

## *Day 3: Phonetics*

*Ling 200: Introduction to Linguistic Thought*

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20 June 2007

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# *What is phonetics?*

## Phonetics

### *Definition*

The scientific study of human speech sounds

- Articulatory phonetics: how sounds are produced
- Auditory phonetics: how sounds are perceived
- Acoustic phonetics: the physical properties of sounds
- ...but also for signed languages

## *Videos*

### Some videos to watch

- 'Phonetics', from Human Language series
- "Why did Ken set the soggy net on top of his deck?"
- "It's ten below outside."

## *Decoding the speech stream*

- How many words in this sentence?

## *Decoding the speech stream*



"Boy, he must think we're pretty stupid to fall for that again."

## *Decoding the speech stream*

- How many sounds in these words?

### *Example*

'leaf' 'feel'

- 'leaf' [lif] vs. 'feel' [fil]
- 'feel' [fil] vs. 'fael' [fil] ('leaf' backwards)
- 'lull' vs. 'llul' ('lull' backwards)
  
- Sounds in a string are continuous
- ...but we hear them as discrete, separate sounds

## Goals

### Goals for Phonetics section:

- Be able to *identify* human speech sounds
- Learn symbols used for *transcribing* speech sounds
- *Describe* and classify sounds according to articulatory properties



## *Anatomy of the vocal tract*

What goes into producing speech sounds?

- Lungs
- Larynx
- Tongue
- Oral cavity
- Nasal cavity