

PHONETICS

Resource Person: Sri K. Narsimha Rao, Asst. Professor, PB Siddhartha College, PG, Centre

Venue: Seminar Hall

Date: 25-07-2019

Time: 10. 00 AM to 1.00 PM



The resource person explained the about the production of sounds and its physiological process. The scientific study of sounds that can be produced by the human vocal tract is known as 'phonetics. He explained all the 44 speech sounds and the difference in pronouncing the vowel sounds, diphthongs and consonants with examples and students were given oral practice.

The movements disrupt and modify an airstream which results in a sound wave. The modification is done by the articulators, with different places and manners of articulation producing different acoustic results. For example, the words *tack* and *sack* both begin with alveolar sounds in English, but differ in how far the tongue is from the alveolar ridge. This difference has large effects on the air stream and thus the sound that is produced. Similarly, the direction and source of the airstream can affect the sound. The most common airstream mechanism is pulmonic—using the lungs—but the glottis and tongue can also be used to produce airstreams.

Language perception is the process by which a linguistic signal is decoded and understood by a listener. In order to perceive speech the continuous acoustic signal must be converted into discrete linguistic units such as phonemes, morphemes and words. In order to correctly identify and categorize sounds, listeners prioritize certain aspects of the signal that can reliably distinguish between linguistic categories. While certain cues are prioritized over others, many aspects of the signal can contribute to perception. For example, though oral languages prioritize acoustic information, the McGurk effect shows that visual information is used to distinguish ambiguous information when the acoustic cues are unreliable.