

**FAN, TA'LIM, TEXNOLOGIYA VA ISHLAB CHIQRISH
INTEGRATSIYASI ASOSIDA RIVOJLANISH ISTIQBOLLARI
VOWELS AND THEIR MODIFICATIONS**

Teshaboyeva Nafisa Zubaydulla qizi

Jizzakh branch of the National
University of Uzbekistan named after Mirzo Ulugbek
The faculty of Psychology, department of Foreign languages
Phylogeny and foreign languages

Salomova O'g'iloy Abduraim qizi

Student of group 301-21

Annotation: This article provides a comprehensive examination of English vowels, focusing on the factors influencing their sounds and the modifications they undergo. Vowels, unlike consonants, are produced without significant restriction of airflow, making them central to the rhythm and intonation of speech. The text categorizes vowels into types—short, long, and diphthongs—and explores modifications such as length variation, tense vs. lax quality, diphthongization, nasalization, schwa sound introduction, and vowel reduction.

Each modification is contextualized within the phonetic and linguistic environment, showing how stress, surrounding consonants, and dialectal variation impact vowel pronunciation. For language learners, understanding these vowel modifications is essential for improving pronunciation and listening skills. Additionally, the article highlights the cultural and historical implications of vowel variation, emphasizing how these subtle sound changes contribute to regional accents and linguistic identity.

This annotation underscores the article's value as a resource for both learners and teachers, particularly those interested in phonetics and the nuances of spoken English.

Key Words: Vowels, vowel sounds, vowel modifications, phonetics, short vowels, long vowels, diphthongs, tense vowels, lax vowels, vowel length, nasalization, schwa sound, vowel reduction, stress patterns, intonation, accent variation, English pronunciation

Vowels and Their Modifications: Understanding English Phonetics

In English phonetics, vowels play a critical role in how words are pronounced, differentiated, and understood. Unlike consonants, which involve various degrees of obstruction in the vocal tract, vowels are voiced sounds produced with a free flow of air. This allows for a unique range of sounds that

FAN, TA'LIM, TEXNOLOGIYA VA ISHLAB CHIQARISH INTEGRATSIYASI ASOSIDA RIVOJLANISH ISTIQBOLLARI

create the melody, rhythm, and fluidity of speech. English vowels, represented by the letters a, e, i, o, and u, can be pronounced in multiple ways, each affected by linguistic factors, phonetic contexts, and even the speaker's accent. Understanding these variations and modifications is essential for improving pronunciation, mastering listening skills, and recognizing English's regional and stylistic diversity.

1. Basic Characteristics of English Vowels

Vowels are typically described based on three key articulatory features:

Tongue Height: The height of the tongue during articulation, which can be high (close), mid, or low (open). For example, /i:/ in see is a high vowel, while /ɑ:/ in car is a low vowel.

Tongue Position: The forward or backward positioning of the tongue within the mouth. This ranges from front vowels like /æ/ in cat to back vowels like /u:/ in blue.

Lip Rounding: Whether the lips are rounded (as in /u:/ in too) or unrounded (as in /i:/ in see).

These characteristics help categorize English vowels into short vowels, long vowels, and diphthongs (which combine two vowel sounds). This categorization aids in identifying sound patterns and assists language learners in correctly pronouncing words.

2. Types of Vowel Sounds in English

English contains a variety of vowel sounds beyond the five vowel letters. These sounds can be divided into three primary types:

a. **Short Vowels:** Short vowels are typically quick, single vowel sounds found in monosyllabic or stressed syllables. They include sounds like /ɪ/ in bit, /ʌ/ in cut, /æ/ in cat, and /ɒ/ in pot. Short vowels often form a single sound within a syllable and are commonly used in shorter, simpler words.

b. **Long Vowels:** Long vowels are sustained sounds held longer than short vowels. Examples include /i:/ in seat, /ɑ:/ in car, /ɔ:/ in saw, and /u:/ in food. These sounds typically occur in stressed syllables or monosyllabic words where the vowel sound is extended. In English, vowel length can affect meaning, making a clear distinction between short and long vowels essential for accurate pronunciation.

c. **Diphthongs:** Diphthongs are complex vowel sounds that glide between two vowel qualities within the same syllable. English includes eight diphthongs, among them /aɪ/ in my, /oʊ/ in go, /eɪ/ in say, and /ɔɪ/ in boy. The vowel glide

FAN, TA'LIM, TEXNOLOGIYA VA ISHLAB CHIQRISH INTEGRATSIYASI ASOSIDA RIVOJLANISH ISTIQBOLLARI

adds expressiveness to spoken English and can vary in pronunciation across dialects, adding to the distinctiveness of different English-speaking regions.

3. Key Modifications of Vowel Sounds

English vowels are modified by a variety of factors, creating subtle differences in pronunciation. These modifications include:

a. Length Modification: Short vs. Long Vowels

Lengthening or shortening vowels is one of the primary modifications in English. For example, ship (with a short /ɪ/) contrasts with sheep (with a long /i:/). A vowel's length can impact a word's meaning, so mastering vowel length distinctions is crucial.

The phonetic environment also plays a role. When a vowel is followed by a voiced consonant (e.g., d in seed), it is often lengthened compared to when it is followed by a voiceless consonant (e.g., t in seat).

b. Tense and Lax Vowels

Tense vowels (e.g., /i:/, /u:/) involve greater muscular tension and are typically longer, whereas lax vowels (e.g., /ɪ/, /ʊ/) require less tension and are shorter.

This distinction is significant in English because tense-lax pairs help differentiate similar-sounding words. For instance, bit (with a lax /ɪ/) versus beat (with a tense /i:/) illustrates how changing vowel tension changes meaning.

c. Diphthongization

Diphthongization occurs when a single vowel sound glides toward another vowel within the same syllable. In English, this glide creates diphthongs like /aɪ/ in light and /oʊ/ in go.

Diphthongization adds depth to English vowel sounds and varies across accents and dialects. For example, American English and British English differ in how they pronounce certain diphthongs, contributing to each dialect's unique sound.

d. Nasalization

Vowels can become nasalized when they appear near nasal consonants like m and n. For example, in some accents, the vowel in man may sound slightly nasalized due to the influence of the neighboring nasal consonants.

Nasalization affects the tonal quality of vowels and is an important consideration for learners aiming to improve their pronunciation.

e. Schwa Sound (/ə/)

The schwa sound, represented as /ə/, is an unstressed, neutral vowel sound common in English. It is often used in unstressed syllables, allowing for quick pronunciation without much articulatory effort.

Schwa appears in words like sofa and banana, where it reduces the vowel sound in less emphasized syllables, making speech more efficient.

FAN, TA'LIM, TEXNOLOGIYA VA ISHLAB CHIQRARISH INTEGRATSIYASI ASOSIDA RIVOJLANISH ISTIQBOLLARI

f. Vowel Reduction

Vowel reduction is a modification where vowels in unstressed syllables become shorter, softer, and more centralized, often turning into a schwa sound.

For example, in photograph (/ˈfoʊtə, græf/) versus photography (/fəˈtɑːgrəfi/), the vowel sounds in unstressed syllables change, illustrating the process of reduction that occurs due to shifting stress.

4. Factors Influencing Vowel Modifications

Various factors influence vowel modifications, including:

Accent and Dialect: Different dialects, such as British and American English, vary significantly in vowel pronunciation, adding to the richness and diversity of English. For example, British speakers often pronounce car with a broad /ɑː/ sound, while many Americans pronounce it with a lighter /æ/ sound.

Stress and Intonation: In English, stressed syllables often retain their full vowel sounds, while vowels in unstressed syllables are commonly reduced to schwa.

Phonetic Environment: The consonants surrounding a vowel can influence its length, nasality, and even whether it is realized as a diphthong or monophthong.

5. The Importance of Understanding Vowel Modifications

Understanding vowel modifications is vital for English language learners because:

It helps improve pronunciation, making speech sound more natural and reducing misunderstandings.

It enhances listening skills, helping learners distinguish between similar-sounding words and understand fast or casual speech more accurately.

It enables learners to appreciate dialectal differences and the way regional accents impact vowel sounds, allowing them to adapt to a variety of English-speaking environments.

It provides insight into the historical evolution of English, as vowel shifts and modifications reflect how English has changed over time and across regions.

Conclusion

Vowel modifications enrich English with subtle yet significant variations that influence meaning, clarity, and expressiveness. Recognizing and mastering these modifications enables learners and speakers to communicate effectively, appreciate dialectal differences, and grasp the intricate dynamics of spoken English. Understanding vowels is not only a technical aspect of phonetics but a gateway to appreciating the diversity and depth of the English language. Through the study of vowels and their modifications, learners gain essential

FAN, TA'LIM, TEXNOLOGIYA VA ISHLAB CHIQRARISH INTEGRATSIYASI ASOSIDA RIVOJLANISH ISTIQBOLLARI

skills that contribute to both fluent speaking and accurate listening, bridging the gap between spoken and understood English.

REFERENCES

1. Teshaboyeva, N., & Mamayoqubova, S. (2020). COMMUNICATIVE APPROACH TO LANGUAGE TEACHING. In МОЛОДОЙ ИССЛЕДОВАТЕЛЬ: ВЫЗОВЫ И ПЕРСПЕКТИВЫ (pp. 409-414).
2. Teshaboyeva, N. (2020). LINGUISTIC PERSONALITY, ITS STRUCTURAL CHARACTERISTICS IN THE NEW PERSPECTIVE DIRECTIONS. In МОЛОДОЙ ИССЛЕДОВАТЕЛЬ: ВЫЗОВЫ И ПЕРСПЕКТИВЫ (pp. 415-420).
3. Teshaboyeva, N. Z. (2019). TEACHING ENGLISH THROUGH LITERATURE INTESL AND TEFL CLASSROOMS. In СОВРЕМЕННЫЕ ТЕХНОЛОГИИ: АКТУАЛЬНЫЕ ВОПРОСЫ, ДОСТИЖЕНИЯ И ИННОВАЦИИ (pp. 82-84).
4. Хидирова, Д., & Тешабоева, Н. (2022). Pedagogical conditions for the development of the healthy thinking in students. Zamonaviy innovatsion tadqiqotlarning dolzarb muammolari va rivojlanish tendensiyalari: yechimlar va istiqbollar, 1(1), 120-122.
5. Gaybullayeva, N. D. K., & Kizi, T. N. Z. (2022). THE ROLE OF INNOVATIVE METHODS FOR LISTENING COMPREHENSION IN TEACHING LANGUAGE LEARNERS FOREIGN LANGUAGES AND MAINLY ENGLISH. Central Asian Research Journal for Interdisciplinary Studies (CARJIS), 2(10), 8-10.
6. Teshaboyeva Nafisa Zubaydulla qizi, Jurayev Muhammadrahim Murod o'g'li, & Mamirova Munisa Rajab qizi. (2021). Language Learning Culturally and the Role of Literature in Teaching Process. Central Asian Journal of Theoretical and Applied Science, 2(3), 1-5. Retrieved from <https://www.cajotas.centralasianstudies.org/index.php/CAJOTAS/article/view/84>
7. Teshaboyeva, N. (2023). THE IMPORTANCE OF TOURISM IN PRESENT DAY. Журнал иностранных языков и лингвистики, 5(5).
8. Teshaboyeva, N. (2023). THE MODERN INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES IN TEACHING FOREIGN LANGUAGES. Журнал иностранных языков и лингвистики, 5(5).

FAN, TA'LIM, TEXNOLOGIYA VA ISHLAB CHIQRARISH INTEGRATSIYASI ASOSIDA RIVOJLANISH ISTIQBOLLARI

9. Teshaboyeva, N. Z. (2023, November). Adjective word group and its types. In " Conference on Universal Science Research 2023" (Vol. 1, No. 11, pp. 59-61).
10. Teshaboyeva, N. Z. (2023, November). Modifications of Consonants in Connected speech. In " Conference on Universal Science Research 2023" (Vol. 1, No. 11, pp. 7-9).
11. Teshaboyeva, N., & Rayimberdiyev, S. (2023, May). THE IMPORTANCE OF USING MULTIMEDIA TECHNOLOGY IN TEACHING ENGLISH CLASSES. In Academic International Conference on Multi-Disciplinary Studies and Education (Vol. 1, No. 8, pp. 149-153).
12. Nafisa, T., & Marina, S. (2023). TEACHING AND LEARNING OF ENGLISH VOCABULARY IN TESL AND TEFL CLASSROOMS. International Journal of Contemporary Scientific and Technical Research, 465-469.
13. Ibrohimovna, X. M. (2023). The Importance of Methods in Language Teaching Process. Web of Scholars: Multidimensional Research Journal, 2(1), 20-23.
14. Тешабоева, Н. (2023). Teaching writing as a major part of productive skills in mixed ability classes . Информатика и инженерные технологии, 1(2), 652–656. извлечено от <https://inlibrary.uz/index.php/computer-engineering/article/view/25759>
15. Teshaboyeva Nafisa Zubaydulla kizi, & Akramov Ibrohimjon. (2023). WORD FORMATION. COMPOUNDING. "XXI ASRDA INNOVATSION TEXNOLOGIYALAR, FAN VA TA'LIM TARAQQIYOTIDAGI DOLZARB MUAMMOLAR" Nomli Respublika Ilmiy-Amaliy Konferensiyasi, 1(12), 109–113. Retrieved from <https://universalpublishings.com/index.php/itfttdm/article/view/3187>
16. Teshaboyeva, N., & Yakubova, N. (2023). CHANGES OF MEANING OF WORDS. Центральноеазиатский журнал образования и инноваций, 2(12), 126-129.
17. Sharifova Dinora Tohir qizi, & Teshaboyeva Nafisa. (2023). “ NOUNS AND THEIR GRAMMATICAL CATEGORIES”. Новости образования: исследование в XXI веке, 2(16), 292–297. извлечено от <http://nauchniyimpuls.ru/index.php/noiv/article/view/13128>
18. Teshaboyeva Nafisa Zubaydulla kizi, & Akramov Ibrohimjon. (2023). WORD FORMATION. COMPOUNDING. "XXI ASRDA INNOVATSION TEXNOLOGIYALAR, FAN VA TA'LIM

FAN, TA'LIM, TEXNOLOGIYA VA ISHLAB CHIQRISH INTEGRATSIYASI ASOSIDA RIVOJLANISH ISTIQBOLLARI

- TARAQQIYOTIDAGI DOLZARB MUAMMOLAR" Nomli Respublika Ilmiy-Amaliy Konferensiyasi, 1(12), 109–113. Retrieved from <https://universalpublishings.com/index.php/itfttdm/article/view/3187>
19. Qodirova Aziza Yunusovna, & Teshaboyeva Nafisa Zubaydulla qizi. (2023). "VERBS AND THEIR GRAMMATICAL CATEGORIES". *Новости образования: исследование в XXI веке*, 2(16), 280–283. Извлечено от <http://nauchniyimpuls.ru/index.php/noiv/article/view/13126>
20. Tuxtayeva Aziza Ilhom qizi, & Teshaboyeva Nafisa. (2023). Word Formation: Compounding. "Conference on Universal Science Research 2023", 1(12), 113–115. Retrieved from <https://universalpublishings.com/index.php/cusr/article/view/3185>
21. Teshaboyeva Nafisa Zubaydulla, & Iskandarova Sarvinoz Shukurullo qizi. (2023). THE CLASSIFICATION OF SYNONYMS AND THEIR SPECIFIC FEATURES. "XXI ASRDA INNOVATSION TEXNOLOGIYALAR, FAN VA TA'LIM TARAQQIYOTIDAGI DOLZARB MUAMMOLAR" Nomli Respublika Ilmiy-Amaliy Konferensiyasi, 1(12), 126–131. Retrieved from <https://universalpublishings.com/index.php/itfttdm/article/view/3191>
22. Тешабоева, Н. (2023). Teaching writing as a major part of productive skills in mixed ability classes. *Информатика и инженерные технологии*, 1(2), 652–656. Извлечено от <https://inlibrary.uz/index.php/computer-engineering/article/view/25759>
23. Teshaboyeva, N., & Yakubova, N. (2023). WORD FORMATION. COMPOUNDING. *Development of pedagogical technologies in modern sciences*, 2(12), 187-192.
24. Teshaboyeva, N. (2023). Compound sentences in the English language. *Yangi O'zbekiston taraqqiyotida tadqiqotlarni o'rni va rivojlanish omillari*, 2(2), 68-70.
25. Nafisa, T. (2023). THE USA ECONOMY, INDUSTRY, MANUFACTURING AND NATURAL RESOURCES OF GREAT BRITAIN. *INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF RECENTLY SCIENTIFIC RESEARCHER'S THEORY*, 1(9), 94-97.
26. Nafisa, T. (2023, December). Secondary ways of word formation. In "Conference on Universal Science Research 2023" (Vol. 1, No. 12, pp. 109-112).

FAN, TA'LIM, TEXNOLOGIYA VA ISHLAB CHIQRARISH INTEGRATSIYASI ASOSIDA RIVOJLANISH ISTIQBOLLARI

27. Nafisa, T. (2023). VOWELS AND THEIR MODIFICATIONS. *Новости образования: исследование в XXI веке*, 2(16), 298-305.
28. Nafisa, T. (2023, December). Secondary ways of word formation. In "Conference on Universal Science Research 2023" (Vol. 1, No. 12, pp. 109-112).
29. Nafisa, T. (2023). THE EDUCATION SYSTEM OF THE USA: PRESCHOOL EDUCATION, SECONDARY AND HIGHER EDUCATION, SCHOOL FORMS. *The Role of Exact Sciences in the Era of Modern Development*, 1(6), 53-57.
30. Qizi, T. N. Z., & Umedovich, M. Y. (2023). AMERICAN-BASED PRONUNCIATION STANDARDS OF ENGLISH. *Scientific Impulse*, 2(15), 563-567.
31. Nafisa, T. (2023, December). Word Formation: Compounding. In "Conference on Universal Science Research 2023" (Vol. 1, No. 12, pp. 113-115).
32. Nafisa, T. (2023). NOUNS AND THEIR GRAMMATICAL CATEGORIES. *Новости образования: исследование в XXI веке*, 2(16), 292-297.
33. Ojha, D. D. R. (2023). Teshaboyeva Nafisa Zubaydulla qizi.
34. Nafisa, T. (2023). POLITICAL PARTIES IN GREAT BRITAIN. *Нововведения Современного Научного Развития в Эпоху Глобализации: Проблемы и Решения*, 1(5), 97-101.
35. Nafisa, T. (2023). GOVERNMENTAL SYMBOLS OF GREAT BRITAIN; OUTSTANDING DATES OF GREAT BRITAIN. *The Role of Exact Sciences in the Era of Modern Development*, 1(6), 23-26.
36. Abdurozikova, I. I., & Teshaboyeva, N. Z. (2023). The application of adjectives, as well as issues and solutions around their usage. *TECHNICAL SCIENCE RESEARCH IN UZBEKISTAN*, 1(4), 296-299.
37. Nafisa, T. (2023). POLITICAL PARTIES IN GREAT BRITAIN. *Нововведения Современного Научного Развития в Эпоху Глобализации: Проблемы и Решения*, 1(5), 97-101.
38. Abdurozikova, I. I., & Teshaboyeva, N. Z. (2023). The application of adjectives, as well as issues and solutions around their usage. *TECHNICAL SCIENCE RESEARCH IN UZBEKISTAN*, 1(4), 296-299.
39. Qizi, T. N. Z., & Umedovich, M. Y. (2023). AMERICAN-BASED PRONUNCIATION STANDARDS OF ENGLISH. *Scientific Impulse*, 2(15), 563-567.