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**X**

**Ascending Rank:** Lecturer / Assistant Lecturer / Half-time Teacher

**Module in Charge:** Reading Comprehension

**Title of the Tutorial’s Teaching Unit:** Phonemic and Phonetic Transcription

**Level: First-Year**

**X**

**Date:** 05/01/2022

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**Teaching Unit Content:**

1. Phonemic and Phonetic Transcription

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| **Teaching Unit Main Objective:** |

This course is a review of the most basic rules for both phonemic and phonetic transcription.

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| **Teaching Unit Description:** Phonemic and phonetic transcriptions provide a visually accurate description of speech segments. Most dictionaries are based upon phonemic transcription because it is more general and accessible. The phonetic type, however, is known for being more specific and detailed. It does not only focus on the phonemic features of some particular accent, but also on the existing allophonic manifestations which are quite problematic for non-native speakers. Those distinctions will be fully explored in this lecture.  |

**Phonemic Transcription Main Characteristics**

**Phonetic Transcription Main Characteristics**

There are 44 speech sounds in the English language. They are divided into 24 Consonants and 20 Vowels. This list does not include the existing allophones in both RP and GA.

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| **Consonants** |
| **p** | *pen, copy, happen* |
| **b** | *back, baby, job* |
| **t** | *tea, tight, button* |
| **d** | *day, ladder, odd* |
| **k** | *key, clock, school* |
| **g** | *get, giggle, ghost* |
| **tʃ** | *church, match, nature* |
| **dʒ** | *judge, age, soldier* |
| **f** | *fat, coffee, rough, photo* |
| **v** | *view, heavy, move* |
| **θ** | *thing, author, path* |
| **ð** | *this, other, smooth* |
| **s** | *soon, cease, sister* |
| **z** | *zero, music, roses, buzz* |
| **ʃ** | *ship, sure, national* |
| **ʒ** | *pleasure, vision* |
| **h** | *hot, whole, ahead* |
| **m** | *more, hammer, sum* |
| **n** | *nice, know, funny, sun* |
| **ŋ** | *ring, anger, thanks, sung* |
| **l** | *light, valley, feel* |
| **r** | *right, wrong, sorry, arrange* |
| **j** | *yet, use, beauty, few* |
| **w** | *wet, one, when, queen* |
| **ʔ** | *(glottal stop)department, football* |

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| **Vowels** |
| **ɪ** | *kit, bid, hymn, minute* |
| **e** | *dress, bed, head, many* |
| **æ** | *trap, bad* |
| **ɒ** | *lot, odd, wash* |
| **ʌ** | *strut, mud, love, blood* |
| **ʊ** | *foot, good, put* |
| **iː** | *fleece, sea, machine* |
| **eɪ** | *face, day, break* |
| **aɪ** | *price, high, try* |
| **ɔɪ** | *choice, boy* |
| **uː** | *goose, two, blue, group* |
| **əʊ** | *goat, show, no* |
| **aʊ** | *mouth, now* |
| **ɪə** | *near, here, weary* |
| **eə** | *square. fair, various* |
| **ɑː** | *start, father* |
| **ɔː** | *thought, law, north, war* |
| **ʊə** | *poor, jury, cure* |
| **ɜː** | *nurse, stir, learn, refer* |
| **ə** | *about, common, standard* |
| **i** | *happy, radiate. glorious* |
| **u** | *thank you, influence, situation* |
| **n̩** | *suddenly, cotton* |
| **l̩** | *middle, metal* |
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The list of English Allophones:

1. [Voiceless](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Voicelessness) [stops](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stop_consonant%22%20%5Co%20%22Syllable) /p, t, k/ are [aspirated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aspirated_consonant%22%20%5Co%20%22Aspirated%20consonant) when they come at the beginning of a syllable, such as in words like "pip, test, kick" [pʰɪp, tʰɛst, kʰɪk]. You can compare this with voiceless stops that are not [syllable](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Syllable) initial like "stop" [stɑp]. The /t/ voiceless stop follows the /s/ (fricative) here.
2. Nasals become syllabic, or their own syllable, only when immediately following an obstruent (as opposed to just any consonant), such as in the words "leaden, chasm" [ˈlɛdn̩, ˈkæzm̩]. Take in comparison "kiln, film"; in most accents of English, the nasals are not syllabic.
3. The lateral /l/, however, is syllabic at the end of the word when immediately following any consonant, like in "paddle, whistle" [ˈpædl̩, ˈwɪsl̩].
4. When considering /r, l/ as [liquids](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liquid_consonant), /r/ is included in this rule as well as present in the words "sabre, razor, hammer, tailor" [ˈseɪbɹ̩, ˈreɪzɹ̩, ˈhæmɹ̩, ˈteɪlɹ̩].
5. A consonant is shortened when it is before an identical consonant, such as in "big game" or "top post".
6. The lateral /l/ is [velarized](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Velarization) at the end of a word when it comes after a vowel as well as before a consonant. Compare for example "life" [laɪf] vs. "file" [faɪɫ] or "feeling" [fiːlɪŋ] vs. "feel" [fiːɫ].
7. English vowels are nasalized when followed by a nasal.
8. There are four r-colored vowels in English mainly :
* [ɚ]: *h****ear****se*, *ass****er****t*, *m****ir****th* (stressed, conventionally written [ɝ]); *stand****ar****d*, *dinn****er***, *Lincolnshi****re*** (unstressed)
* [ɑ˞]: *st****ar****t*, *c****ar***
* [ɔ˞]: *n****or****th*, *w****ar***