

Phonology

- **Speech sounds** are **not** used by **human beings only**, so many species of **animals** use **sounds** to communicate.
- So, we have some **animal languages** that use sounds.
- When we study the **sounds** used by animals, how they are produced, received and their physical characteristics, this is **phonetics** also.
- But, there are **many differences** between **human languages** and animal languages. These differences make **human language more developed and advanced** than animal languages:



Phonology

- **One** of the basic differences between **human languages** and animal languages is what is called (**Duality**).
- According to this feature, there are **two levels** in language:
- A. the level of **individual sounds**.
- B. the level of putting **sounds together** to produce larger units like **words** and **sentences**.
- The **first** level is used by **animals**, where **every sound** has a **specific meaning**. This means that if the language of one type of animals consists of **20 sounds**, this language has only **20 meanings**.



Phonology

- In the case of **human languages**, the first level (**individual speech sounds**) does not have any importance, because **single sounds** do **not** have any **meaning**. And **humans** need to **combine sounds together** in order to create **words** and **sentences** which express the meaning.
- In this case, putting different **sounds together** enables us to create a large number of words, and whenever we **change the order of the sounds**, **new words are created**, and so on.



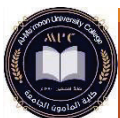
Phonology

- Putting **sounds together** is not a **random** process. i.e. we are not free to put any **sound** with any other **sound** and say that this is a word.
- There are **rules** for **putting sounds** together in order to create words.
- And these **rules differ** from one language to another.
- The **sounds** used by one language, and the rules for putting these **sounds** together to create words represents the (**sound system**) of that language.
- The **science that studies the sound system of any language** is called the (**Phonology**) of that language.



Phonology

- Now.. **Phonology** is “the science that studies the sound system of a **specific** language.”
- The **sound system** consists of:
- a. the **set of sounds** that are used in that language.
- b. the **rules for putting these sounds together** to create word and sentences.
- Here, we can see that **unlike phonetics**, **phonology** does **not** deal with the **sounds** of the language and their production or their characteristics, but it deals with **how these sounds work together** to form words and sentences.



Phonetics Vs. Phonology

- A comparison between **phonetics** and **phonology** show many differences between them:
- 1. **phonetics** deals with the **production, transmission** and **perception** of speech sounds while **phonology** is concerned in the **organization** of sounds in larger units in language.
- 2. **phonetics** is **general**, in the sense that it studies any sound produced by people for communication (in any language), while **phonology** deals with the organization of sounds in a **specific** language. Every language has its own **phonology**.



Phonetics Vs. Phonology

- 3. **phonetics** deals with the **concrete side** of speech sounds, while **phonology** deals with the **abstract side** of speech sounds.

