

CONTRASTIVE ANALYSIS OF PHONOLOGICAL SYSTEMS: ENGLISH AND TURKMEN LANGUAGES

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The article is devoted to the description of the phonetic system of the English and Turkmen languages. Consonants and vowels studied languages are represented in the form of summary tables that facilitate their comparison.

Each language has a certain limited number of sounds, which all the words of the given language consist of. Sounds are pronounced in speech, and letters serve to show sounds in writing. The sound composition of a language is changing all the time, while the alphabetic image of words changes extremely slowly, therefore the alphabetic composition of a word reflects its sound composition only relatively. The role of phonetics in teaching a foreign language is great, because the first acquaintance with the language occurs at the sound, phonetic level, therefore the formation of pronunciation skills is one of the main tasks of the initial stage of education. If you do not pay proper attention to the pronunciation, then the articulatory apparatus of students will get used to the wrong articulation of sounds. Later the person will not be able to intone correctly his speech and it will be very difficult to retrain later, and the speaker's speech will not sound as a native one. In addition, the correct pronunciation affects the meaning of the utterance. For example, in English, the longitude and shortness of the vowels, voiced and voiceless consonants have a semantic meaning: ship-sheep, bed- bet etc. In order to identify accurately the sound composition of the word and thereby facilitate speaker's pronunciation of a foreign language, the so-called phonetic transcription is used, that is, a system of conditional graphic symbols in which each sound corresponds to one specific sign. Pronunciation is a kind of "business card" of the speaker, because the first thing we pay attention to when communicating with a person is the phonetic presentation and correctness of his speech.

The English alphabet consists of 26 letters. Of these 6 are used to designate vowel sounds: a, e, i, o, u, y. The remaining 20 letters are used to denote consonants. The discrepancy between pronunciation and spelling of words in English is obscured by the fact that the number of sounds and letters in it does not match. So in English there are 40 sounds (20 vowels and 24 consonants). Therefore, the same letter in different positions in a word can be pronounced with different sounds. In addition to the difficulties caused by the discrepancy between writing and pronunciation of words, there are purely pronunciation difficulties due to differences in articulation, the nature of the way and movements of the organs of speech, and differences in pronunciation habits. The orthography of the Turkmen language is based on the phonetic principle, 30 letters of the Turkmen alphabet correspond to 30 sounds: 9 vowel /ä, a, o, ö, i, ü, u, y, e/ and 21 consonants /b, d, g, h, f, j, k, l, m, n, p, r, s, t, w, ž, z, ý, ñ, ş, ç,/ but there are not any diphthongs.

A a	B b	Ç ç	D d	E e	Ä ä	F f	G g	H h	I i
a	be	çe	de	e	ä	fe	ge	he	i
[a]	[b]	[tʃ]	[d]	[je/e]	[æ]	[f]	[g~ɣ]	[h~x]	[i]
J j	Ž ž	K k	L l	M m	N n	Ñ ñ	O o	Ö ö	P p
je	že	ka	el	em	en	eñ	o	ö	pe
[dʒ]	[ʒ]	[k~q]	[l]	[m]	[n]	[ɲ]	[o]	[ø]	[p]
R r	S s	Ş ş	T t	U u	Ü ü	W w	Y y	Ý ý	Z z
er	es	eş	te	u	ü	we	y	yé	ze
[r]	[θ]	[ʃ]	[t]	[u]	[y]	[β]	[w]	[j]	[ð]

Fig. 1. Turkmen alphabet and sounds

A a	B b	C c	D d	E e	F f	G g	H h	I i	J j
a	bee	cee	dee	e	ef	gee	(h)aitch	i	jay
[eɪ]	[bi:]	[si:]	[di:]	[i:]	[ɛf]	[dʒi:]	[(h)ertʃ]	[aɪ]	[dʒeɪ]
K k	L l	M m	N n	O o	P p	Q q	R r	S s	T t
kay	el	em	en	o	pee	cue	ar	ess	tee
[keɪ]	[ɛl]	[ɛm]	[ɛn]	[ou]	[pi:]	[kju:]	[ɑ:/ɑr]	[ɛs]	[ti:]
U u	V v	W w	X x	Y y	Z z				
u	vee	double-u	ex	wy(e)	zed/zee				
[ju:]	[vi:]	[ˈdʌbəlju:]	[ɛks]	[waɪ]	[zɛd/zi:]				

Fig. 2. English alphabet and sounds

Vowels and their classification. Vowels are sounds in which there is no obstruction to the flow of air as it passes from the larynx to the lips. They differ from each other in several ways. We need a very accurate way of classifying the vowels. Phoneticians have developed a set of vowels, arranged in a diagram, which are not the vowels of any particular language.

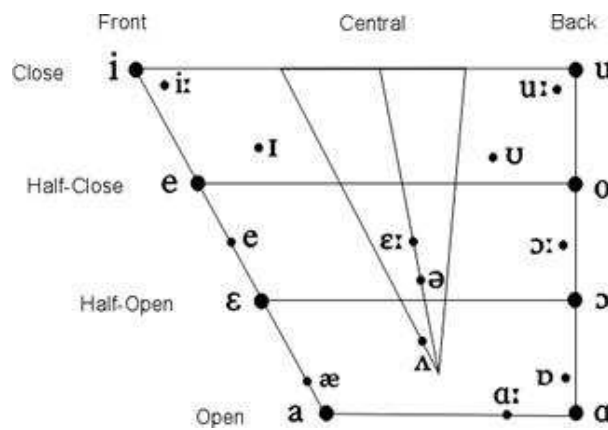


Fig. 3. English vowel sound

The various qualities of English vowels are determined by the oral resonator- its size, volume and shape. The resonator is modified by the most movable speech organs- the tongue and the lips.

	Front		Back	
	unrounded	rounded	unrounded	rounded
<u>Close</u>	i/ɨ [i]	ü/γ [y] üý/γý [y:]	γ/ы [u]	u/γ [u]
<u>Mid</u>	e/e [e]	ö/ө [ø]		o/o [o]
<u>Open</u>	ä/ə [æ:]		a/a [a] ¹	

Fig. 4. Turkmen vowel sound

The Turkmen language is characterized by the use of long and short vowels. Short vowels are similar to the way they are pronounced in English. Long vowels are pronounced as two short vowels. Longitude of vowels in certain cases have a differential change in the meaning of the word, for example: *at* {horse} – *a:t* {name}; *o:t* {fire} – *ot* {grass}. Another feature is the presence of front vowels (slim sound) and back vowels (thick sound). The front vowels are pronounced with the advanced root of the tongue (A,E,I,O), while back vowels (Ó,Ú,U,Y,Ä) are

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pronounced with the movement of the tongue back from its neutral position. It is important to note that all Turkmen words of Turkic origin are pronounced either completely with the front vowels, like "kōwüş" (*shoes*), or with back vowels, like "Mugallym" (*teacher*). But in Turkmen there are a lot of borrowed Russian words, such as "Telewizor" (*television*) and "radio" (*radio*). They are spelled out in strict accordance with the Russian original and often have front and back vowels inside one word. A comparative analyses of the vowel sounds of the studied languages can be presented in the form of two tables (transcription marks correspond to the signs adopted in each of the languages).

Consonants and their classification. Consonants are speech sounds in the articulation of which there is no obstruction, the removal of which causes noise- plosion or friction. The muscular tension is concentrated at the place of obstruction. The air stream is strong. There are the following types of obstruction in the production of consonants: 1) complete closure; 2) narrowing 3) closure immediately followed by a narrowing. Consonants are classified, first of all, according to the manner of articulation, that is the way they are pronounced;

In English	In Turkmen
Friction	Nasal
Affricate	Affricate
Stop	Fricative
Nasal	Approximant
Lateral	Trill
Gliding	

Some of the consonants are produced by the vibration of the vocal cords, rather like the vibration that vowel sounds produce. And in some consonants there is no such voicing. That's why we say that according to the presence or absence of voice during the articulation of consonants they can be divided into; voiced and voiceless:

Voiceless: /p,t,k,f,s,./

Voiced: /b,d,g,v,z,./

Turkmen consonants are also divided into two groups:

Voiceless: /k,p,t,ç/

Voiced: /g,b,d,j./

Consonants can also be classified according to the place of articulation. So, they can be divided;

- bilabial[made with the help of the two lips]
- labiodental[the lower lip articulates with the upper teeth]
- dental[the tongue tip touches the upper teeth]
- alveolar[the tip or blade of the tongue touches the alveolar ridge]
- post - alveolar[the tip of the tongue touches the back of the alveolar ridge]
- palatal[the front of the tongue articulates with the hard palate]
- velar[the back of the tongue articulates with the soft palate]
- glottal[produced in the glottis, between the vocal cords]

		Bilabial		Dental/ Alveolar		Postalv. /Palatal		Dorsal /Glottal	
Nasal		m/м	[m]	n/н	[n]			ň/ň	[ŋ]
Plosive/ Affricate	voiceless	p/п	[p]	t/т	[t]	ç/ч	[tʃ]	k/к	[k]/[q]
	voiced	b/б	[b]	d/д	[d]	j/ж	[dʒ]	g/г	[g]/[ɣ]
Fricative	voiceless	f/ф	[f]	s/с	[θ]	ş/ш	[ʃ]	h/x	[x]/[h]
	voiced	w/в	[β]	z/з	[ð]	ž/ж	[ʒ]		
Approximant				l/л	[l]	ý/й	[j]		
Trill				r/р	[r]				

Fig. 5. Turkmen consonant sound

Turkmen consonant phonemes (shown in Turkmen alphabet):

Note that c (s) and з (z) are actually used for [θ] and [ð], not [s] and [z], a unique feature among the Turkmen language.

		MANNER	VOICING	PLACE						
				Bilabial	Labiodental	Interdental	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Obstruent	Stop	Voiceless	p			t		k	ʔ	
		Voiced	b			d		g		
	Fricative	Voiceless		f	θ	s	ʃ		h	
		Voiced		v	ð	z	ʒ			
	Affricate	Voiceless					tʃ			
		Voiced					dʒ			
Sonorant	Nasal	Voiced	m			n		ŋ		
	Liquid	Lateral				l				
		Rhotic	Voiced					r (ɹ)		
		Glide	Voiced	w				j	(w)	

Fig. 6. English consonant sound

The bulk of concurrences of consonants is observed at the place of their formation, but it should be remembered that in the Turkmen language there is no aspiration inherent in having any correspondences, although similar, but differing to some extent. Comparative analysis of phonetic systems of English and Turkmen languages has shown the presence of a certain number of similarities in the way of articulation and pronunciation of sound.

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