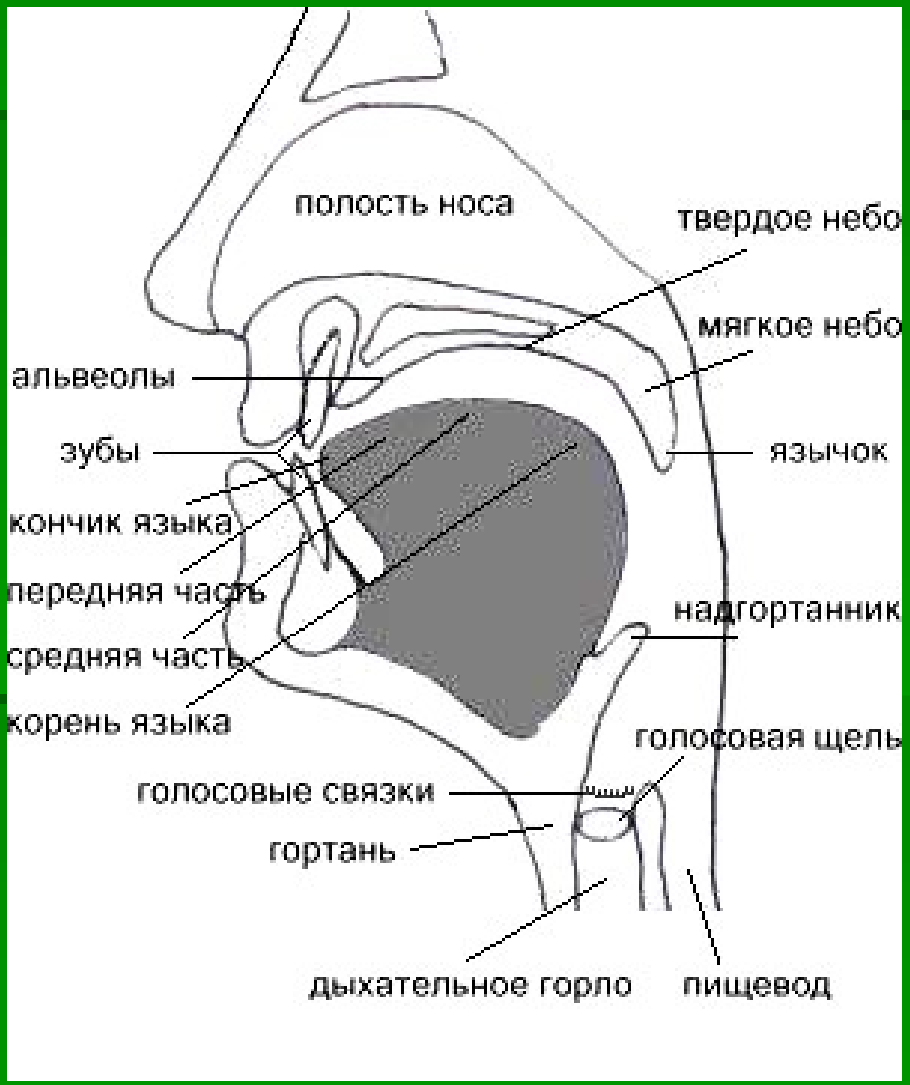
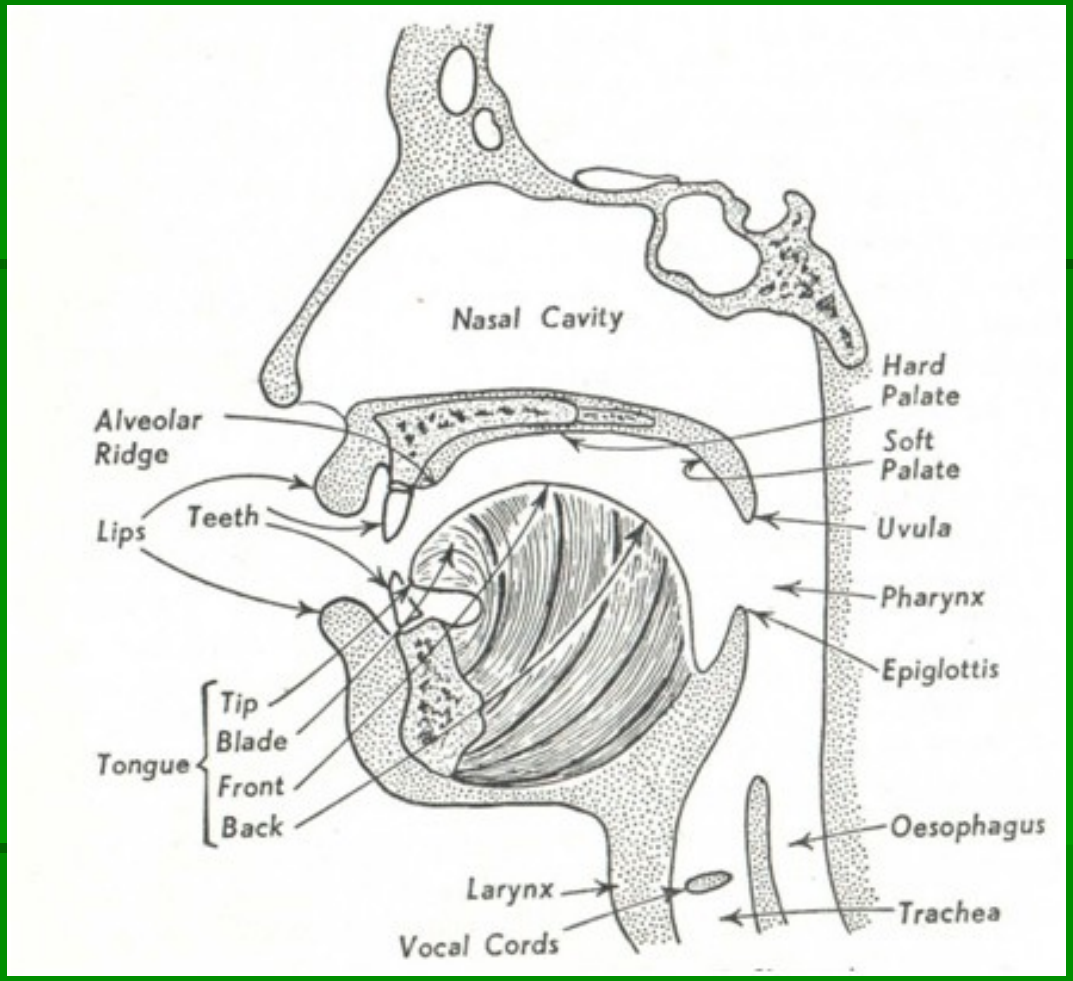
LECTURE 2.

PLAN:

1. The components of the Phonetic System of a Language.
2. Segmental and Suprasegmental Phonetics.
3. Speech Sounds and their Aspects. Branches of Phonetics.
4. Phonetics and Phonology.

“Speech Apparatus”




Nasal Cavity
Hard Palate
Alveolar Ridge
Soft Palate
Lips
Teeth
Uvula
Pharynx
Epiglottis
Tip
Blade
Tongue
Front
Back
Oesophagus
Larynx
Trachea
Vocal Cords

1. The Components of the Phonetic System of a Language

The phonetic system of any language includes the following components:

- **The system of phonemes**
- **The syllable structure**
- **The accentual structure of words**
- **The intonation**

The correct English pronunciation:

- The correct articulation of the English phonemes in words
- The correct syllable division
- The correct stressing of syllables in words and sentences
- The correct English intonation in connected speech.

2. Segmental and Suprasegmental Phonetics

Segmental Phonetics

is concerned with individual sounds or phonemes (segments of speech).

Suprasegmental Phonetics

is concerned with the larger units of connected speech.

Segment – is a minimal unit of speech that is a phoneme (consonant or vowel).

Suprasegmental features – syllables, words, phrases, texts.

3. Speech Sounds and Their Aspects. Branches of Phonetics

Stages of the human speech production:

- Psychological
- Physiological
- Physical
- Reception
- Transmission
- Linguistic interpretation

Branches of Phonetics:

- Articulatory
- Acoustic
- Auditory
- Functional (linguistic or social)

Articulatory Phonetics defines a speech sound as a complex of definite movements and positions of the speech organs necessary to pronounce a certain sound. The articulatory investigation of speech sounds is done on the basis of the good knowledge of the voice and sound producing mechanisms, their structure and work. So, **Articulatory Phonetics** is concerned with the study description and classification of speech sounds from the point of view of their production. Until recently **Articulatory Phonetics** has been the dominating branch and the most descriptive.

Acoustic Phonetics studies the way in which the air vibrates between the speaker's mouth and the listener's ear. Now, the development of computing technique will give rise to all sorts of teaching machines. This branch of phonetics studies the acoustic properties of speech sounds that is their length, timbre, intensity and pitch.

Auditory Phonetics investigates the hearing process. The human ear perceives vibration only at a rate between 16-20 thousand per second. From the beginning of Phonetics phoneticians have relied mainly on what they could hear or feel. Instrumental methods deriving from physiology and physics were introduced into Phonetics in the second half of last century.

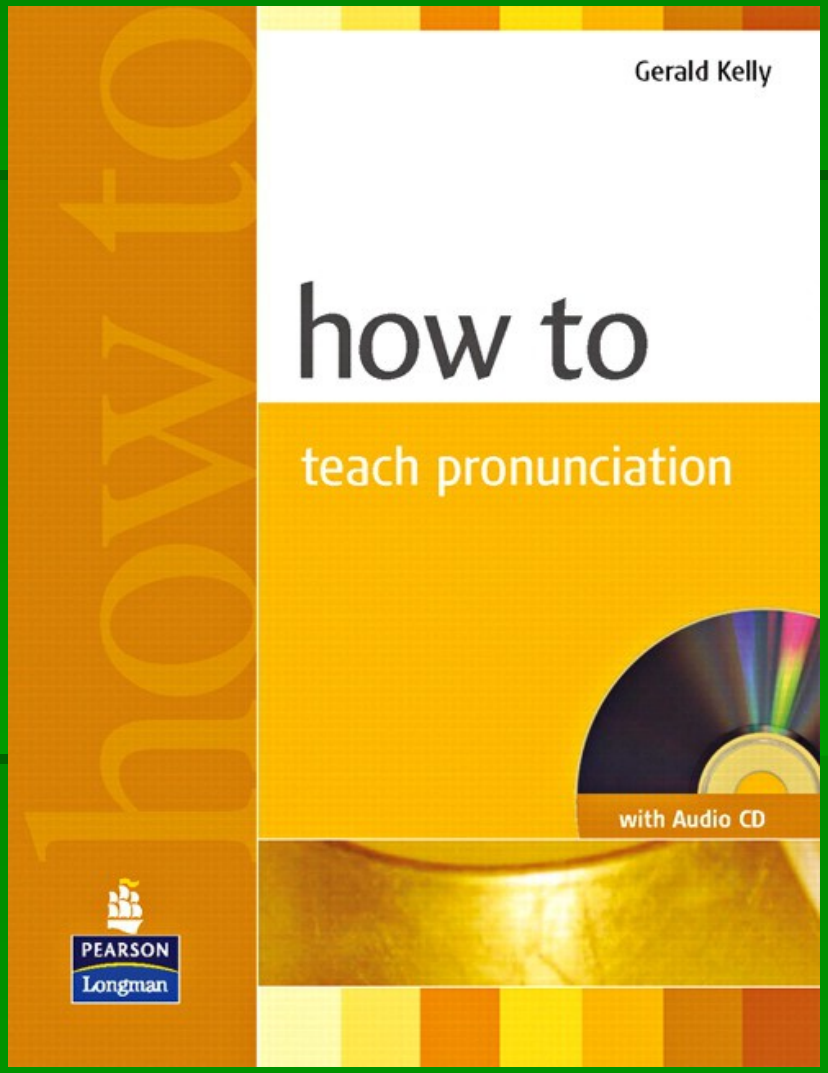
Functional Phonetics studies the functional properties, the role played by speech sounds in the functioning of a language. This functional or social aspect of phonetic phenomena was first introduced in the works by ***I.A. Baudouin – de – Courtenay***.

Jan Baudouin de Courtenay

- Born 13 March 1845
Radzymin, Russian Empire
- Died 3 November 1929
Warsaw, Poland
- Main interests Phonology

Branches of Phonetics according to the British scholar Gerald Kelly:

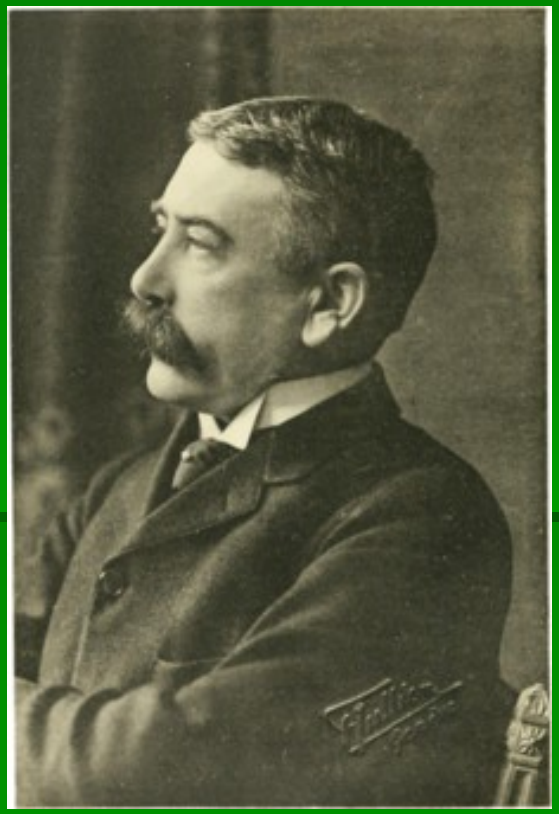
- **Physiological**
- **Articulatory**
- **Acoustic**
- **Auditory**
- **Perceptual**


how to
Gerald Kelly
how to
teach pronunciation
with Audio CD
PEARSON
Longman

Speech sounds of different languages may vary in their physical properties *(Phonetics)* and in their ability to distinguish meanings *(Phonology).*

Phonology* is concerned with the way speech sounds of a language form a pattern of contrastive units, *phonemes.

Ferdinand de Saussure



Born 26 November 1857

Geneva, Switzerland

Died 22 February 1913 (aged 55)

Vufflens-le-Château, Vaud, Switzerland

Main interests
Linguistics

Phonetics and Phonology

Studies sounds as the articulatory and acoustic aspect	Studies sounds as means of communication
Is concerned with the physiological and physical sides of speech sounds	Is concerned with their social functions
Individual, unique	Abstract, general