

Bibliographic Reference: Topintzi, N. (2023). Phonetics and Phonology [Undergraduate textbook]. Kallipos, Open Academic Editions. http://dx.doi.org/10.57713/kallipos-285

Abstract

This textbook offers a comprehensive introduction to key principles in phonetics and phonology with a special focus on the sound pattern of English. Both segmental and suprasegmental aspects of the language are explored and several of the main concepts of phonetics and phonology are discussed in relation to English, Greek, as well as other languages. Initially, students are introduced to the study of phonetics. The need for a one-to-one correspondence between sounds and symbols is addressed, accompanied by the presentation of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA). Subsequently, the vocal tract and the articulation of consonants (place, manner, phonation) and vowels (tongue height, tongue backness, rounding, tenseness) are presented. Special reference to the sounds of English and Greek is made. In the phonological part of the textbook, students are first exposed to the core concepts of phonemic and allophonic distribution. Chief phonological processes are then demonstrated, such as assimilation, insertion, deletion and neutralisation. Basic theoretical tools are explored, including distinctive features and linear rules. Next, syllable structure and aspects of stress in English and elsewhere are discussed. The textbook concludes with a brief overview of tone and intonation. Throughout its length, the textbook features rich media content (recordings, images, videos) and several exercises. Some are analysed within the text, whereas others are intended as take-home exercises for students to practise their critical, analytical and problem-solving skills. Detailed answer keys are also provided.



The Project is funded by the National Development Programme 2021-2025 of the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs and implemented by the Special Account for Research Funds of the National Technical University of Athens and the Hellenic Academic Libraries Link.

