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Phonetics for English learners

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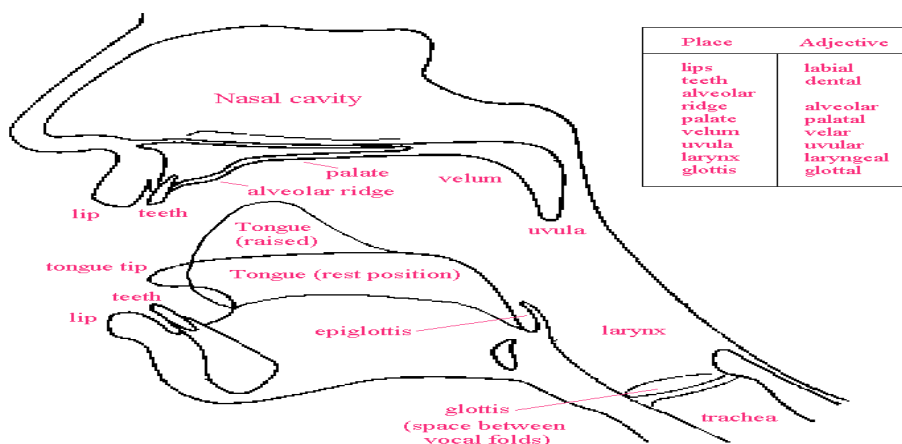
Abstract

Today, we live in competitive world; therefore we need to improve our communication skills to get a job with a MNC. This paper explores the ongoing issues of engineering and non engineering colleges not providing enough international language instructions to their students.

Key words: Speech sounds, Effective Communication Skill

Introduction:

Paul Passy and Daniel Jones, along with Noam Chomsky and the British teaching Association introduced phonetics in the 19th century. Daniel Jones is considered to be a major figure in phonetics. Phonetics is the study of hoe sounds are produced in speech. It is not the same to distinguish Vowels from Consonants; let us explain the difference between them. Vowels are sounds that come directly from the lungs without friction. There are Twenty Four Vowels, which are divided in two parts.



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1) Monophthongs

2) Diphthongs

Let us discuss about pure vowels, pure vowels is a single vowel sound comes from the lungs. Single vowels are two types five are long vowels and seven are short vowels total twelve sounds; the following symbols are pure vowels

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

/i/ - interview, sit, ability etc...

The above sound is a pure and short vowel it comes from lungs without vibration. The sound comes in initial, middle and final position.

/æ/ - animal, taxi

No final sound for the above phonetic

/ə/ - among, incident, teacher

When we pronounce this sound your mouth is look like round circle

/u / - took, look

The above sound is start with middle vowel there is no initial and final vowel

/ʌ / - urge, bt.

There is no final sound to pronounce

/ɒ/ - marriage, cobbler

There is no final sound for the above phonetic

/e/ - enters, mentor

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There is no final sound for the above phonetic

Next, let us introduce long vowels. There are five long vowels

/i:/ - eat, keep, coffee

/ɔ: / - author, crunch, more

/u: / - ooty, tool, shoe

/ɑ: / - all, mark, bar

/ɜ:/ - error, turn, sir

Among Diphthongs, which comprise eight sounds; are combinations of two vowel sounds?

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

/aɪ/ - sky, night, shy

/eɪ/ - age, late, say

/aʊ/ - out, mouse, bow

/Iə/ - ear, near, sheer

/ɔɪ/ - oil, noise, joy

/əʊ/ - over, dove, no

/eə/ - heir, mary, dare

/uə/ - curious, cure

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Consonants

There are twenty four phonemes in the English Language, Nine are voiced and fifteen voiceless. The word Consonants means the sound comes through the lungs with friction.

Place of Articulation

Manner of Articulation	Bilabial	Labio Dental	Dental	Alveolar	Palatal Alvolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Plosive	(p) b			(t) d			(k) g	
Affricative					(ts) dʒ			
Fricative		(f) v	(θ) ð	(s) z	(ʃ) ʒ			(h)
Nasal	m			n			ŋ	
Lateral				l				
Approximate					r	j	w	

Unvoiced phonemes are on bracket background. Voiced phonemes are normal.

I would like introduce about place of Articulation,

Plosive means, stop sounds from articulation. There are six sounds in plosives

(p) – Voiced sound – people, appear, gap

/b/ - voiceless sound – book, about, mob

(t) – Voiced sound- tough, attack, mat

/d/ - voiceless sound- dance, advance, mad

(k) – Voiced sound – keep, account, mock

/g/ - voiceless sound- good, again, fog

Affricative is a word to pronounce with very fast, two sounds are affricative like,

(ts) – Voiced sound – cherry, mortuary, much

/dʒ/ - voiceless sound - January, image, Zoology

Fricative is a part of place of articulation the sounds pronounce with forcefully is called Fricative.

(f) – Voiced sound – feel, coffee, cough

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/v/ - **voiceless sound** - van, cavvity, cavve

(θ) – **Voiced sound** - thank, bathth

/ð/ - **voiceless sound** - that, mother, bathe

(s) – **Voiced sound** - seal, spinster, kids

/z/ - **voiceless sound** - zeal, gazer, gaze

(ʃ) – **Voiced sound** - ship, seashore, fishsh

/ʒ/ - **voiceless sound** - pleasure, conjuring

(h) – **Voiced sound** - hotel, behind, wahh

There are three Nasal sounds; the sound comes through the nose with friction.

/m/ - man, mango, calm

/n/ - nurse, nose, none

/ŋ/ - English, king, ring

Lateral sound is only one the sound comes thorough mouth sides

/l/ - later, dolly, beautifl

Approximate means when we pronounce phonemes our mouth position is be closer

/r/ - Room, Arrive, Injury

/j/ - Yellow, Pure, Few

/w/ - Whisper, Inward, Salloww

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