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**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**

**LANGUAGE AND LINGISTICS**

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**Essay -unit:1**

**Introduction:**

For centuries there had been so much fruitless speculation over the question of how language began that when the Paris Linguistic Society was founded in 1866, its bylaws included a ban on any discussions of it. The early theories are now referred to by the nicknames given to them by language scholars fed up with unsupportable just-so stories.

**1**. The bow-wow theory

The idea that speech arose from people imitating the sounds that things make: Bow-wow, moo, baa, etc. Not likely, since very few things we talk about have characteristic sounds associated with them, and very few of our words sound anything at all like what they mean.

**2. The pooh-pooh theory**

The idea that speech comes from the automatic vocal responses to pain, fear, surprise, or other emotions: a laugh, a shriek, a gasp. But plenty of animals make these kinds of sounds too, and they didn't end up with language.

#### 3. The ding-dong theory

The idea that speech reflects some mystical resonance or harmony connected with things in the world. Unclear how one would investigate this.

#### 4. The yo-he-ho theory

The idea that speech started with the rhythmic chants and grunts people used to coordinate their physical actions when they worked together. There's a pretty big difference between this kind of thing and what we do most of the time with language.

#### 5. The ta-ta theory

The idea that speech came from the use of tongue and mouth gestures to mimic manual gestures. For example, saying ta-ta is like waving goodbye with your tongue. But most of the things we talk about do not have characteristic gestures associated with them, much less gestures you can imitate with the tongue and mouth.

#### 6. The la-la theory

The idea that speech emerged from the sounds of inspired playfulness, love, poetic sensibility, and song. This one is lovely, and no more or less likely than any of the others.

#

   **SHORT ANSWERS**

**ORIGINS AND DEVELOPMENT OF LANGUAGE**

**1.what is a language?**

language is most frequently used and most highly developed form of

human communication.it is also a tool of communication transmitted

either vocally through the air or graphivcally.

**2.what is meant by duality?**

language operates at two level namely phonological

and syntactical.

**3. Define graphology?**

It is the study of the writing system of a language and the conventions

 used in representing the speech in written form .

**4.what is lexicology?**

It is the study of grouping the lexical items as in the compilation of dictionaries.

**5. what is dialectology?**

dialectology is the study of demarcation of dialect boundaries

 across a region and of specific features of each dialect.

**6.what is linguistics?**

linguistics is the scientific study of the language.

it does not study abparticular language but language in general.

# Essay-unit-2

# Speech Sounds and Organs of Speech :

#  Articulatory Phonetics

Articulatory phonetics is concerned with describing speech sounds in terms of the positions of the vocal organs when producing any given sound. First, we briefly describe how speech sounds are produced.

In nearly all speech sounds, the basic source of power is the respiratory system pushing air out of the lungs. Air from the lungs goes up the windpipe and into the larynx at which point it must pass between two small muscular folds called the vocal cords. If the vocal cords are apart, the air from the lungs have a relatively free passage into the pharynx and the mouth. But if the vocal cords are adjusted so that there is only a narrow passage between them, the airstream causes them to vibrate. Sounds produced when the vocal cords are vibrating are so-called **voiced** sounds, as opposed to those in which the vocal cords are apart, which are said to be **unvoiced** sounds[[14](http://winnie.kuis.kyoto-u.ac.jp/members/chjo/main/node142.html#peter93)].

The air passages above the larynx are known as the vocal tract, and the shape of the vocal tract is a very important factor in the production of speech. Also, depending on the positions of the various articulators (*i.e.*, jaw, tongue, velum, lips, mouth), different sounds are produced. Speech is produced as a sequence of sounds. Hence the state of the vocal cords, as well as the positions, shapes, and sizes of the various articulators, changes over time in relation to the sound being produced[[14](http://winnie.kuis.kyoto-u.ac.jp/members/chjo/main/node142.html#peter93)].

**classification of sounds**

The conventional division of speech sounds is classified into vowels and consonants. In order to form consonants, the airstream through the vocal tract must be obstructed in some way. Consonants can therefore be classified according to this obstruction. Principally, consonants are describable by a few well-recognized features:

* Place of articulation - where in the mouth the airstream is obstructed
* Manner of articulation - the way in which the airstream is obstructed
* Voicing - whether there is vibration of the vocal cords

**Place of Articulation**

The primary articulators that can cause an obstruction in most languages are the lips, the tongue tip and blade, and the back of the tongue. Specific places of articulation are indicated in Figure [2.1](http://winnie.kuis.kyoto-u.ac.jp/members/chjo/main/node25.html#vocal_organs).

* **Bilabial** - Between the two lips.
* **Dental** - Tongue tip or blade and upper front teeth.
* **Post-alveolar** - Tongue blade and the back of the alveolar ridge.
* **Palatal** - Front of the tongue and hard palate.
* **Velar** - Back of the tongue and soft palate.
* **Glottal** - Between vocal cords.

**Manner of Articulation**

At most places of articulation there are several basic ways in which articulation can be accomplished. The articulators may close off the oral tract for an instant or a relatively long period; they may narrow the space considerably; or they may simply modify the shape of the tract by approaching each other[[14](http://winnie.kuis.kyoto-u.ac.jp/members/chjo/main/node142.html#peter93)]. A summary of the manners of articulation is described as follows:

* **Plosive** - Soft palate raised, forming a velic closure; complete closure of two articulators.
* **Nasal** - Soft palate lowered so that air flows out through the nose; complete closure
* **Fricative** - Narrowing of two articulators so as to produce a turbulent airstream.
* **Affricate** - Initial closure of vocal tract followed by gradual release producing turbulence.
* **Tap or Flap** - Tongue tip hitting the roof of the mouth.
* **Approximant** - Approximation of two articulators without producing a turbulent airstream.

**SHORT ANSWER**

**ORGANS OF SPEECH**

**1. Define Phonetics.**

Linguistics is a systematic study of language. Phonetics is

branch of linguistics and it is the branch dealing with the

medium of speech. It deals with the production, transmission

and reception of the sounds of human speech.

**2.How Is a speech sound artlculated?**

An air-stream can also be called a moving current of air. For

the articulation of most speech sounds of most languages,

lung-air is used. The air that we breathe out is modified into

speech sounds.

**3.How many alr-stream mechanlsms are there?**

There are three main air-stream mechanisms. These are

called pulmonic, glottalic and velaric air-stream mechanisms.

A very large percentage of speech sounds in all the languages

that are spoken in the world use pulmonic air-stream mechanism.

**4. Explain pulmonic alr-stream mechanlsm?**

The pulmonic air-stream mechanism consists of the lungs

and the respiratory muscles. The walls of the lungs act as the

initiator. They are moved by the respiratory muscles so that air is

drawn into the lungs or pushed out of them.

5. Define egressive and Ingressive alr-stream mechanlsm.

When the air-stream mechanism is used to push air out, it is

called egressive and when it is used to draw air in , it is

called ingressive air-stream mechanism.

**6.Explain Pharyngeal.**

The Closed glottis acts as the initiator for glottalic air-stream

mechanism and the air in the pharynx is used. Some linguists

refer to this airstream mechanism as pharyngeal.

**7. Explain Glottalic Ingressiva alr-stream mechanlsm.**

Sunds articulated with the glottalic ingressive air-stream

mechanism are called implosives. Among Indian languages

Sindhi has sounds articulated with a glottalic ingressive air-stream

mechanism.

**8. What is the third alr-stream mechanlsm?**

The third air-stream mechanism is commonly referred to as

velaric air-stream mechanism. The back of the tongue is the

initiator and the air in the mouth is set in motion during this air-

stream mechanism. It is also referred to as the oral air-stream

mechanism.

**9. What are the organs of speech?**

The lungs, the vocal cords, the tongue, the teeth and the lips are called as the organs of speech. The organs of speechcan be divided into three groups.

1. The respiratory systems: This comprises the lungs, the

muscles of the chest and the wind pipe also called as

trachea.

2 The phonatory system:This comprises the larynx.

3. The articulatory system :This comprises the nose, the

teeth, the tongue, the roof of the mouth and the lips.

**10. Explain the Organs of Speech:**

For the production of speech sounds we need an air-stream

mechanism. Most sounds of most languages in the world are

produced with a pulmonic egressive air-stream mechanism. The

air that we breathe out comes out of the lungs. Before it gets out

into the outer atmosphere, various organs in our body convert it

into speech sounds. These organs are called the organs of

speech.

**11. Define Volceless sounds.**

When we breathe in and out, the vocal cords are wide apart

and the glottis is open. Such sounds produced with the wide

open glottis are called voiceless sounds or breathed sounds.

The first sounds in the English words peel, ten, keen, chin, fine,

thin, seen, shine and hat are voiceless sounds.

**12. Define Volced sounds.**

During the production of certain speech sounds, the vocal

cords are loosely held together and the pressure of the air from

the lungs makes them open and close rapidly. This is called the

vibration of the vocal cords and the sounds produced when the

vocal cords vibrate are called voiced sounds.

**13. What Is Onamatopoela?**

Onomatopoeia is a term used for words that imitate sounds

they stand for. Example bang, thud, buzz.

**14. How and Why are sounds and words arranged?**

Sounds are arranged in a fixed and systematic order so as

to form a meaningful word or unit. Similarly words are also

arranged following a particular system inorder to form a

meaningful sentence.

**Essay-unit 3**

**What is Phonology?**

Whereas phonetics is the study of sounds and is concerned with the production, audition and perception of of speech sounds (called phones), phonology describes the way sounds function within a given language and operates at the level of sound systems and abstract sound units. Knowing the sounds of a language is only a small part of phonology. This importance is shown by the fact that you can change one word into another by simply changing one sound. Consider the differences between the words time and dime. The words are identical except for the first sound. [t] and [d] can therefore distinguish words, and are called contrasting sounds. They are distinctive sounds in English, and all distinctive sounds are classified as phonemes.

**Minimal Pairs**

Minimal pairs are words with different meanings that have the same sounds except for one. These contrasting sounds can either be consonants or vowels. The words pin and bin are minimal pairs because they are exactly the same except for the first sound. The words read and rude are also exactly the same except for the vowel sound. The examples from above, time and dime, are also minimal pairs. In effect, words with one contrastive sound are minimal pairs. Another feature of minimal pairs is overlapping distribution. Sounds that occur in phonetic environments that are identical are said to be in overlapping distribution. The sounds of [ɪn] from pin and bin are in overlapping distribution because they occur in both words. The same is true for three and through. The sounds of [θr] is in overlapping distribution because they occur in both words as well.

**Free Variation**

Some words in English are pronounced differently by different speakers. This is most noticeable among American English speakers and British English speakers, as well as dialectal differences. This is evidenced in the ways neither, for example, can be pronounced. American English pronunciation tends to be [niðər], while British English pronunciation is [najðər].

**Phones and Allophones**

Phonemes are not physical sounds. They are abstract mental representations of the phonological units of a language. Phones are considered to be any single speech sound of which phonemes are made. Phonemes are a family of phones regarded as a single sound and represented by the same symbol. The different phones that are the realization of a phoneme are called allophones of that phoneme. The use of allophones is not random, but rule-governed. No one is taught these rules as they are learned subconsciously when the native language is acquired. To distinguish between a phoneme and its allophones, I will use slashes // to enclose phonemes and brackets [] to enclose allophones or phones. For example, [i] and [ĩ] are allophones of the phoneme /i/; [ɪ] and [ɪ̃] are allophones of the phoneme /ɪ/.

**SHORT ANSWERS**

**PHONOLOGY -MORPHOLOGY**

**1. What is a morpheme.**

The English word 'unkind' is made up of two smaller units

namely un' and kind". These units cannot be further sub-divided

into meaningful units. Such minimal grammatical description is

called as morpheme.

**2. What are the citterias to be followed In a morpheme?**

Criteria's followed in a morpheme:

a) It is a word or part of a word that has meaning.

b) It cannot be divided into smaller meaningful parts without

violation of its meaning or without meaningless remainders.

c) It recurs in different verbal environments with a relatively

stable meaning.

**3. What Is meant by morphology?**

The word 'unlikely' has three morphemes namely 'un',

'Like', ly' whereas the word 'carpeť is a single morpheme . It is a

minimal unit by itself. A systematic study of morphemes or how

 morphemes join to form words is known as morphology.

**4. Write a note on Present tense morpheme:**

The present tense morpheme (-e (s) } has three

allomorphs namely

Isl as in packs

Izl as in digs /digz/ and

/iz/ as in washes /w iz

**5. Wrte a note on Past tense morpheme:**

The past tense morpheme (-e (d) } has three allomorphs

namely /t after morphs ending in voiceless sounds except /t/ as

in booked /b kt/ /d/ after morphs ending in voiced sounds

except /d/ as in loved/I vd// and /id/ after morphs ending in /t/

& /d/ as in wanted /w ntid/

**6.Define Phones.**

All the speech sounds namely phonemes and allophones

are called phones.

**7. What is an allophone?**

A phoneme that occur in more than one phonetic form

are called allophones. The phonemes /p/, /t/, and /k/ have two

phonetic forms each namely [P] [P\*] .[t] [t\*], [k] [k\*]. Here [P]

and [P\*] are the allophones of the phoneme /p/.

**8. What are free morphemes?**

Morphemes that could stand on their own as independent

words are said to be free morphemes.

Example: unhappy, boyhood, etc.

In these words morphemes such as 'happy, and 'boy

can stand independently on their own and therefore they are

called as free morphemes.

**9. What are bound morphemes?**

Morphemes like 'un', 'hooď' cannot stand on their own as

independent words and they are called as bound

morphemes.

**Essay-unit 4**

**Explain semantics**

**Introduction**

“A language can be compared with a sheet of paper, thoughts is one side of the sheet and sound, the reverse side. Just as it is impossible to take a pair of scissors and the cut one side of the without the other, so it is impossible in a language to isolate sound from thoughts and thoughts from sound.” -Ferdinand de sasurra.

The internal differentiation of human societies was reflected in their languages. Linguistics plays a vital role for the development of a language. There are four different branches of linguistics, and they are, phonology, morphology, semantics, and syntax and each of them have their own function for the development of a language.

 Semantics The term semantics was used broadly to refer to the study of meaning. It was also central to the study of communication. Though the ‘meaning’ or the information one wants to communicate can be conveyed through a number of means like gesture, picture, signals, etc.

Semantics as a branch of linguistics was mainly concerned with how the ‘meaning’ was conveyed by the linguistics system consisting of different unit structures like sentence, phrases, words, morphemes etc. semantics as a study of meaning, which relates language to the various aspects of non-linguistics reality, was also of interest to various disciplines such as philosophy, anthropology, psychology, communication theory etc.,

**Connotative meaning**

 Leech calls connotative meaning was the communicative value an expression has by virtue of what if refers to over and above its purely conceptual contents.

connotative meaning was concerned with the real world experiences one associates with the linguistics expression one uses or hears. Connotative meaning was peripheral when compared with the conceptual meaning. It was also relatively unstable as it varies according to culture, historical periods and experience of the individual. Connotative meaning was indeterminate and open ended.

 **Social and affective meaning**

These two meaning are concerned with two aspects of communication which are derived from the situation or environment in which an utterance or sentence was produced in a language. it conveys about the social circumstance of its use. Social meaning was understood through the recognition of different dimension and level of style within the same language. Aspects of language variation like social or regional dialect variation, style variation like formal, informal, colloquial, slang etc.,

**conceptual meaning**

semantics representation the conceptual meaning of a sentence will be explained in the form of semantic representation using the abstract symbols and contrastive features. This will help one to know to distinguish a meaning of a particular sentence from all other possible sentence in the language. This representation will also match the meaning of that sentence with its corresponding correct syntactic and phonological form

**Thematic meaning**

 Thematic meaning was that “what was communicated by the way in which a speaker or writer organize the message, in terms of ordering, focus, and emphasis”. The thematic meaning can also be expressed by means of stress and intonation to highlight information in one part of a sentence.

**Conclusion**

Geoffrey Leech (1981) studied the meaning in a very broad way and breaks it down into seven types [1] logical or conceptual meaning, [2] connotative meaning, [3] social meaning, [4] affective meaning, [5] reflected meaning, [6] collective meaning and [7] thematic meaning. Of these logical or conceptual meaning was the same as designative meaning. Leech’s connotative meaning was different from connotation. Except conceptual meaning and thematic meaning the other five are called associative meaning.

**SHORT ANSWERS**

**SYNTAX-SEMANTICS**

**1. What Is meant by semantics?**

Semantics is the study of meaning in language.

**2. Write a note on meanlngs.**

In order to express the meanings language is used. The

meanings which are in our mind are expressed through the

spoken form and written forms of language, gesture, action, etc.

Meaning is related closely to the human capacity to think logically

& to understand.

**3. How does Leech deflne Semantics?**

Leech defines Semantics as giving a systematic account of

the nature of meaning

**4 What is meant by Sentence Meanlng?**

Sentence meaning is a combination of lexical meaning and

grammatical meaning. Apart from this, intonation also may affect

the meaning of a sentence.

Consider for example the sentence 'I don't like Coffee. If the

word 'Coffee' is stressed it means that the speaker does not like

coffee. But if 'I' is stressed it means that the speaker does not

like coffee others may like it. Thus intonation changes the

meaning of sentences.

**5. For what purposes sentences are used?**

Sentences are used for warning, questioning, promising,

threatening etc.

**6. What Is meant by Utterance meaning?**

Utterance me ning is the meaning that a sentence has when

a speaker ut ters it inorder to perform some act in suitable

situations.

**7. What Is the difference between entallment and**

**presupposition?**

Entailment - is a logical meaning already in the sentence.

Presupposition- depends on the knowledge of the facts

shared by the speaker and hearer

**8.What Is meant by Homophony?**

If two or more words have the same pronunciation but

different meaning or spelling it is called Homophony.

Example : Sea/see.

**9. What Is meant by Polysemy?**

If the same lexical item have different meaning it is called

as polysemy.

Example: bank: financial institution

bank: bank of river

bank: as verb

**10. What Is meant by Synonyms?**

If two lexical items have the same denotative, connotative

and social meaning and if they can replace each other in all

contexts then it is called as synonymous. Synonyms are

equivalent items (words with similar meaning) or descriptive

items.

Example : lavatory -toilet.

**11. Define Antonyms.**

Antonyms are lexical items that differ both in form as well as

in meaning. It conveys the opposite meaning.

Example: single-married

Good- bad

The meaning relations are based on gender distinctions (cow-

bull), age and family relationship (father-son).

**12. Wrtte a note on Hyponymy.**

Another kind of sense-relationship is hyponymy. Hyponymy

is the relation between a general and specific lexical item. For

example 'flower' and 'rose'.'Flower' is a general item and 'rose'

is a specific item. The specific item is a hyponym of the general

item. Here 'rose' is a hyponym of 'flower'. The specific item

includes the meaning of the general. 'Rose' is also hyponymous

to 'plant', "living things' as these come under general categories.

**Essay:unit-5**

**language and culture**

**The difference between language and culture**

Language is a form of communication that is used by human beings and animals. Through this communication, is used through either none and verbal communication. Studying just language can be classify as phonology and grammar where phonology represents sounds which has different sets of phonemes that makes understand and learn the proper pronunciation. Grammar can further be categorized as morphology which combing sounds and morphemes are sounds combined in larger units used in making a normal speech. Non communication is another type of communication that includes facial expressions, tone of voice, sense of smell, sense of touch, and body motions.

Language is always argued but it is said that language is a component of culture because much of the rest of it normally transmitted orally. It’s impossible to understand the subtle nuances and deep meaning of another culture without knowing its language well. Culture gives the perceptions of identification within a society, where we are identifying individually or group.

**Language influences our culture**

Language influences our culture and the way how we think as most people say that language is part of our culture because it’s the way how we used and see it within our environment, therefore it’s the way how we interpret it because anthropologies found out that it depends how people identify or categorize things in the environment and that provides important insights into the interests, concerns, and values of their culture. It influence our language because from since we were born, we have our first language, the language we are the language we were thought this comes from our parents generation, therefore our native language is part of our identity and which tells us more about our culture. We identify ourselves by the language we speak, the culture we are living, our beliefs, although some things are similar but we have different approaches of doing things.

Language is all about culture and culture is all about language, because this is main basic product of human, then human uses language to communicate with this then commutation brings the culture to the society.

Nevertheless with further research I found out about an article published in 1990 by the world declaration on education for all (WDEFA) mentioning “literacy in the mother tongue strengthens cultural identity and heritage. Based on my understanding, since language relates to each other, any mother tongue language spoken should be maintained so keep up the culture meaning that that language should be readable and writable.

**How language and culture connects with each other?**

Language and culture are connected in several other intricate and dynamic ways. The language is a product of culture and simultaneously the culture is shaped by how the language allows us to view it. In any kind of language things are view differently but it must orient in a friendly manner.

The background of most inhabitants of a culture are similar because we centuries ago we tend to hear the same stories that were said.

Language connects culture in many ways, through changing the needs and trends in culture, For example words and expressions maybe needed to express concept that are been discovered or even been invented. These discovery or inventions are used in everyday life. Since culture describes the way live and think while language shows the way we speak and express ourselves becomes changeable from time to time and places, for example, there are some words that described or distinguish people living in rural or urban areas. On the other hand some words used mean the opposite in different places; both can have a positive or negative point of view so there particularly these happen due to changes in culture.

Language interacting with context form are extremely difficult to delineate because sometimes things are hard to differentiate especially when deciding whether certain things belongs to a culture and also when making decision

The context of culture is language socialization, ths merges ti the communication practices with the context of culture. Studying the language perspective is the pursuit of cultural underpinning thea give meaning to the communication interaction between expert and novice member within and cross contexts of situation.

**conclusion:**

Researchers theorize about culture within different theoretical frameworks, looking culture to which includes “bodies of knowledge, structures and of understanding, concepts of the world, and collective representation which are extrinsic to any individual and contain more information that any individual could know or learn.

Extracting words from culture are the most difficult to describe because culture concentrates from various aspects of human life and history.

**SHORT ANSWERS**

**LANGUAGE, SOCIETY AND CULTURE**

**1. What do languages reflect?**

The varieties of language that speakers use reflect such

matters as their regional, social or ethnic origin and possibly

even their gender.

**2. What is the view behind Whorflan hypothesis?**

Linguistic structure and behaviour may either influence or

determine social structure. This is the view that is behind the

Whorfian hypothesis.

**3. Name the two Linguists who are assoclated with the**

**structure of a language.**

The structure of a language influences how its speakers view

the world is today most usually associated with the Linguist

E.Sapir. It can be also be traced back to Humboldt.

**4. What does culture focus on?**

Culture focuses on the ways of thinking, behaving and valuing

currently shared by the members of the same social

community.

**5. What is meant by category?**

A calegory is a group with certain features in common and

we can think of the vocabulary we lean as an inherited set

of category labels. These are the words for referring to

concepts that people in our social world have typically needed

to talk about.

**6.What isIdiolect?**

An idiolect is the linguistic system of one person differing in some

form of other speakers of the same dialect.

Factors: Voice quality, Physical state, Social factors.

These contribute to the identifying features in an individual's

speech

**7.what is Register?**

It is according to the formal level language and according to the

situation. It is determined by the relation of speakers

E.G "esta noche iré al culto" Reference to Evangelical people

**8.what is meant by Style?**

It could be very informal or formal, depending on the situation

e.g. "a interview for get a job" “ a football game"

**9.what is Jargon?**

It is nothing but a technical vocabulary associated with a special

activity or group.

Jargon is specialized vocabulary used by! Iose inside established

social groups, often defined by professioi al status.

For example, "The Snodgrass Muff Bleeders, bloops, and squibs

Play -by-play (Reference to baseball)

**10.Define slang.**

Slang is more used among those who are outside established

higher-status groups. Slang or "colloquial speech," describes

words or phrases that are used instead of more everyday terms

among younger speakers and other groups with special interests.

e.g. The word bucks (for dollars or money) has been a slang

expression for more than a hundred years, but the addition of

mega (a lot of) in megabucks is a more recent innovation.