

Phonetics and Phonology
First Year
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- **Introduction:**

What is Phonetics?

It is a branch of linguistics. It is the science that studies the classification and description of human sounds in general.

Phonology:

It is the science that studies the classification and description of human sounds in particular languages.

Accent:

Is a variety of pronunciation which gives color to the pronunciation of a particular speaker.

Dialect:

Is a variety of language which varies (differs) according to pronunciation, vocabulary, grammar, and word order.

Received pronunciation:

It is a variety of pronunciation spoken by Londoners and the areas around it.

Consonants:

They are sounds produced with an impediment in the vocal tract. They are classified into two types:

- a. Voiced consonants: They are sounds produced with vibration in the vocal cords (folds).

b. Voiceless consonants: They are sounds produced without vibration in the vocal cords (folds).

The following table shows voiced and voiceless consonants:

Voiceless consonants	p , t , k , f, θ ,s, ʃ , tʃ, h
Voiced consonants	b, d , g , v, ð ,z, ʒ ,dʒ, m, n, ŋ , l ,r, w, j

The total number of voiced and voiceless consonants in English is 24.

The total number of vowels in English is 12.

The total number of diphthongs and triphthongs is 8.

***Note:** Please, see list of simples in Peter Roach Phonetics and Phonology page X and xi.