2nd year English

***Lecture two: Phonology (Part One)***

Introduction

The sounds of the spoken language generally do not match up with letters of written English .If we cannot use the letters of the alphabet in a consistent way to represent the sounds we make, how do we go about describing the sounds of a language like English? One solution is to produce separate alphabets with symbols that represent sounds. Such a set of symbols does exist and it is called Phonetic alphabet. In this lecture, we will try to look at how these symbols are used to represent sounds of English words and how they are organized.

***1/Phonetics (the sounds of speech)***

1.1.Definition

Phonetics is a branch of linguistics. It is the general study of the characteristics of speech sounds. It is how the linguistic sounds are made, transmitted and received.

There are three branches of phonetics

**\*Articulatory phonetics**: is the study of how speech sounds are made or articulated.

\***Acoustic phonetics**: deals with the physical properties of speech as sound waves in the air. It examines the length, frequency and pitch of sounds

\***Auditory phonetics**: (perceptual phonetics) deals with perception, via the ear, of speech sounds.( what happens in the ear and brain when the sound in finally received)

***2.Phonology (the linguistic use of sounds)***

***2.1.Definition***

Phonology is the study of sound systems. It is essentially the description of the systems and patterns of speech sounds in a language. Therefore, the primary aim of phonology is to discover the principles that govern the way sounds are organized in languages and to explain the variations that occur.

Phonology is also concerned with :

1. The study of word-to-word relations in sentences; that is how sound patterns are affected by the combination of words. For example, give /giv/ and him /him/ may combine to /givim/ give him.
2. The investigation of intonation patterns.

To discover:

-Tacit rules for how sounds vary in context.

-Tacit rules determining legal sequences of speech sounds.

-Tacit rules for rhythmic structure.

To know

-where the stress is in ,e.g., international

- The difference between ̍*subject* and *sub'ject 'permit* and *per'mit*

-How to change stress pattern when affixes are added

*diplomat diplomacy diplomatic*

*photograph photography photographic*