



People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
Mohamed Kheider University of Biskra
Faculty of Letters and Languages
Department of Foreign Languages
Section of English



Phonetics syllabus

Lectures in charge: Dr. Saliha CHELLI & Mr. Walid AOUNALI

Course coordinator : Dr. Saliha CHELLI

Level: Second year

Semester: Two and three

Required books:

Roach, P. (2004). English phonetics and phonology (2nd Ed.). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Gimson, A.C. (1978). Introduction to the pronunciation of English (2nd Ed.). Edward Arnold Publishers, Ltd: London.

Well, J. C. (2006). Intonation: An introduction. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Course description

This course introduces students to the International Phonetic Alphabet, to the British transcription system, to the distribution of stress within a word, including simple and complex words in addition to the distinctive function of stress in words of the same spelling (first semester). Sentence stress as well as aspects related to connected speech will be presented and practised in the second semester. These will be followed by intonation and comparison between British (RP) and American Accent (GA).

Course objectives

The objectives of this course is to acquaint students with English pronunciation, putting emphasis on stress placement because of its importance in speech. In addition to this, the shift to aspects of connected speech such as weak forms, elision, linking and assimilation as well as intonation aims to help students develop both their speaking and listening competencies in order to be fluent and also to have the ability to understand native speakers for the sake of good communication.

Prerequisites

It is assumed that students have a basic knowledge of articulatory phonetics, mainly IPA Sounds and their respective symbols in addition to the difference between phonemic and phonetic transcriptions.

Tentative Lectures Schedule

MONTH	WEEK	LECTURE/ TUTORIAL	OBSERVATION
SEPTEMBER	4	First contact with students 1. Revision of RP vowels/ diphthongs	
OCTOBER	1	2. Revision of consonants 3. Revision of allophones (exercises in phonemic and phonetic transcriptions)	
	2	Word stress 1. Introduction to word stress 2. Stress placement in Simple words Exercises	
	3	3. Stress placement in complex words (stem + affixes)	
	4	Follow up / Exercises	
NOVEMBER	1	4. Stress placement in complex words (compound words) Exercises	
	2	5. Distinctive function of word stress Exercises	
	3	Introduction to sentence stress	
	4	Weak and strong forms	
DECEMBER	1	Transcription exercises (sentences)	
	2	General revision	

	3	Winter Holidays	
	4		
JANUARY	1	First semester exam	
	2		
	3	Correction of the exam and marks consultation	
	4	Linking Exercises -	
February	1	Elision Exercises	
	2	Assimilation	
	3	Follow up exercises	
	4	Juncture exercises	
March	1	Introduction to intonation patterns	
	2	Follow up	
	3	Spring Holidays	
	4		
April	1	Exercises in intonation	
	2	Follow up	
	3	British versus American pronunciation	
	4	General revision/ A	
May	1	Final exam	
	2	Correction of the exam	
	3		

Requirements: In order to be successful, students need to understand the theory presented in class and to do the numerous assignments of transcription they are provided with. Besides, more practice individually at home is required on the part of students as the time allotted to phonetics does not permit to complete all of them.

Assessment: Students are assessed through tests and an exam in each semester.