

Intro

linguistic competence and performance
design features (definitions & examples):
 discreteness
 arbitrariness
 cultural transmission
 displacement
 interchangeability
 productivity
animal communication systems: how they are not lan-
 guage, some examples
modality
signed languages
written language vs. spoken language

Phonetics

organs used for speech
articulators used for English
active vs. passive articulator
articulatory description of vowels: tongue height, front-
 ness/backness, tenseness, lip rounding
diphthongs
why we use a phonetic alphabet
the IPA as used for English
☆ articulatory description
sagittal sections
consonants
voicing: voiced, voiceless/unvoiced
place of articulation: bilabial, labiodental, alveolar, post-
 alveolar/palatal, velar, glottal
manner of articulation: stops, fricatives, affricates,
 nasals, liquids, flap, glide
vowels
tongue height: high, mid, low
frontness/backness: front, central, back
tenseness: tense, lax
lip rounding: rounded, unrounded
symbol-sound mapping
☆ phonetic transcription
“decoding” transcribed English
phonetic analysis / measuring: formants (F1 and F2),
 pitch (F0), aspiration, vowel length

☆ indicates that the concept involves certain skills and might be more daunting to study than the few words on the study guide might suggest.

Phonology

the difference between phonetics and phonology
identification of natural classes
phonological features
phonemes vs. allophones
 complementary distribution
 contrastive distribution
 minimal pairs
 allophones of the same or separate phonemes
types of phonological processes
 insertion
 deletion
 assimilation (e.g., vowel harmony)
 dissimilation
 strengthening (e.g., English aspiration)
 weakening
 metathesis
☆ phonological analysis
opacity
 feeding
 bleeding
 counterfeeding
 counterbleeding
Optimality Theory
 conspiracies
 problems with rule-based phonology
 basic framework of OT
 tableaux