

## PHONETICS

Phonetics is the science that deals with the pronunciation and writing of sound of speech.

The Phonetic Alphabet is a set of characters, one for each distinct speech sound.

### CLASSIFICATION OF SPEECH SOUNDS

#### “Segments”

1. air mechanism

- a. Mouth, e.g., clicks
- b. Lungs
- c. Pharynx, e.g., whispering

2. Direction of the air stream

- a. Egressive (exhaling)
- b. Ingressive (inhaling)

3. State of the vocal cords

- a. Loose (voiced)                      E.g., bi-labial “b” and alveolar “d”
- b. Tense (voiceless)                    E.g., bi-labial “p” and alveolar “t”

4. State of the Velic Passage

- a. Open (nasal)
- b. Shut

5. Degree of impedance of the air stream

- a. Stopped
- b. Continuous
- c. Fricative

6. Place of articulation

(See chart.)

#### “Super-segments”

7. Intonation

8. Tone

9. Stress

10. Volume