

ROLE OF PHONETICS IN LINGUISTICS

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Abstract: present research stresses that the study of modification of phonemes is of great importance as they are frequently found in connected speech in English and Uzbek languages. Besides that, being aware of modifications of sounds in speech a learner will have less difficulty in communication with native speakers of English. Moreover, teaching English as a foreign language has become one of the most important parts of schooling as English as a school subject. The study of pronunciation norms of English has great importance for learning English as a foreign language.

Keywords: phonetics, phoneme, linguistics, sound combination, vowel interchange.

Introduction. In oral speech grammar and vocabulary as language aspects are expressed in sounds. The modification of words and their combination into sentences are first of all phonetic phenomena. We cannot change the grammatical form of a verb or a noun without changing the corresponding sounds. The communicative type of sentences can often be determined only by intonation. Hence the importance of the sound (phonetic) aspect of a language is obvious. To speak any 1% of the vocabulary may be sufficient [3].

The terms “phonetics” and “phonetic” come from the Greek word which means sound. The term “phonetics” may denote either the phonetic system of a concrete language or the phonetic science. Both the phonetic system of a language and the phonetic science are inseparably connected with each other but at the same time the one cannot be taken for the other. The phonetic system of a language is an objective reality while the phonetic science is a reflected reality.

Phonetics as a science is a branch of linguistics. It is concerned with the study of the sound system of a language. Phonetics has a long history. It was

known to the ancient Greeks and Hindus. But up to the 19th century it was considered to be a part of grammar. As an independent linguistic science it began to develop in Russia and Western Europe in the 2 nd half of 19th century.

The connection of phonetics with grammar, lexicology and stylistics is existed, first of all, through the orthography, which in its turn is very closely connected with phonetics.

Methodology. Phonetics formulates the rules of pronunciation for separate sounds and sounds combinations. The rules of reading are based on the relation of sounds to orthography and present certain difficulties in learning the English language, especially on the initial stage of studying. Thus, vowel sounds, for instance, are pronounced not only as we name the letters corresponding to them: the letter a as /eI/, the letter e as /i:/, the letter I as /aI/, the letter y as /waI/, the letter u as /ju:/ the letter o as /ou/, but a can be pronounced as: /æ/ - can, /a:/ - car, /εə/ - care, e can be pronounced as: /e/ - them, /3:/ - fern, /Iə/ - here, etc.

Though the system of rules of reading phonetics is connected with grammar and helps to pronounce correctly singular and plural forms of nouns, the past tense forms and past participles of English regular verbs, e.g./d/ is pronounced after voiced consonants (begbeggd), /t/ - after voiceless consonants (wish-wished). It is only if we know that /s/ is pronounced after voiceless consonants, /z/ after voiced and /Iz/ after sibilants, that we can pronounce the words books, bags, boxes correctly. The ending -ed is pronounced /Id/ following /t/ or /d/, e.g. waited /'weItId/, folded, /'fəuld Id/. Some adjectives have a form with /Id/, e.g. crooked /'krukId/, naked /'neIkId/, ragged /'rægId/.

One of them important phonetic phenomena – sound interchange – is another manifestation of the connection of phonetics with grammar. For instance, this connection can be observed in the category of number. Thus, the interchange of /f-v/, /s-z/, /θ-ð/ helps to differentiate singular and plural forms of such nouns as: calf-calves /f-v/, leaf-leaves /f-v/, house-houses /s-z/.

Vowel interchange helps to distinguish the singular and the plural of such words as: basis – bases /'beɪsɪs- `beɪsi:z/, crisis- crises /'kraɪsɪs – `kraɪsi:z/, analysis-analyses /ə`næləsɪs- ə`nælsi:z/, and also man-men/ mæn-men/, foot-feet /fʊt-fi:t/, goose-geese /gu:sgɪ:z/, mouse-mice /maʊs-maɪs/.

Vowel interchange is connected with the tense forms of irregular verbs, for instance: sing-sang-sung; write-wrote-written, etc.

Vowel interchange can help to distinguish between.

- a) nouns and verbs, e.g. bath-bathe /a:-eɪ/,
- b) adjectives and nouns, e.g. hot-heat /o-i:/,
- c) verbs and adjectives, e.g. moderate-moderate /eɪ-I/,
- d) nouns and nouns, e.g. shade-shadow /eɪ-æ/,
- e) nouns and adjectives, e.g. type-typical /aɪ-I/.

Vowel interchange can be observed in onomatopoeic compounds:

jiggle-joggle; flip-flop; chip-chop; flap-flop; hip-hop.

Consonants can interchange in different parts of speech for example in nouns and verbs:

extent – extend /t-d/, mouth – mouth /θ-ð/, relief – relieve /f-v/

Phonetics is also connected with grammar through its intonation component. Sometimes intonation alone can serve to single out predication in the sentence. Let us compare the following sentences: He came home. Not Mary or John./ He came hove. So you can see him now. / He came home. He is at home.

In affirmative sentence the rising nuclear tone may serve to show that it is a question. For instance: He `came home. / He `came, home?

Pausation may also perform a differentiator function. If we compare two similar sentences pronounced with different places of the pause, we shall see that their meaning will be different. For example the following:

What `writing `poet is doing is interesting.

If we make a pause after the word what, we are interested in what the poet is doing in general. If the pause is made after the word writing we want to know, what book or article the poet is writing.

So, phonetics as a linguistic science has connections with different linguistic and nonlinguistic subjects.

As a linguistic science phonetics has certain types: such as general phonetics which studies the phonetic features common to all language; descriptive phonetics which studies the phonetics system of a certain language; diachronic phonetics which studies the changes a sound undergoes in the development of a language or languages; comparative-typological phonetics which studies the phonetic features of two or more languages of different systems. It has different aspects as such the articulator which studies the voice producing mechanism and the way in which we produce speech sounds; the acoustic aspect which studies different features of sound waves; the perceptual (auditory) aspect which studies the way of hearing process of speech utterances; the phonological aspect which studies the linguistic functions of speech sounds.

While studying of linguistic analysis the methods of investigation used in phonetics vary, but there are three principal methods such as (1) the direct observation method which comprises three important modes of phonetic analysis: by ear, by sight and by muscular sensation: (2) the linguistic method which utilizes linguistic analysis in observing the actual facts of language and interpreting their social significance that makes use of linguistic experiment to determine, with the help of native informants, the functioning power of some concrete phonetic feature in a language or in a specific dialect which is being subjected to investigation; (3) the experimental method which is based, as a rule, upon the use of special apparatus or instruments [5].

Conclusion. The of the study of English phonetics which deals with pronunciation matters of the language is one of the most important linguistic phenomena as the English language is considered to be one of the widely used

languages in international affairs. Summarizing all above stated, now we can draw a conclusion that English phonetics being one of the main branches of general linguistics plays an immense role among linguistic sciences.

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