

The Significance of Phonetics in an English Language

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Abstract: Certain languages have been used throughout the whole of the world's history as a means of communication between individuals born in different nations and belonging to different cultures. Considering that we are living in a world where information travels at a pace that is practically identical to the speed of light, every single person is immediately impacted by events that take place all over the world. As a result, there is a significant need for a language that can act as a connection between the various countries. Language consists of more than simply words and structures; the significance of language comes in the fact that it serves as a means of communication. According to Littlewood, in order for a learner to be able to utilize the language in a way that is both spontaneous and flexible in order to convey the message that they mean to convey, they need to have abilities in manipulating the linguistic system. It is necessary for him or her to have the capacity to develop abilities required for the use of language to transmit meanings. She or he need to have an understanding of the social significance of the forms of language. In order to achieve a high level of motivation among the pupils, the instructor should mix learning values with learning that is interesting and enjoyable.

Keywords: Significance, Phonetics, English Language, Communication.

1. INTRODUCTION

Associate official languages of India are English. It is a link language, medium of teaching at a higher education level, and language of administration. Seminar both domestically and internationally, conferences, and intellectual meetings also benefit from it. Furthermore, the technical advancements have made its usage necessary in the domains of media and information technologies. Furthermore, clearly seen in news reading announcements, commercials, travel and lodging business is the need for the usage of spoken English. Actually, English is the only language that can satisfy the demands of global economic and culture-related communication.

The students who want to go overseas are required to pass certain English examinations that call for a reasonable degree of spoken English ability (Phonetics). Tests on speech and interactional skills abound on English proficiency assessments. Moreover, the curiosity and ambition of many individuals in choosing a profession overseas have revitalized interests in pronunciation to negotiate meaning in speech. Thus, mastery of phonetics merits equal respect with other English abilities.

Let us first review the synopsis of phonetics before asking how it affects English literature. Varshney (1998) said that phonetics is the scientific study of speech sound creation, transmission, and reception. Stated differently, it investigates the distinguishing features of all human vocal noise and emphasizes on those sounds occurring in the languages of the globe. Phoneticians examine the many organs of human speech, including the lungs, the larynx, the soft palate, the tongue and the lip, along their role in the creation of speech. Phonetics comprises three primary domains: Auditory phonetics is the study of hearing and speech sound perception; articulatory phonetics is the study of speech sound production; acoustic phonetics is the study of transmission of speech sounds via the air. One of the main issues for language learners is their handwriting of the language sounds and words phonetically. His transcription may be erroneous; this indicates that he has mixed one sound with another. In this sense, using phonetics transcription helps the language instructor teach the suitable sequence of sounds to utilize in any given word. According to Varshney (1998), phonetics transcription is a tool for using many symbols in such a manner that one symbol always exactly denotes one sound. Otherwise said, Jones (1972, p. 6) said that "phonetics transcription may be defined as an unambiguous system of representing pronunciation by means of writing, the

basic principle being to assign one and only one letter to each phoneme of the language".

Still, the primary goal of phonetics transcription is to capture as precisely as feasible all characteristics of a word or collection of words the language learner may hear and recognize in the stream of speech. More earring-training activities by their language instructors in ELT classrooms would help English language learners with their phonetics transcribing issues.

But good study of phonetics cannot exclude considering the concept of phonology. Most people agree that phonology belongs in the field of linguistics. Bloomfield (1933) defined phonography as the arrangement of sounds into patterns. Languages arrange their material, the vocal sounds, into repeated bits and pieces set in sound patterns to satisfy the communication purposes. Phonology is the study of this formal arrangement of languages. While phonology is the study of the vocal sounds and sounds changes, phonetics is the science of speech sounds, their production, transmission and reception and the signs to represent them in general with no particular reference to any one language, Varshney (1998) noted. Though the phonology of one language will vary from the phonology of another, phonetics is one and the same for all the languages on Earth. According to Macmahon in the hand book of English linguistics (2006), phonetics emphasizes on the mechanics of sound production and transmission, independent of how the sounds may operate as part of a language system; whereas phonology emphasizes on the function or organization, or patterning of the sounds. Generally speaking, the study of English literature depends much on phonetics. Literary works include poetry, prose, fiction, and theatre (Abrams and Harpham, 2012) are used to define fictitious and imaginative compositions that returned in the eighteen century. Why the use of phonetics is crucial in teaching English literature for foreign and second language English language instructors ask is a mystery. The first issue that the English learner has in his endeavor to acquire a speaking knowledge of English language as his foreign or second language is its pronunciation. English students must be able to identify the sound system of the language as spoken by an English native speaker or he must be able to generate them himself in such a way that an English native speaker understands him before learning any part of the vocabulary or grammar of the language. The function of language phonetics in today's educational system of language literature defines

that to be phonetics in any language literature classroom; an English language learner must be able to utilize it for a broad spectrum of reasons. A student of language literature should possess a set of language skills, knowledge, and phonological awareness that enable him to use language for reading and writing both within and outside of his classroom. Nonetheless, it is believed that instructors of English language literature have to be informed about the use of the phonetic system in classroom instruction. Stated differently, a component of the English language literature teacher's job is to enable pupils to hear English sounds. Note that a second or foreign language student finds it difficult to use the sound system of a foreign language. Every language has a unique collection of sounds; English language does really have certain sounds unlike other languages. In this sense, certain English sounds do not find expression in other languages. The learners should be acquainted with the sound system of this language if one of the finest approaches to educate them. Teachers of English literature should verify the pronunciation of their students and assist them to perform suitable pronunciation.

2. PRONUNCIATION

Units of speech, which include sounds, syllables, words, and words in linked speech, are essential components of proper pronunciation. One may also attribute a great deal of intelligibility to them. In the event when communication fails to take place due to difficulties in pronunciation, either the speaker or the listener becomes dissatisfied. It is thus impossible to avoid learning and teaching pronunciation, regardless of how we would wish to teach spoken English. The most effective method of learning pronunciation, on the other hand, is to develop one's own pattern of pronunciation in accordance with the objectives of intelligibility, communicability, and self-confidence.

3. PRONUNCIATION AND LISTENING

The ability to pronounce words correctly is an essential component of both hearing and speaking. An person who is listening breaks down the stream of speech into meaningful units, words, and individual sounds in order to comprehend what the speaker is trying to convey. This is the point at which the listener makes reference to the weak forms, such as "don't" for "do not" and "mustn't" for "must not have." It is important that the listener can be taught to recognize these characteristics since they are often

seen in spoken English. Consequently, in order to overcome challenges in communication and to be understandable, it is necessary to practice weak forms and to differentiate between the characteristic aspects of linked speech structures.

4. PRONUNCIATION AND SPELLING

Spelling, on the other hand, is a kind of writing that often has an effect on speech. It is generally accepted that the link between pronunciation and spelling is quite complicated, and some people even find it to be perplexing and chaotic at times. This is the case since there are 44 sounds that need to be represented by the 26 letters. A solitary frequency might perhaps be represented by a number of letters or letter combinations in a variety of words. Since this is the case, it does not seem that there is always a direct correlation between the way a word is spelled and how it is pronounced. An example of this would be the letter f, which may be heard as /v/ in the weak version of of yet as /f/ in roof. On the other hand, the sound /k/ is silent in words such as knee, knife, and know, and it is used to represent a variety of letters, such as [c] in the word "call," [cc] in the phrase "occasion," and [ck] in the word "attack." Therefore, it is essential for a student to cultivate an intuitive association between the manner in which they pronounce words and the way they spell them. After acquiring such information, individuals will be able to properly pronounce a new word and, conversely, accurately spell the word when they hear a new term.

5. INTELLIGIBILITY AND A MODEL OF PRONUNCIATION

Intelligibility is that which one can understand. When a speaker's speech deviates significantly from the listener's model, the speaker could lose intelligibility. The effect of his original language or a conventional pattern spoken in her nation will affect his/her speech, hence variances greatly from that of the listeners. Should the speaker replace one sound or aspect of pronunciation with another, the listener hears a different word and the communication comes to an unintelligibility. In essence, the function of phonetics to the instruction of English poetry has essential importance because the English language learners are required to be accustomed with the techniques of phonetics initially and then the poems are shown to them. Poetry begins with reading for many reasons; it creates sound, rhythm, melody, beauty, feeling, emotion, and vision; a language learner needs study science of speech sounds of his language to read

poems properly. In this regard, a language learner should be familiar with the rules of place of articulation, which is related with many parts of the mouth and throat used in the production of speech sounds, and manner of articulation, which is related with the way that the speech organs produce a speech sound. Learning how to make phonetic transcriptions can help language learners differentiate between word spelling and pronunciation, thereby enabling them to discover out He should pick up the ability to distinguish English language vowels from consonants.

Nonetheless, a student of English literature should grasp the phonetics of this language; otherwise, he may find it difficult to enjoy poetry. Knowing the sound system of the English language can assist the English literature student appreciate a literary work and grasp of poetry. Therefore, the study of a poem can help the learner acquire the knowledge about the language and thus generates a sophisticated an awareness of the language in order to enable one develop greater sensitivity to the works of literature in general and poetry in particular and respond to them better. Remembering the fact that poetry is musical speech, a student of English literature should understand that within the limits of the article, generally speaking, as reading a poem is necessary for analysis, from what has been covered previously in this article the student may use many tools to read a proper poetry. At last, the researchers think that while English literature's pupils still need to master phonetics to discuss poetry. Thus, knowledge of phonetics of English language may be used in order to alleviate the difficulties of teaching English poetry in English language teaching classroom.

6. CONCLUSION

As was already indicated, men use language to receive and transmit their knowledge in their society; it is a tool for human beings communication. One could communicate orally or in writing. Thus, language learners should be aware that their language consists of knowledge of the morphemes, words, phrases, sentences, and phonetics. Speech sounds of this language are among the fundamental elements of learning any language. It speaks to phonetics. Phonetics nearly as ancient as human language itself. According to Birjandi and Salmaninodoushan (2005), Sanskrit academics more than 2000 years produced the first phonetician of the contemporary world Dana J. Matthias, author of *De Litteris* in 1588. Ladefoged (1982) pointed out that

phonetics is more focused on characterizing the speech sounds produced in the language of the globe.

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