

English Phonemes Causing Pronunciation Inefficiency in Sindhi Speakers

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Having penetrated the national set-up, English is spreading day by day in Pakistan. Since the auditory channel hardly finds access into the social life in general and classrooms in particular. Our contact with English is mostly through its printed form whereby it is taught and learnt consequently, the English spoken everywhere is the English of books; more so in the terms of its pronunciation, which I call “Visual pronunciation”.

Both English and Sindhi have mutually exclusive phonological sets. With the result that all the English sounds not found in Sindh are uttered through Sindhi sounds perceived to be approximate substitutes thereof, without seemingly creating any communication problem.

A near-native pronunciation may be considered as an additional feather in one’s cap, not much importance is given to learning/improvement of English pronunciation, so much so that most of the learners (even teachers) are even not aware of the phonemic differences existing between the two languages and thus inability to utter the alien sounds.

In this paper an attempt has been made to highlight the English phonemes not found in Sindhi-24 such phonemes have been identified-and other phonological features. Some learning/improvement strategies have also been suggested.

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