

A C GIMSON

an introduction
to the
pronunciation
of English

Second edition

LIST OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
FOREWORD	v
LIST OF PHONETIC SYMBOLS AND SIGNS	vii
<i>PART I—SPEECH AND LANGUAGE</i>	
CHAPTER 1 COMMUNICATION	1
Speech	1
Writing	2
Language	2
Redundancy	3
Phonetics and Linguistics	4
CHAPTER 2 THE PRODUCTION OF SPEECH	6
The Speech Chain	6
The Speech Mechanism	7
Sources of Energy—the Lungs	7
The Larynx and Vocal Cords	8
The Resonating Cavities	11
The Mouth	12
The Lips	13
The Tongue	14
Articulatory Description	16
CHAPTER 3 THE SOUNDS OF SPEECH	17
Quality, Pitch, Loudness, Length	17
The Speech Wave	18
The Acoustic Spectrum—Vowels, Consonants	19
Pitch—The Fundamental Frequency	21
Loudness—Intensity	22
Duration—Length	24
Hearing	25
CHAPTER 4 THE DESCRIPTION AND CLASSIFICATION OF SPEECH	
SOUNDS	27
Phonetic Description	27
Vowel and Consonant	27
The Consonantal Type	29
Egressive Pulmonic Sounds	29
Place of Articulation	29
Manner of Articulation	30
Semi-vowels and Frictionless Continuants	31

	PAGE
Fortis-Lenis	32
Classification of Consonants	32
Egressive Glottalized Consonants	32
Ingressive Articulations	34
The Vowel Type	35
Difficulties of Description	35
The Cardinal Vowel Scale	36
Nasality	39
Pure and Gliding Vowels	39
Classification of Vowels	40
 CHAPTER 5 SOUNDS IN LANGUAGE	 42
Speech Sounds and Linguistic Units	42
The Linguistic Hierarchy	43
The Phoneme	44
Diversity of Phonemic Solutions	45
Relevant Features of Phonemes	46
Allophonic Variants	47
Neutralization of Phonemes	48
Conditions of Phonemic Analysis	49
The Word as a Basis for Phonemic Analysis	50
The Syllable	51
The Phonetic Approach	51
The Linguistic Approach	52
Vowel and Consonant	53
Notation	54
Prosodic Features	56
Paralinguistic Features	57

PART II—THE SOUNDS OF ENGLISH

 CHAPTER 6 THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	 59
Phonetic Studies in England	59
Palsgrave, Salesbury	59
Spelling Reformers—Smith, Hart, Gil	60
Phoneticians—Wallis, Wilkins, Cooper	61
Eighteenth Century—Johnson, Sheridan, Walker, Steele	64
Nineteenth Century—Pitman, Ellis, Bell, Sweet	65
Sound Change	67
Types of Change	68
Rate and Route of Change	70
Sound Change and the Linguistic System	71
Evidence for Reconstruction	73
OE Sound System	79

	PAGE
ME Sound System	80
eModE Sound System	81
PresE Sound System	81
Modifications in the English Sound System	82
Standards of Pronunciation	83
Emergence of a Standard	83
Present-day Situation	85
CHAPTER 7 THE ENGLISH VOWELS	90
The Distinctive Vowels	90
Vowel Glides	92
Vowel Length	94
Phonemic Interpretation of the Vowels	96
Description of Vowels	98
Acoustic Features	98
Pure Vowels	99
/i:/	99
/ɪ/	101
/e/	103
/æ/	105
/ʌ/	107
/ɑ:/	109
/ɒ/	112
/ɔ:/	114
/ʊ/	117
/u:/	118
/ɜ:/	121
/ə/	123
Diphthongal Glides	126
/eɪ/	127
/aɪ/	129
/ɔɪ/	131
/əʊ/	133
/aʊ/	135
Diphthongs + [ə]	138
Centring Diphthongs	141
/ɪə/	141
/ɛə/	143
/ʊə/	144
Weakly Accented Vowels	146
Frequency of Occurrence of RP Vowels	148
CHAPTER 8 THE ENGLISH CONSONANTS	149
The Distinctive Consonants	149
Class A—Consonants Involving Closure or Stricture	150

	PAGE
Plosives	150
Phonetic and Phonemic Features	151
Acoustic Features	154
The Release Stage	155
/p, b/	159
/t, d/	161
/k, g/	164
[ʔ]	167
Affricates	171
Phonemic Status	171
Acoustic Features	173
/tʃ, dʒ/	174
/tr, dr/	176
Fricatives	178
Phonetic and Phonemic Features	178
Acoustic Features	180
/f, v/	180
/θ, ð/	183
/s, z/	185
/ʃ, ʒ/	188
/h/	190
Class B—Non-fricative or Glides	193
Nasals	193
/m/	194
/n/	196
/ŋ/	197
Laterals—/l/	200
Post-alveolar Frictionless Continuant—/r/	205
Semi-vowels	212
/j/	213
/w/	216
Frequency of Occurrence of RP Consonants	219

PART III—THE WORD AND CONNECTED SPEECH

CHAPTER 9 THE WORD	222
Accent	222
Prominence	223
Word Accentual Patterns	228
Word Pattern Instability	232
Distinctive Word Accentual Patterns	233
Elision	236
Advice to Foreign Learners	238
Phonotactic Possibilities	239

Tables of Word Initial and Final Phoneme Sequences	242
Variability in the Phonemic Structure of Words	255
CHAPTER 10 CONNECTED SPEECH	257
Accent	257
Manifestation of Accent	259
Stress and Rhythm	260
Quantity and Quality	262
Intonation	266
Accentual Function	267
Realization of Primary Accent	268
Types of Nucleus	268
Realization of Secondary Accent	272
Realization of Unaccented Syllables	274
Attitudinal Function	277
Falling Nuclei	278
Rising Nuclei	280
Falling-Rising Nuclei	282
Multi-nuclear patterns	283
Other Signals of Attitude	284
Advice to Foreign Learners	285
CHAPTER 11 THE WORD IN CONNECTED SPEECH	287
Neutralization of Weak Forms	287
Variation of Word Accentual Patterns	289
Phonetic Variations at Word or Morpheme Boundaries	290
Allophonic Variations	290
Phonemic Variations	292
Fortis-Lenis Variations	293
Variations of Place	294
Nasality and Labialization	296
Elision	297
Liaison	299
Juncture	299
Frequency of Occurrence of Monosyllabic and Polysyllabic Words	301
Advice to Foreign Learners	301
Styles of Connected Speech	302
THE INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ALPHABET	304-5
BIBLIOGRAPHY	306
SUBJECT INDEX	313