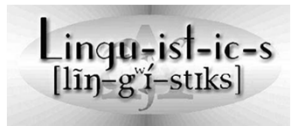


LNGT0101 Introduction to Linguistics



Lecture #6
Sept 26th, 2012

Announcements

- I'm assigning Part I from Homework #2 today. This part is due on Monday, Oct 1st, and is worth 30 points.
- The second part of Homework #2 will be assigned on Monday. It'll be due a week after.
- Screening for *The Writing Code*? How about Tuesday Oct 2nd at 7pm?

2

Agenda

- Presentation and discussion about English spelling.
- Finish our discussion of consonants.
- Articulation of vowels.
- Transcription exercises.

3

Summary from last class

- Consonants are described on the basis of **three** parameters: place of articulation, manner of articulation, and voicing.
- So, describe the following English sounds:
[f], [m], [ð], [ʒ], [w]

4

Aspiration of voiceless stops

- In English, the voiceless stops are produced with an extra puff of air when occurring initially. Compare your pronunciation of the [p], [t], and [k] sounds in both words in each of the following pair:

pan vs. *span*
tar vs. *star*
cool vs. *school*

5

Aspiration

- The voiceless stops in the first words are characterized as “**aspirated**” sounds, which distinguish them from the **unaspirated** voiceless stops that do not occur initially.
- In phonetic transcription, we indicate this difference in aspiration by superscripting the aspirated sound with [h], e.g., *pit* [p^hɪt]; *spit* [spɪt].

6

Ingressive pulmonic consonants

- The consonants we talked about so far are all produced by egressive pulmonic airstream.
- Ingressive pulmonic consonants are typically used for emotional effects.

Examples from Swedish and Scottish.

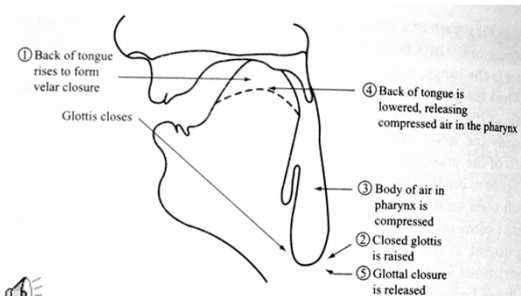
7

Nonpulmonic consonants

- Human languages also have consonants that are produced by nonpulmonic airstream, either glottally or velarically.
- Glottalic airstream gives us ejectives and implosives, whereas velaric airstream gives us clicks.

8

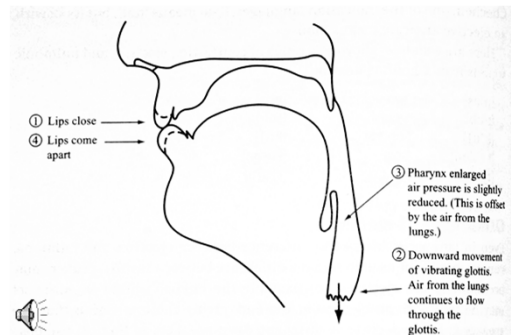
Articulatory sequence for an Ejective Velar Stop [k']



Adapted from Asbey & Maidment. 2005

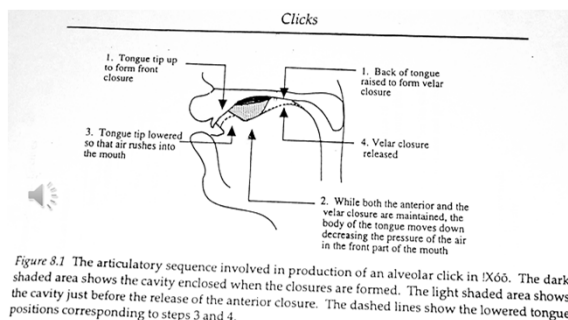
9

Articulatory sequence for a Bilabial Implosive [ɓ]



10

Articulatory sequence of an Alveolar click [!]



11

Peter Ladefoged's sound files

- Ejectives in Lakhota
- Implosives in Sindhi
- Clicks in !Xóõ
- Hear nonpulmonic sounds on the interactive IPA chart [HERE](#).
- For a non-linguist demonstrating and teaching clicks in Xhosa, you may watch [this youtube video](#).

12

Vowels

13

Vowels

- Vowels are distinguished from consonants in that the passage through which the air travels is never so narrow as to obstruct the free flow of the airstream.
- It's hard, however, to characterize vowels according to the same features that we have used in characterizing consonants. Why?

14

Parameters for vowel articulation

- Therefore, to distinguish between different vowels, we rely on four other features:
 - (a) **Tongue height: High, Mid, and Low**
 - (b) **Which part of the tongue is involved: Front, Central, and Back**
 - (c) **Lip rounding: Rounded and Unrounded**
 - (d) **Tenseness or laxness of the vocal tract: Tense and Lax**

15

American English Vowel Chart

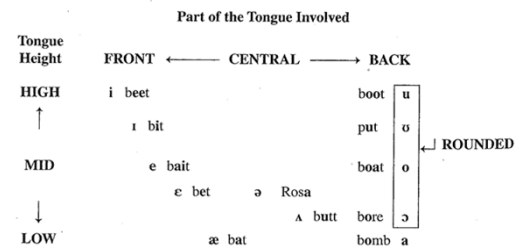


FIGURE 6.5 | Classification of American English vowels.

16

<http://www.uiowa.edu/~acadtech/phonetics/#>

- Now visit this link again for the articulation of the vowels of American English (German and Spanish are also available if you like to check out these).
- Notice that there may be some slight differences between this link and your textbook concerning phonetic symbols, but it is a very useful link, particularly the animated diagrams.

17

American English Vowel Chart

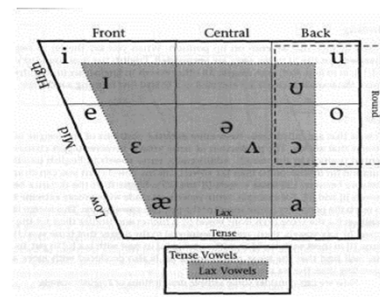


Figure 1. The vowels of English.

18

Diphthongs

- Two vowels may combine together to form a **diphthong**. Examples of diphthongs in American English are given below:
[aɪ] as in *die* [aʊ] as in *now*
[ɔɪ] as in *toy*
- Note that the vowels in *bait* and *boat* are also typically pronounced as diphthongs, and are therefore frequently transcribed as [eɪ] and [oʊ], respectively.
- In many books, the second vowel of an English diphthong is frequently represented as a glide: [ej] or [ow].

19

Nasalization of vowels

- Vowels can be either **oral** or **nasal**.
- In English, nasal vowels typically occur before nasal consonants. Compare, for example, the vowel in *bat* and *ban*. In transcription, the diacritic [̃] is placed over the vowel to indicate that it is a nasalized vowel, as in *ban* [bæ̃n] and *boom* [bū̃m].

20

Transcription

- Phonetic transcription** is a representation of the pronunciation of a word using IPA symbols. It is typically given between [].
- Transcription could be **broad**, in which case a minimal amount of phonetic detail is given, or **narrow**, in which case more detailed phonetic differences are provided (e.g., aspiration of voiceless stops and nasalization of vowels).
- The difference is illustrated on the next slide.

21

Broad vs. Narrow Phonetic Transcription

Word	Broad Transcription	Narrow Transcription
?	[ʒenɪŋ]	[ʒeɪnɪ̃ŋ]
?	[lɛktʃə] or [lɛkʃə]	[lɛktʃə] or [lɛkʃə]
?	[saʊndz]	[saʊ̃ndz]
?	[fənetɪks]	[fənetɪks]
?	[tʌŋg]	[tʰʌ̃ŋg]

22

Transcribing sentences

Broad:

[nɒm tʃɑmski ɪz e ɪŋgwɪst hu tɪtʃɪz æt ɛm aɪ ti]

Narrow:

[nɒ̃m tʃɑ̃mski ɪz ə ɪ̃ŋgwɪst hu tʰɪtʃɪz æt ɛ̃m aɪ tʰi]

23

Next class agenda

- Some examples of variation in pronunciation of American English.
- Coarticulation processes.
- Prosodic features: Syllable structure, pitch, tone, and intonation. Read Chapter 6, pp. 252-255, as well as the section on Prosodic Phonology in Chapter 7, pp. 296-302.

24