# Ling 51/Psych 56L: Acquisition of Language 

Lecture 8<br>Phonological development I

## Announcements

Make sure you understand any questions you didn't get correct on the first midterm.

Review questions for phonological development available

HW3 available (due 10/30/17)

All kinds of useful sound charts available (including interactive ones, in case you forget what sound corresponds to what symbol).

## Sounds of Language


http://specgram.com/CLIII. 1/09.parenchyma.cartoon.e.html

"Why do I have to keep writin' in these K's when they don't make any noise anyway?"
http://languagelog.|dc.upenn.edu/nl|/?p=3946
THERE IS A SOUND CALLED A "GLOTTAL STOP", WHICH IS MADE BY HALTING AIR FLOW WITH YOUR GLOTTIS. IN ENGLISH, WE OFTEN ASSOCIATE IT WITH THE COCKNEY ACCENT AND MID-WORD Ts.


## Spelling vs. Pronunciation

I SOMETMES MISSPELL "MISSPELL" AND"MISPRONUNCATION", AND I MISPRONOUNCE "MISPRONUNCIATION,"

BUTTHE EPITOME OF MISPRONUNCIATION IS PROBABLY THE WAY I PRONOUNCE "EPITOME".

https://xkcd.com/1816/

## Forget Spelling!

## Sounds $\neq$ Spelling

## Forget spelling

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XTzkT3j9pHI http://www.thelingspace.com/episode-12

## beginning through 2:27



Our Strange Lingo, by Lord Cromer (1902)

When the English tongue we speak.
Why is break not rhymed with freak?
Will you tell me why it's true
We say sew but likewise few?
And the maker of the verse,
Cannot rhyme his horse with worse?
Beard is not the same as heard
Cord is different from word.
Cow is cow but low is low
Shoe is never rhymed with foe.
Think of hose, dose, and lose
And think of goose and yet with choose

Courtesy of http://www.spellingsociety.org/news/media/poems.php

Think of comb, tomb and bomb, Doll and roll or home and some.
Since pay is rhymed with say
Why not paid with said I pray?
Think of blood, food and good.
Mould is not pronounced like could.
Wherefore done, but gone and lone -
Is there any reason known?
To sum up all, it seems to me
Sound and letters don't agree.

## One sound - Many letters

| he | e | seas | ea |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| believe | ie | amoeba | oe |
| Caesar | ae | key | ey |
| see | ee | machine | i |
| people | eo | seize | ei |

International Phonetic Alphabet: [i]

## One sound - Many letters

| too | oo | threw | ew |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| to | o | lieu | ieu |
| clue | ue | shoe | oe |
| through | ough | beautiful | eau |

IPA: [u]

## One sound - Many letters

shoot either
character
deal
Thomas
physics
rough
$\int$
ð k
i
t
f
f

## One letter - Many sounds

dame dad
father
call
village
many

## e

æ
a
0, a
I, $\partial$
$\varepsilon$

# One letter - Not one sound 

mnemonic
psychology
resign
ghost
= no sound!
island
whole
debt

> cute $\quad$ kjuwt $=2$ sounds!

## Differences across languages

English: judge, juvenile, Jesus

Spanish: jugar, Jesus d3 h

German: Jugend, jubeln, Jesus

French: Jean, j’accuse, jambon

## Why we need the IPA

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XTzkT3j9pHI http://www.thelingspace.com/episode-12

## 2:27-5:27, 8:42-9:05



THE INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ALPHABET (revised to 2005)

|  | Bilabial | Labiodental | Dental | Alveolar | Postalveolar | Retroflex | Palatal | Velar | Uvular | Pharyngeal | Glottal |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Plosive | p b |  |  | t d |  | t d | C J | k g | q G |  | ? |
| Nasal | m | m |  | n |  | $\eta$ | J | ] | N |  |  |
| Trill | B |  |  | r |  |  |  |  | R |  |  |
| Tap or Flap |  | V |  | r |  | 「 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fricative | $\phi \beta$ | f V | $\theta$ ठ | S Z | $\int 3$ | S Z | ç $\dot{J}$ | X 8 | $\chi$ в | ћ | h h |
| Lateral fricative |  |  |  | $\ddagger 13$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Approximant |  | $v$ |  | I |  | I. | j | 凹 |  |  |  |
| Lateral approximant |  |  |  | 1 |  | 1 | $\Lambda$ | L |  |  |  |

Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a voiced consonant. Shaded areas denote articulations judged impossible.

| Clicks | Voiced implosives | Ejectives |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc{ }_{\text {Bilabial }}$ | 6 Bilabial | Examples: |
| Dental | d Denta/alveolar | $\mathrm{p}^{\prime}$ Bilabial |
| ! (Post)alveolar | $f$ Palatal | t' Dentalalveolar |
| \# Palatalveolar | $\oint$ velar | $\mathrm{k}^{\prime}$ velar |
| \|| Alveolar lateral | $G^{\wedge}$ Uvular | S' Alveolar fricative |

OTHER SYMBOLS
$\begin{array}{llll}\text { M } & \text { Voiceless labial-velar fricative } & \text { C Z } & \text { Alveolo-palatal fricatives } \\ \text { W } & \text { Voiced labial-velar approximant } & \text { I } \\ \text { U } & \text { Voiced alveolar lateral flap }\end{array}$
2 ,
DIACRITICS Diacritics may be placed above a symbol with a descender, e.g. $\stackrel{\circ}{7}$


VOWELS


Where $a \cdot C-\quad$ Where symbols appear in pairs, the one

SUPRASEGMENTALS
1 Primary stress Secondary stress ,founə'tifən
! Long e:

- Half-long $\mathrm{e}^{\prime}$ Extra-short $\breve{\mathrm{e}}$ | Minor (foot) group || Major (intonation) group
- Syllable break .ii.ækt
- Linking (absence of a break)

TONES AND WORD ACCENTS
LEVEL



$\downarrow \begin{array}{lll}\downarrow \\ \uparrow & \text { Downstep } \\ & \nearrow & \left.\begin{array}{c}\text { Gilobal rise }\end{array}\right)\end{array}$
$\uparrow \quad$ Upstep $\quad \searrow$ Global fall

International Phonetic Alphabet

# Interactive chart <br> of the 

International Phonetic Alphabet

## http://www.ipachart.com/

Click on a symbol to hear the sound it represents.


## Non-pulmonic consonants

| Clicks | Voiced implosives | Ejectives |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - Bilabial | 万 Bilabial | $\mathrm{p}^{\prime}$ Bilabial |
| \| Dental | o Dental/alveolar | $\mathrm{t}^{\prime}$ Dental/alveolar |
| ! (Post)alveoalar | f Palatal | $k^{\prime}$ Velar |
| \# Palatoalveolar | g Velar | S' Alveolar fricative |
| \|| Alveolar lateral | G Uvular | etc... |



## Sounds: Speech production

"Speech is a river of breath, bent into hisses and hums by the soft flesh of the mouth and throat."

- Pinker, The Language Instinct


"Speech production is an invisible ballet that requires precise and rapid coordination of the many muscle groups that control the lips, tongue, jaw, larynx, and respiration."
- Myers 2017


## Sounds: The vocal tract as an instrument [Extra]

https://www.ted.com/talks/tom thum the orchestra in my mouth?language=en 0:45-2:14, 3:25-3:41, 4:43-6:20

## Sounds: Vocal tract overview

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dtf8zGQj9GY
http://www.thelingspace.com/episode-4

## 0:38 through 1:17



## How you look to a phonetician



## How you look to a phonetician



## Major division: consonants vs vowels

Consonantal sounds: narrow or complete closure somewhere in the vocal tract.

Vowels: very little obstruction in the vocal tract. Can form the basis of syllables (also possible for some consonants).

Consonants

## Place of articulation: Where the airflow is blocked

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zEaPQP3pXQc
http://www.thelingspace.com/episode-20
beginning through 5:53


I Where is the air flow blocked?











## Manner of articulation: How the airflow is blocked

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zEaPQP3pXQc
http://www.thelingspace.com/episode-20

## 5:54-9:19



## Manner: How the air is flowing

Stops (sometimes called plosives) [p] [t] [k] [b] [d] [g] [m] [n] [n]
Fricatives
[f] [v] [ $\theta$ ] [ð] [s] [z] [S] [3]
Approximants/Glides
[w] [j] (Like in "water" and "you")
Liquids
[ 1 ] [1]
Tap/Flap
[r] (Like in "water" and "butter")

## The acoustics of sonorants

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g8BgfHEDbFY\&feature=youtu.be especially 1:11-1:46 (intro to sonorants)
2:34-3:37 (producing nasals)


## Fricatives \& Affricates

| Postalveolar sounds | $[3][\mathrm{J}]$ | Palatal sounds $[\mathrm{d} 3][\mathrm{t}]$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| (fricatives) |  | (affricates) |

Affricates - combination of stop + fricative - [d3] [tf], as in judge, church

Ex: affricates in fast speech:


## Voicing: What the vocal folds are doing

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zEaPQP3pXQc
http://www.thelingspace.com/episode-20

## 9:20-9:52



## What are the vocal folds doing?

## closed <br> voiced


"The air leaves the lungs through the trachea (windpipe), which opens into the larynx (the voice-box, visible on the outside as the Adam's apple). The larynx is a valve consisting of an opening (the glottis) covered by two flaps of retractable muscular tissue called the vocal folds...The vocal folds can also be partly stretched over the glottis to produce a buzz as the air rushes past." - Pinker, The Language Instinct

## Voiced \& Voiceless consonants

## Consonants are either voiced or voiceless.

 English pairs:b p
vf
d t
z s
ð $\theta$
$\int 3$
t $\int \mathrm{d} 3$

## Other Glottal States (besides just +/-voiced) <br> [Extra]

http://www.thelingspace.com/episode-53
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=edYLoMRgaFw
Discusses glottal states like breathy voice \& creaky voice


## Describing sounds

## Features

Ways of describing sounds
e.g., $[t]=$ voiceless, alveolar, stop

Stronger claim: features are the smallest building blocks of language, used to store sounds in the mind

Atoms of Speech


## IPA full(er) chart

THE INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ALPHABET (revised to 1993)
CONSONANTS (PULMONIC)

|  | Bilabial | Labiodental | Dental | Alveolar | Postalveolar | Retroflex | Palatal | Velar | Uvular | Pharyngeal | Glotal |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Plosive | p b |  |  | t d |  | $t d$ | C 于 | k g | q G |  | ? |
| Nasal | m | m |  | n |  | $\eta$ | J | 1 | N |  |  |
| Trill | B |  |  | r |  |  |  |  | R |  |  |
| Tap or Flap |  |  |  | r |  | ¢ |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fricative | $\phi \beta$ |  | $\theta$ б | S Z | $\int 3$ | S Z | ¢̧ J | X 8 | $\chi$ в | h | h 6 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Lateral } \\ & \text { fricative } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | 13 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Approximant |  | $v$ |  | I |  | $\downarrow$ | j | u |  |  |  |
| Lateral approximant |  |  |  | 1 |  | $l$ | $\Lambda$ | L |  |  |  |

Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a voiced consonant. Shaded areas denote articulations judged impossible.

## The parts we care about for this class

THE INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ALPHABET (revised to 1993)
CONSONANTS (PULMONIC)

|  | Bilabial | Labiodental | Dental | Alveolar | Postalveolar | Retroflex | Palatal | Velar | Uvular | Pharyngeal | Glotal |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Stop | p b |  |  | $t \mathrm{~d}$ |  |  |  | K g |  |  |  |
| Nasal | m |  |  | n |  |  |  | $1]$ |  | lis | , |
| Trill |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tap or Flap |  |  |  | [ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fricative |  | f V | $\theta$ б | S Z | $\int 3$ |  | $t \int d 3$ |  |  |  | h |
| Lateral fricative |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Glide |  |  |  |  |  |  | j | W |  |  |  |
| Liquid |  |  |  | d 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  | [/. |

Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a voiced consonant. Shaded areas denote articulations judged impossible.

## Describing speech sounds

Where is the air-flow blocked? (place of articulation) labial, alveolar, palatal, velar etc.

Where/how is the air flowing? (manner of articulation) nasal/oral, stop, fricative, liquid, tap/flap etc.

What are the vocal folds doing? (voicing)
voiced vs. voiceless

## Other ways of producing consonants <br> [Extra]

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JKP10ARLnzM\&feature=youtu.be Discusses clicks, implosives, and ejectives


## Vowels

## Vowels

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=arMntA15AOs http://www.thelingspace.com/episode-27

## beginning through 4:10



What can you do to alter the shape of your vocal tract?

$\mathfrak{æ}$




## You can....

(1) Raise or lower your tongue
(high, mid, low)

(2) Advance or retract your tongue
(front, central, back)
(3) Round or spread your lips
(round, spread)
(4) Tense or not tense your mouth (tense, lax)

## A quick note about tense/lax

"...by advancing the tongue root....the tongue becomes tense and humped rather than lax and flat, and the hump narrows the air chamber in the mouth above it, changes the resonances."

- Pinker, The Language Instinct
(4) Tense or not tense your mouth (tense, lax)


## More precision when talking about vowels [Extra]

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j|4zGRSYqkE\&feature=youtu.be
Discusses frequency \& formants relevant for describing vowels


## So what vowels do you have?

i "sheep, sleep"
I "ship, slip"

## So what vowels do you have?

I
"laid, spade, trade"
ع "led, sped, tread"

## So what vowels do you have?

## e <br> $\varepsilon$

## æ

"bat, lad"

## So what vowels do you have?

i

## "Luke, who'd, suit"

 "look, hood, soot"u

## So what vowels do you have?



## So what vowels do you have?



## So what vowels do you have?



## So what vowels do you have?



## So here they are!



## The full(er) vowel chart

VOWELS


Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a rounded vowel

## The parts we care about for this class

## VOWELS



Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a rounded vowel

## Diphthongs

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=arMntA15AOs http://www.thelingspace.com/episode-27

## 7:02 through 7:38



## Diphthongs: Two vowel-ish sounds together

## Diphthongs: Two vowel-ish sounds together

## "side, my, kind"

## Diphthongs: Two vowel-ish sounds together

Diphthongs: Two vowel-ish sounds together

## "loud, brow, hour"

## aW or $a \cup$

## Diphthongs: Two vowel-ish sounds together

Diphthongs: Two vowel-ish sounds together

## "boy, annoy, toil" <br> $$
\text { Dj or } \boldsymbol{I}
$$

## Speech production summary

Airflow set in vibration by vocal folds and modified by vocal tract

Consonants: narrowing or blocking of oral/nasal cavity

Vowels: shaping of oral cavity

Different languages choose different selections of these

## Speech perception

Speech production processes must be undone by the ear

Motions of articulators must be reconstructed from patterns of air vibration

Requires extremely precise hearing, possibly a system specialized for hearing speech

Substantially developed at birth


## Questions?



You should be able to do question 4 on HW3, and up through question 2 on the phonological review questions.

