Phonetics and Phonology: An overview
The International Phonetic Alphabets
Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students are able to:

1. explain the difference between phonetics and phonology,

2. describe the relationship between phonetics and phonology

3. identify the different sounds represented by their respective symbols in the IPA chart.
WHAT IS PHONETICS?

The study of speech sounds as a physical phenomenon, i.e. focusing on the speech sounds, articulation of sounds, & how the sounds are perceived by the auditory apparatus.
WHAT ARE THE MAJOR BRANCHES OF PHONETICS?

1. Articulatory Phonetics
2. Auditory Phonetics
3. Acoustic Phonetics
ARTICULATORY PHONETICS

Deals with the production of speech sounds, i.e. how speech sounds are produced by the human speech organs, known as (articulators)
AUDITORY PHONETICS

Deals with the reception and perception of speech sounds; focuses on the sound receiver, i.e. how speech sounds are perceived through the auditory apparatus.
ACOUSTIC PHONETICS

Deals with physical properties of the signal, i.e. how speech sounds are realised as sound waves
WHAT IS PHONOLOGY?

The study of how speech sounds combine (sound pattern) in a particular language to form linguistic units, such as syllables, morphemes, and words.
**How do sounds combine?**

Consider the following:

/haːt/, /kruːəl/, /prɪskraɪb/

The above are possible arrangements of phoneme clusters (**phonotactics**) in English but not the following:

* /rkuːlə/, */kmaɪk/, */ŋaŋa/

**Questions??**

1. What is the maximum no. of consonants in a consonant cluster (sequence of consonants) or in a sequence of vowels in English?

2. What are possible combination of sound segments in English?
PHONOTACTICS

Q. What sound pattern is permitted and what is not?

   e.g.
   - English words do not begin with /ʒ/
   - Malay words begin with /ŋ/

Q. How does the knowledge of phonotactics help us?
   - facilitate learners in correcting errors in pronunciation
   - inform us of the constraints / permitted arrangement of sounds in a language
The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)

What is an IPA chart?

- A chart displaying the most common applications of the IPA that represent speech sounds.
- Was first published in 1888.
- Each IPA is a different symbol for each distinctive sound.
- The IPAs are simple symbols for major sounds, e.g. /θ/ stands for ‘th’ sound as in thin, bath
The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) (cont’d)

What is an IPA chart?

- The same symbol should be used for that sound in every language that uses it.

- Diacritics are used for more minor modifications, e.g., [ʰ] in [pʰleɪ] is a symbol used to indicate aspirated sound.

- Online reference: http://www.phonetics.ucla.edu/course/chapter1/chapter1.html
DO READ UP!

SEE YOU SOON.