

WHAT IS PHONETICS?

Kurbonova Ozoda Ravshanova

Teacher of Department of Foreign Language and Literature, National University of Uzbekistan named after Mirzo Ulugbek, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Abstract: *This article discusses the speech sounds, their production, acoustic properties and how they function within linguistic system.*

Keywords: *phonetics, phoneme, linguistics, allophone, sound, articulatory phonetics, acoustic phonetics, auditory phonetics.*

The word phonetics is derived from the greek word “phone” which means “voice” or “sound”.

Phonetics is concerned with the human noises by which the thought is actualized or given audible shape the nature of these noises, their combinations, and their functions in relation to meaning. Phonetics studies the sound system of the language segmental phonemes, word stress, syllabic structure and intonation.

Language as “the most important means of human intercourse” exists in the material form of speech sounds. It cannot exist without being spoken. Oral speech is primary process of communication by means of language. Written speech is second- ary; it presents what exists in oral speech [2].

Linguistic signals first said to be composed of some units, which are divided in- to significant and non - significant ones. The relationship between all the units or ele- ments of a language includes different notions starting from sounds, morphemes, words, word combinations and ending up with phrases. The scientific study of a lan- guage involves an explanation of a mass of notions in terms of a rigorously organized and highly patterned system - the link between the units. The whole system of relation of linguistic units forms a system of a language. The character of a system, or the way this system works explains the structure of a language. All languages differ in systems and structures.

Phonetics is concerned with the human noises by which the thought is actualized or given audible shade: the nature of these noises, their combinations, and their functions in relation to the meaning. Phonetics studies the sound system of the language, that is segmental phonemes, word stress, syllabic structure and intonation. Theoretical phonetics is a branch of linguistics that focuses on the study of the abstract and systematic aspects of speech sounds. It explores:

- the theoretical aspects of speech sounds
- their production
- acoustic properties
- how they function within linguistic systems

The following five main types of phonetics may be distinguished:

1. Special phonetics - which is concerned with the phonetic structure of a particular language
2. General phonetics - which studies the complex nature of phonetic phenomena and formulates phonetic laws and principles.
3. Descriptive phonetics studies the phonetic structure of the language synchronically.
4. Historical phonetics looks at historical development, diachronically. The study of the historical development of the phonetic system of a language helps to understand its present and predict its future.
5. Comparative - Typological Phonetics. It studies the phonetic features of or more languages of different system such as English, Russian, Uzbek etc. It is part of Comparative - Typological Linguistics.

As we have already above mentioned, language as “the most important means of human intercourse” exists in the material form of speech sounds. It cannot exist without being spoken.

According to their functions phonetic units - sounds, syllables, stress and intonation can be described linguistically and classified to some groups or subgroups.

Phonetics in the wider sense includes phonology as distinct from morphology, syntax and stylistics.

There are three branches of phonetics. They are:

1. Articulatory Phonetics. It focuses on the physical aspects of speech sound production, how speech sounds are physically produced by the human vocal organs (such as the tongue, lips, and vocal cords). It examines the mechanisms of how we move our mouth and throat to create different sounds.
2. Acoustic Phonetics. It studies how the air vibrates between the speaker's mouth and the listener's ear and interprets the sound waves traveling through this medium.
3. Auditory Phonetics. It explores how humans perceive and interpret speech sounds. It delves into the psychological and neurological aspects of hearing, investigating how the brain processes and recognizes different sounds in the context of language.

REFERENCES:

1. Abduazimov A. A. T., (2006) “Theoretical Course”.
2. Alimardanov R. A. T., 2009 “Pronunciation Theory of English”; 3. Crystal, David Camb., (1997) “English as a Global Language”;
3. Leontyeva S. F. M., (2002) “Theoretical Course of English Phonetics”; 4. Sokolova M. A. M., (1994) “Theoretical Phonetics of English”;
5. Vasslyev V. A. M., (1970) “Theoretical Course”.
6. Z.R. Fattoeva (2016) “Phonetics as a branch of linguistics”, Ученый XXI века № 6-1, pp.18.