
ملخص المادة:

Course Description:

The course is to serve as a follow-up to the courses you have previously learnt such as: test of orals, spoken English and introduction to general phonetics and phonology of English. It is also meant to improve both your perceptive and receptive skills in the sound system of the English language.

To achieve the aims set out above, there are set overall objectives. Besides, each unit has its specific objectives. The unit objectives will be included at the beginning of each unit. You should read them before you start working through the unit. It is advisable that you refer to them during your study of the unit to check on your progress. At the end of every unit, you should also revise the unit objectives. In this way you can be sure that you have done all you are expected to do in the unit.

Course Objectives:

Upon completing the course, students are expected to:

- 1-Identify, speech organs; their locations and functions,
- 2-Distinguish and produce all English sounds and their features correctly,
- 3-Transcribe English sounds, using phonetics symbols,

4-Discriminate, contrast and produce sounds and clusters that cause problems for Arabic speakers in isolation and in context, and

5-Recognize, identify and produce supra-segmental features of English speech, such as stress, rhythm, intonation, weak and strong forms etc.

Course Content:

In this course, there are twenty study units of six modules. They are listed below.

Introduction 1

- The English Phonetics and Phonology
- Phonemes and other aspects of pronunciation
- Accents and dialects

2. The production of speech sounds

- Articulators above the larynx
- Vowel and consonant
- English short vowels

3. Long vowels, diphthongs and triphthongs

- English long vowels
- Diphthongs
- Triphthongs

4. Voicing and consonants

- The larynx
- Respiration and voicing
- Plosives

- English plosives

- Fortis and lenis

5. Phonemes and symbols

- The phoneme
- Symbols and transcription
- Phonology

6. Fricatives and affricates

- Production of fricatives and affricates
- The fricatives of English
- The affricates of English
- Fortis consonants

7. Nasals and other consonants

- Nasals
- The consonant l
- The consonant r
- The consonants j and w

8. The syllable

- The nature of the syllable
- The structure of the English syllable
- Syllable division

9. Strong and weak syllables

- Strong and weak
- The @ vowel ("schwa")
- Close front and close back vowels

- Syllabic consonants

11. Stress in simple words

- The nature of stress
- Levels of stress
- Placement of stress within the word

11. Complex word stress

- Complex words
- Suffixes
- Prefixes
- Compound words
- Variable stress
- Word-class pairs

12. Weak forms

13. Problems in phonemic analysis

- Affricates
- The English vowel system
- Syllabic consonants
- Clusters of s with plosives
- Schwa (@)
- Distinctive features
- Conclusion

14. Aspects of connected speech

- Rhythm
- Assimilation

- Elision
- Linking

15. Intonation

- Form and function in intonation
- Tone and tone languages
- Complex tones and pitch height
- Some functions of English tones
- Tones on other words

16. Intonation

- The tone-unit
- The structure of the tone-unit
- Pitch possibilities in the simple tone-unit

17. Intonation

- Fall-rise and rise-fall tones followed by a tail
- High and low heads
- Problems in analysing the form of intonation
- Autosegmental treatment of intonation

18. Functions of intonation

- The attitudinal function of intonation
- Expressing attitudes

Phonology studies how we use sound. It studies the sound system of languages and of the general properties displayed by these systems. Phonology is concerned with the range and function of sounds in specific languages and with the rules which can be written to show the types of phonetic relationships that relate and contrast words and other linguistic units. Phonologist is the linguist, who is specialist in the study of phonology. Phonology has two branches: segmental and suprasegmental phonology. The former works on the analysis of the sound patterns of a segment 'sound' as the basic phonological unit and how it behaves depending on context. The latter expands such analysis to units larger than a single segment, such as syllables and whole utterances. It is also concerned with studying several phonological processes, such as intonation, assimilation, etc. In phonemic transcription we use slanted "slashes" lines / / to enclose phonemes such, e.e. day is phonemically transcribed as /dei/. Phonemes is a term used in phonology to refer to the smallest unit in the sound system of language.

Phoneme: it is the fundamental unit of phonology, virtually all theories of phonology hold that the spoken language can be broken down into a string of sound units (phonemes), and that each language has a small relatively fixed set of these phonemes every word in any language must consist of permitted sequence of those basic units , which are called phonemes.

Phoneme: is the smallest unit of language. The concept of phoneme arose out of the awareness that the precise phonetic realization of a particular sound is not as important as its **function** within the **sound system of a particular language**. The phonetic realization of a phoneme may vary, and its phonetic variants are called **allophones**. The smallest linguistic unit that

is able, when combined with other such units , to establish word meanings and distinguish between them.

- Intonation is an important part of suprasegmental phonology.
- It refers to a combination of acoustic parameters, including duration, intensity, and pitch used to communicate discourse meaning.
- Allen (1954) defines intonation as the melody of speech, the changing of pitch of the voice.
- Kingdon (1958) defines it as the variation given to the pitch of the voice in speaking.
- According to Hawkins (1983), intonation is the fluctuations of pitch in spoken utterances.
- All these definitions relate intonation to pitch levels caused by vibration of the vocal cords which is acoustically known as fundamental frequency.
- One of the significant functions of intonation is that it enables us to express emotions and attitudes as we speak.
- It also helps to modify the lexical meaning of a written discourse when it adds to it the speaker's attitude toward the components of that discourse.
- The attitudinal function is the most elusive and least understood aspect of intonation.
- This is because it underlies information related to the speaker's feelings or inner emotions about what is uttered.
- An intonation pattern to which a meaning is attributed derives largely or wholly from the attitudes implicit in the vocabulary of the utterance.
- Syntactic information could be conveyed by pitch. The listener is better able to recognise the grammar and syntactic structure of what is being said by using the information contained in the intonation.
- For instance, the placement of boundaries between phrases, clauses or sentences, the difference between questions and statements and the use of grammatical subordination may be indicated.

- This is the grammatical function of intonation which is the most important function...where it performs a role similar to punctuation in writing, but involving far more contrasts.