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Introduction

PHONETICS – a scientific study of articulative and acoustic features of individual sounds.
ACOUSTIC PHONETICS – examines the vibrations of air (sounds travel by means of waves) that are a result of a particular sound.
AUDITORY PHONETICS – is concerned with how we perceive the waves.
PHONOLOGY - a linguistic study concentrating on the functions of the individual sounds in a specific language.

The PHONETICS describes the sounds, whereas the PHONOLOGY studies what phonemes and allophones occur in a particular language and what combinations certain languages allow.

Contrasting the phonological systems

1. contrasting in order to find and correct the errors which occur frequently (teachers may already expect certain errors and instantly focus on correcting them)
2. contrasting in order to understand other non-native speakers

A syllable consists of at least one vowel; monosyllabic words may consist of two vocalic phonemes (hour).
Certain languages demand V+C+V+C sequence (Hawaiian language); others allow consonantal clusters.

Transphonemization

Naming a new phenomenon:
- a new word is invented
- a loanword is used

Filipović's model of PHONOLOGICAL ADAPTATION:
1. COMPLETE TRANSPHONEMIZATION. Phonemes of SL (source language) are replaced with RL (receptor language) phonemes which are fully (or almost fully) equivalent in terms of manner and place of articulation (of consonants) and in terms of openness and frontness (of vowels).
2. PARTIAL TRANSPHOMENIZATION. RL phonemes occurring in the loanword partly differ from the SL phonemes.
3. FREE TRANSPHONEMIZATION. RL phonemes completely differ from the original.

Acoustic features of the English and Slovene language

Aspiration

Received Pronunciation

- feature that effects voiceless plosives (/p t k/) when they occur in initial position in a stresses syllable and are followed by a vowel: the voiceless plosive is followed by a short [h]-like puff of air

<pay> [$p^h eɪ$]

Standard Slovene

- no aspiration

Glottal reinforcement

Received Pronunciation

- if /p t k/ and also /tʃ/ occur in a syllable final position preceded by a vowel, nasal, or lateral and followed by a consonant or silence (/tʃ/ may also be followed by a vowel), these voiceless plosives are pronounced with a brief closure of the vocal folds

<point six> [$pɔɪn^ʔt\ sɪks$]

Standard Slovene

- no glottal reinforcement

Devoicing

Received Pronunciation

- /l r w j/ are devoiced when preceded by a voiceless consonant (remain lenis): <please>
- /m n ŋ/ are slightly devoiced when preceded by a voiceless consonant (remain lenis): <smoke>
- voiced fricatives are devoiced when followed by a voiceless consonant (remain lenis)
- word-initial voiced fricatives or plosives are devoiced when preceded by silence (remain lenis): <bag>
- word-final voiced fricatives or plosives are devoiced when followed by silence (remain lenis): <bag>

Standard Slovene

- Toporišič claims that all Slovene voiced consonants preceded by voiceless consonants remain voiced
- word-initial voiced plosives (/b d g/) are devoiced when preceded by silence (remain lenis): <bog>
- word-final voiced plosives (/b d g/) are devoiced when followed by silence (become fortis and indistinguishable with /p t k/): <kupila sem si *grad*> [grat]; <*grad* gori> [grad gori]

Nasal release

Received Pronunciation

- feature that occurs in a cluster of a plosive and homo-organic nasal (has the same place of articulation): the release stage of the plosive is not performed orally but nasally; it never occurs in initial position, common with syllabic nasals: <kitten>

Standard Slovene

- the same as in English, occurs also in initial position: <tnalo>, <dno>

Lateral release

Received Pronunciation

- feature that occurs in a cluster of an alveolar plosive followed by /l/: the release of the plosive is performed laterally and at the same time as the release of /l/: <cattle>

Standard Slovene

- the same as in English: <dlesen>, <tla>

Allophones

velar nasal /ŋ/
RP: as a phoneme /ŋ/, it may occur in a final position
SS: as an allophone [ŋ], it must be followed by another velar consonant (/k g/)

lateral approximant /l/
RP: distinguishes between the clear [l] (followed by a vowel), dark [ɬ] (preceded by a vowel) , and devoiced [l̥]
SS: has the clear [l] and devoiced [l̥]

labio-dental approximant /ʋ/
RP: has only the labio-velar /w/
SS: (Toporišič) distinguishes between voiced [w] and voiceless [ʍ] (<vsak>, <v tebi>)

affricative realisation of [tr] & [ts]
RP: <tree>, <cats>
SS: no such allophone

allophone [dz]
RP: no such allophone
SS: (Toporišič) <pod zobe>

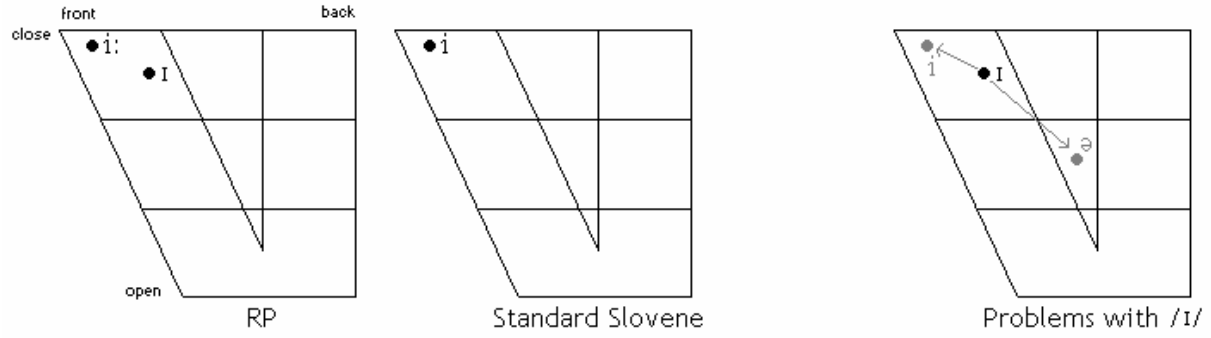
Problems and Errors of Slovene Speakers of English

1. Vowels

/i:/ and /ɪ/

/ɪ/

- it is pronounced too close or replaced by a sound articulated closer to the roof of the mouth than it should be; the distinction between /ɪ/ and /i:/ is neutralised and instead of two individual sounds a variant of the Slovene /i/ is pronounced
- the move is made towards the centre (centralising the vowel); the vowel becomes similar to schwa



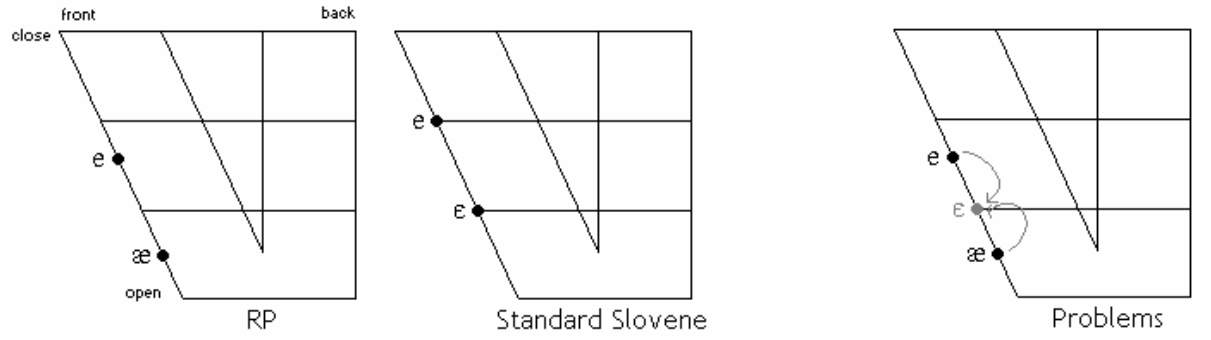
/i:/

- problems occur when the allophonic variant of /i:/ should be pronounced: when /i:/ is followed by a voiceless consonant, the vowel is reduced of length (PRE-FORTIS CLIPPING)

<beat> [bit]

/æ/ and /e/

- often the move of both /æ/ and /e/ is made more to the centre to such an extent that the difference between the two vowels is neutralised and both vowels end up sounding similar to the Slovene /ɛ/



Problems with distinguishing between <bed>, <bad>, <bet>, <bat>:

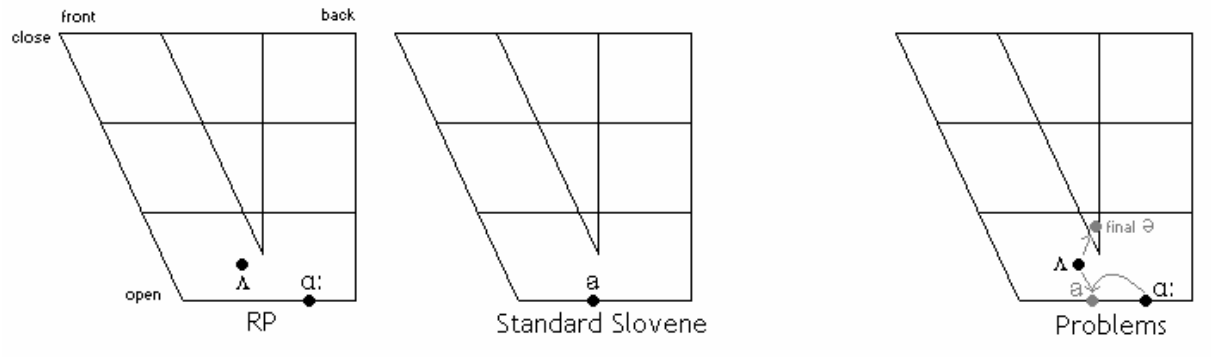
a) the vowels /æ/ and /e/ are CENTRALISED, the distinction is neutralised
b) PRE-FORTIS CLIPPING: in spite being considered as a short vowel, /æ/ is generally longer than the other short RP vowels and is slightly reduced of length when followed by a voiceless consonant
c) DEVOICING: when followed by silence, word-final voiced fricative (/d/) is devoiced

in contrast to Slovene: when devoiced, the consonant remains lenis (the sound is produced with the vibration of the vocal folds), whereas in Slovene devoiced consonants in final position also become fortis (the vocal folds are wide apart and other articulative muscles work much harder to produce the sound)

d) final plosives have INAUDIBLE RELEASE: the closure stage is maintained, the air compression becomes weak and the release is achieved by a gentle, delayed, and relatively inaudible opening of the oral closure

/ɑ:/ and /ʌ/

- both vowels tend to be neutralised into one sound, similar to the Slovene /a/
- /ʌ/ is often replaced by a sound resembling schwa in the final position, the latter being more open



- PRE-FORTIS CLIPPING: when /ɑ:/ is followed by a voiceless consonant, the vowel is reduced of length

/ɔ:/ and /ɒ/

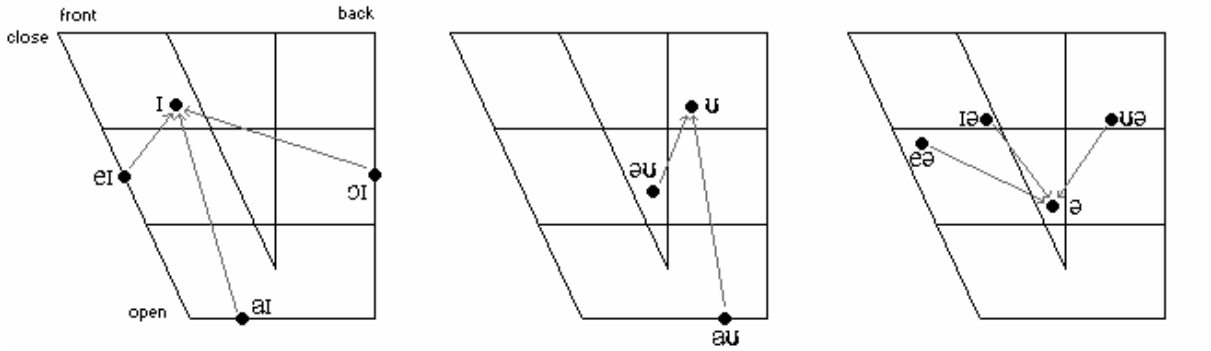
- not problematic

/u:/ and /ʊ/

- problems occur with recognising and making the contrast between /u:/ and /ʊ/: there is no Standard Slovene counterpart for the RP /ʊ/, thus some speakers pronounce it as /u:/
- the RP /u:/ has a slight glide from /ʊ/ to /u:/; speakers trying to imitate this often overdo it
- PRE-FORTIS CLIPPING: when /u:/ is followed by a voiceless consonant, the vowel is reduced of length

2. Diphthongs

RP diphthongs: /aɪ eɪ ɔɪ/, /aʊ əʊ/, /eə ɪə ʊə/.



Changes of the RP diphthongs: in the 1970s the BBC started hiring anchor(wo)men with different dialects:
a) /eə/ tendency to pronounce it as /ʒ:/ <square>,
b) /ʊə/ tendency to be pronounced as /ɔə/) <know>.

Standard Slovene diphthongs: exist only as allophonic variations (diphthongal realisation within the allophones); PHONETIC DIPHTHONGS = the approximantes /v j/ preceded by a vowel and followed by a consonant or word boundary (silence):

<maj> [ai], <glej!> [ei], <poj!> [ɔi], <tvoj> [oi], <tuj> [ui]

<pav> [aʊ], <lev> [ɛʊ], <cev> [eʊ], <živ> [iʊ], <nov> [oʊ]

Articulatory features effecting vowels in connected speech

1. PRE-FORTIS CLIPPING
- a process which effects long vowels when they are followed by syllable-final voiceless consonants: the long vowel is reduced of length

2. SMOOTHING
- vowel-elision that occurs in vowel sequences /aɪ eɪ ɔɪ aʊ əʊ/followed by /ə/: the second element of the diphthong /ɪ ʊ/ is dropped out

<tower> /tɑə/

3. NASAL RESONANCE
- a vowel is nasalized if it is followed or preceded by a nasal consonant

3. Consonants

Phonemes

Received Pronunciation
Standard Slovene

	BILABIAL	LABIO-DENTAL	DENTAL	ALVEOLAR	POST-ALVEOLAR	PALATO-ALVEOLAR	PALATAL	VELAR	GLOTTAL
PLOSIVE	p p b b		t d	t d				k k g g	ʔ
AFFRICATE				ts		tʃ tʃ dʒ dʒ			
NASAL	m m		n	n				ŋ [ŋ]	
TAP				ɾ					
FRICATIVE		f v f	θ ð	s s z z		ʃ ʃ ʒ ʒ		x	h
APPROXIMANT	(w)	ʋ			r		j j	(w)	
LATERAL APPROXIMANT				l l					

- /w/ is a labio-velar approximant in RP
- affricate realisation in RP: [ts] <cats>, [tr] <tree>
- nasal velar [ŋ] is an allophone in SS (realisation of /n/ in front of velar consonants)

Word-initial consonantal clusters

C1> / C2 v	p	b	t	d	k	g	f	v	θ	ð	s	z	ʃ	ʒ	h/x	tʃ	dʒ	ts	l	r/ɾ	m	n	ŋ	w/ʋ	j
p	/		S								S		S						B	B		(S)			E
b		/		S															B	B					E
t			/		S						(E)								S	B	S	S		B	B
d				/															S	B		S		B	E
k					/						(S)								B	B	S	S		B	B
g				S		/													B	B	S	S		(B)	
f							/												B	B					B
v								/																	E
θ									/											E				E	
ð										/															
s	B		B		B		B				/				S			S	B	B	B	B		B	E
z		S		S		S						/							S	S	S	S		S	S
ʃ	S		S		S								/			S			S	B	S	S		B	
ʒ		S		S		S								/					S	S	S	S		S	
h/x															/	S			S	S	S	S		S	S
tʃ			S													/			S	S	S			S	
dʒ																	/								
ts																		/			S			S	
l																			/						B
r/ɾ																				/					
m																			S	S	/	S			B
n																				S		/			B
ŋ																							/		
w/ʋ	S		S	S	S	S					S	S	S	S	S	S		S	S	S	S	S		/	
j																									/

E = Received Pronunciation, S = Standard Slovene, B = both languages, () = not commonly used

Articulatory features effecting consonants in connected speech

1. ASSIMILATION

a variation in connected speech, in which some phonemes are altered to make them more similar to the phonemes next to them

- the alveolar /t d n/ followed by a bilabial consonant (/p b m/): /t/>/p/; /d/>/b/; /n/>/m/

<light brown> /laɪp ‘braʊn/, <red paint> /reb ‘peɪnt/, <nine people> /naɪm ‘pi:pl/

- the alveolar /t d n/ followed by a velar consonant (/k g/): /t/>/k/; /d/>/g/; /n/>/ŋ/

<tight corner> /taɪk ‘kɔ:nə/, <bed clothes> /’beg kləʊz/, <in Canada> /ɪŋ ‘kænədə/

- the alveolar /s z/ followed by /tʃ dʒ ʃ ʒ/: /s/>/ʃ /; /z/>/ʒ/

<less sure> /leʃ ‘ʃɔ:/, <these ships> /ði:ʒ ‘ʃɪps/

SS, Toporišič: (/s z ts/ followed by /ʃ ʒ tʃ/: /s/>/ʃ /; /z/>/ʒ/; /ts/>/tʃ/) <sčasoma> /ʃtʃasoma/

2. COALESCENCE

a feature in connected speech, in which two phonemes melt into a third one

- the alveolar /t d s z/ are followed by /j/: /t/+/j/>/tʃ/; /d/+/j/>/dʒ/; /s/+/j/>/ʃ /; /z/+/j/>/ʒ/

<won’t you> /’wəʊntʃu:/, <would you> /’wʊdʒu:/

SS, Toporišič: (/t d/ + /ts tʃ dʒ/) <od čebule> /ot tʃebule/ or /otʃebule/

3. ELISION

dropping out of consonants in consonantal clusters

- when three consonants occur in a sequence and the central one is /t/ or /d/, the latter is likely to disappear

<left wing> /lef ‘wɪŋ/, <closed doors> /kləʊz ‘dɔ:z/

SS: <pustimo> /’pu:smɔ/, <postelja> /’pɔ:slɑ/

- /h/ disappears in the normal forms of pronouns and in the auxiliary verb *have*

<him> /ɪm/

- /v/ disappears in the normal form of the word of before //

<lots of them> /’lɒts ə ðəm/

4. Intonation

Tonality

RP: varies, dependent also on the semantics (restrictive or non-restrictive elements)
SS: follows the punctuation marks (consistency with the commas)

the link between the INTONATION and the SYNTAX (word order has a strong influence on intonation):
RP: word order is predominately fixed (S-P-O) with the exception of adjuncts, which may be considered as a special word group
||*Laura may be deceived,* | *however,* | *I was not.*||
SS: language uses inflections to mark cases, therefore the word order is liable to change

Nucleus placement

RP: the nucleus falls on the last lexical item in the word group
SS: the nucleus need not to fall on a lexical item, it may also fall on a function word

nucleus on the WH-WORD:
◦*Koga si srečal sinoči?*
Who did you ◦*meet last night*?
rarely: - *I met* ◦*John last night*. - ◦*Who*?

nucleus on the NEGATIVE WORD:
Ni◦*koli ga nisem videla.*
I've never seen him be◦*fore.*

nucleus on the MODAL VERBS:
RP: modal verbs are considered as auxiliary verbs and very rarely take on the nucleus
(the Slovene speakers of English tend to over-stress the modal verbs)
SS: there are no real modal verbs, only modal expressions

Tone groups

Received Pronunciation:
5 basic tone groups (fall, fall-rise, rise, rise-fall, level tone)
O'Connor and Arnold's model distinguishes between the low and the high fall and also the low and the high rise

Standard Slovene:
3 basic tone groups (fall, rise, level tone)
Toporišič uses the term 'kadenca'
tonemic accentuation (tonemsko naglaševanje) in the Dolenjska, Gorenjska, and the central region also distinguishes between the fall-rise and the rise-fall
the rise-fall: ◦*Mama mi je povedala. Včeraj zvečer je deže*◦*valo.*
the fall-rise: (negative word in the beginning of the word group) ◦*Nikoli ne jem čoko*◦*lade.*

The use of the pitch range

on average, both languages use an octave of the pitch range
RP: very prominent pitch movement in a single tone group
SS: the pitch movement in a single tone group is not as drastic