Influence, mispronunciations occur while speaking English.

A Phoneme is the smallest unit of sound in speech.

E.g. /k/ - /p/ - /t/

the word 'hat' has 3 phonemes – 'h' 'a' and 't'

- International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), an alphabet developed in the 19th century to accurately represent the pronunciation of languages.
- By learning IPA, you can improve your pronunciation
- It is used in dictionaries to indicate the correct pronunciation of the words.
- There are 44 speech sounds.

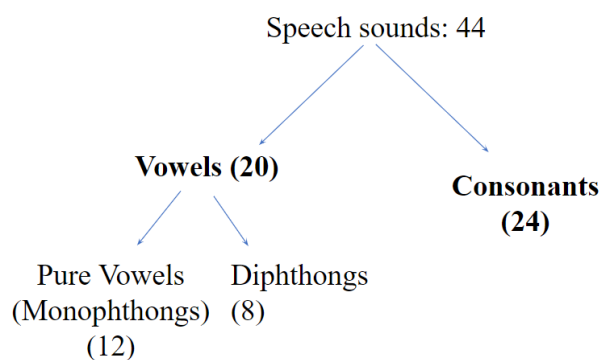
Phonetic Transcription: Pronunciation and application

- Phonetic transcription is the use of phonetic symbols to represent speech sounds.
- Used in dictionaries to indicate the correct pronunciation of the words.

VOWELS	monophthongs				diphthongs		Phonemic Chart voiced unvoiced	
	i: sheep	ɪ ship	ʊ good	u: shoot	ɪə here	eɪ wait		
	e bed	ə teacher	ɜ: bird	ɔ: door	ʊə tourist	ɔɪ boy		
	æ cat	ʌ up	ɑ: far	ɒ on	eə hair	aɪ my		
CONSONANTS	p pea	b boat	t tea	d dog	tʃ cheese	dʒ June	k car	g go
	f fly	v video	θ think	ð this	s see	z zoo	ʃ shall	ʒ television
	m man	n now	ŋ sing	h hat	l love	r red	w wet	j yes

- Begin and end with a slash or oblique - / (/əʊ/ + /aʊ/)
- Do not use capital letters or punctuation marks.
- Do not use the letters x, c, or q in the transcription of English.
- r / ks / or / gz / as in fix and exactly
- r /k/ or /s/ as in car and since
- q /k/
- If there are double letters in the spelling of a word, do not use double consonants in a transcription.

Phonetics is the study of **speech sounds**.



Monophthongs

VOWELS	monophthongs			
	i:	ɪ	ʊ	u:
	sheep	ship	good	shoot
	e	ə	ɜ:	ɔ:
	bed	teacher	bird	door
	æ	ʌ	ɑ:	ɒ
	cat	up	far	on

Diphthongs

diphthongs		
ɪə	eɪ	
here	wait	
ʊə	ɔɪ	əʊ
tourist	boy	show
eə	aɪ	aʊ
hair	my	cow

Monophthongs

- /p/ - **Pepper**
- /t/ - **Turtle**
- /d/ - **dead**
- /b/ - **bribe**
- /g/ - **gang**
- /k/ - **kick**
- /f/ - **fluffy**
- /m/ - **moment**
- /n/ - **nine**
- /v/ - **viva-voce**
- /w/ - **wow**
- /l/ - **lovely**
- /θ /- **thin**
- /ð/ - **This**
- /h/ - **Honey**
- /s/ - **Sister**
- /z/ - **Zip**
- /dʒ/ - **Judge**
- /tʃ/ - **Church**
- /ʃ/ - **Shoot**
- /ʒ/ - **Pleasure**
- /j/ - **yes**
- /r/ - **roar**
- /ŋ/ - **Singing**

Dimensions of Speech: Accent, Intonation, Stress

Syllable Stress

A syllable is a part of a word that contains a single vowel sound and that is pronounced as a unit.

Syllables are smaller sounds that make up words.

All syllables must have a vowel.

For example,

- Shoe, me, book - 1 syllable
- Turkey : Tur-key - 2 syllables
- Banana : Ba-na-na - 3 syllables

Stress

Stress is an accent that we make on certain syllables and words when speaking English.

Words with more than one syllable (polysyllabic) always have one syllable that is stressed.

Stress Rule 1

When a two syllable word can be both a verb and a noun or adjective, the verb form is usually stressed on the second syllable, and the noun or adjective form is stressed on the first syllable.

Example.

- Everyone in our class is present today. (adjective) **PRE**sent
- She gave her friend a lovely present. (noun) **PRE**sent
- The students will present their speeches on Monday. (verb) pre**SENT**

Stress Rule 2

Prefixes and Suffixes are not usually stressed.

Example.

- Walk+ing **WALK**ing
- Un+clear un**CLEAR**
- Thought+ful **THOUGHT**ful
- Help+less **HELP**less
- Im+poss+ible im**POSS**ible

Stress Rule 3

Words with some suffixes are usually stressed on the syllable just before the suffix.

These suffixes include: -tion -cian -sion -ic -ity -ical -ify -ogy -graphy

Example.

- examin**A**tion
- tech**N**ician
- dis**CUSS**ion
- e**LE**ctric
- elec**TRIC**ity
- geo**LOG**ical
- ge**O**graphy

Accent

A distinctive way of pronouncing a language, especially one associated with a particular country, area, or social class.

An American might pronounce the word, "hello," by speaking the "h" sound.

- A Brit might pronounce the word, "hello," without speaking the "h" sound.
- This is still the same word, just spoken with a different accent

Intonation

Intonation mainly refers to the variation in the pitch level and rhythm of the voice.

Variation in pitch is used to indicate the speaker's attitudes and emotions, to highlight or focus an expression.

Intonation is particularly important in expressing questions in spoken English.

Intonation describes how the voice rises and falls in speech.

The three main patterns of intonation in English are: falling intonation, rising intonation and fall-rise intonation.

Falling Intonation:

Falling intonation describes how the voice falls on the final stressed syllable of a phrase or a group of words.

A falling intonation is very common in wh-questions.

Rising Intonation:

Rising intonation describes how the voice rises

at the end of a sentence.

Rising intonation is common in yes-no questions.

Fall-rise Intonation

Fall-rise intonation describes how the voice falls and then rises.

We use fall-rise intonation at the end of statements when we want to say that we are not sure, or when we may have more to add.

Phonetic Practise Words

Entrepreneur	Architect	Engineering
Algorithm	Networking	Intelligence
Information	Internet	Bandwidth
Environment	Buffer	Machine
Technology	Mechanical	Communication
Electronics	Correspondence	Telephone
Etiquette	Language	Grammar
