

The Study of Language – Chapter 3: The Sounds of Language

- Course: Introduction to Linguistics
- Author: Based on *The Study of Language* by George Yule
- Presented by :Asst. Prof. Ziyad Anwar Mahmood

Introduction to Phonetics

- Phonetics: The study of the physical properties of speech sounds
- Focus: How sounds are produced, transmitted, and perceived
- Three main areas:
 - -Articulatory
 - -Acoustic
 - -Auditory

Articulatory Phonetics

- Describes how speech sounds are made
- Key components:
 - -Place of articulation
 - -Manner of articulation
 - -Voicing (voiced vs. voiceless sounds)

The Vocal Tract

- Main organs used in speech:
- -Larynx (voice box)
- -Vocal folds (cords)
- -Tongue, lips, teeth, alveolar ridge, palate, velum, glottis

Consonants

- Produced by restricting airflow
- Described using:
 - -Voicing (voiced/voiceless(
 - -Place of articulation (e.g., bilabial, alveolar(
 - -Manner of articulation (e.g., stop, fricative, nasal(

Vowels

- Produced with a relatively free airflow
- Described by:
 - -Tongue position (front, central, back)
 - -Height (high, mid, low)
 - -Lip rounding

IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet)

- Standardized system to represent sounds of spoken language
- Each symbol corresponds to a specific sound
- Useful for transcription and pronunciation

Phonetic Transcription

- Broad transcription: general sounds, uses slashes/ /
- Narrow transcription: more detail, uses brackets[]
- Examples: /pɪn/, /bæt/, [phɪn], [bæt^h]

Speech Sound Examples

- Voiced: /b/, /d/, /g/
- Voiceless: /p/, /t/, /k/
- Fricatives: /f/, /v/, /s/, /z/
- Nasals: /m/, /n/, /ŋ/

Summary and Practice

- Chapter 3 introduces phonetics—the study of speech sounds
- Focus on articulatory phonetics, IPA, and sound classification
- Practice identifying sounds using IPA transcription