**Assistant Instructor**

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**Better English Pronunciation**

**Ch.1**

**First Stage**

**Pronunciation**: the correct manner of pronouncing sounds in a given language.

**Received Pronunciation (R.P):** the sort of English used by educated native speakers in south-east England. It describes any other native pronunciation and we can learn differences between the basic sounds that are found in all kinds of English.

**Sounds:** the way we pronounce the words, they are spoken while letters are written. They are 44 sounds in English and 26 letters of the Alphabet.

**Phonemes**: a small number of regularly used sounds (vowels and consonants), for example, the vowels in the words **'pin'** and **'pen'** are different phonemes, and so are the consonants at the beginning of the words '**pet**' and **'bet**'.

Sounds can be divided into two major categories; consonant sounds and vowel sounds:

-**Consonant sounds**: are sounds in which there is an obstruction to the flow of air as it passes from the larynx to the lips. There are 24 consonant sounds divided into voiced sounds and voiceless sounds.

**Voiced sounds**: they are the sounds that make vibration in the vocal cords when they are produced.

/b/ bat /y/ yes

/d/ deer /m/ money

/g/ give /n/ name

/z/ zoo /ng/ song

/v/ very /l/ lady

/3/ measure /ð/ this

/j/ judge

/r/ room

/w/ way

**Voiceless sounds**: they are the sounds that do not make vibration in the vocal cords when they are produced.

/p/ pay

/t/ take

/k/ key

/f/ feel

/th/ thin

/s/ see

/sh/ shall

/h/ have

/ch/ church

**-Vowel sounds**: are sounds in which there is no obstruction to the flow of air as it passes from the larynx to the lips. There are 20 vowel sounds divided into short vowels, long vowels, and diphthongs.

**1-Short Vowels**

/i/ sit /u/ put / / about

/e/ red /D/ dog

/a/ cat /^/ up

**2-Long Vowels**

/i:/ seat

/ɜ:/ bird

/ɑ:/ card

/ɔ:/ boy

/u:/ food

**3-Diphthongs**

/eɪ/ as in late - gate

/ɪə/ as in dear-fear

/eə/ as in fair- care

/ʊə/ as in poor- sure

/əʊ/ as in home- show

/ɔɪ/ as in join - coin

/aɪ/ as in time – side

**Phonemic Transcription**: the method of representing each phoneme by one symbol. Ex: time /t aɪ m/, home /h/əʊ m/

**Homophones**: are words that have the same pronunciation but different meanings. Ex: flower- flour, rain- reign, bare-bear, peace-piece