

Historical Phonetics of the English Language

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Abstract: In this article, when we say phoneme variants, we mean such sounds of human speech that we understand that these sounds do not change the meaning of the word, but are heard differently in the pronunciation of some people.

Keywords: palatalization, umlaut, monophthongization, breaking, short diphthong, long diphthong.

When we say phoneme, we understand certain speech sounds that separate the meanings of words. Phonemes and their variants are important in linguistics. The main phonetic phenomena of Old English; a) breaking, b) palatalization (softening), c) umlaut, g) monophthongization, d) shortening of vowels, e) lengthening of vowels. For example: in English, in addition to the standard pronunciation [haus] of the word "house", you can also hear the dialectal pronunciation [hæus]. As we have seen in this example, the sound [æu] is not part of a new word, but a type of phoneme [au]. The phonemes and phoneme variants of each language have certain relationships and create a stable system of phonemes for each period of that language. The phoneme system, grammatical structure and basic vocabulary of the language have been preserved for many centuries. Like other aspects of the language, the phoneme system changes gradually. At such a time, the phoneme creates its own qualitative changes, as well as qualitative changes caused by the specific grammatical structure and vocabulary of that language. This is a feature of that language that is not similar to its closest relatives. The change of the phonemes of this language has a strictly systematic character. First, a particular sound changes everywhere, in all words. This sound does not change only in conditions that prevent it from changing or redirect it. For example, the long vowel sound [ī] has become a diphthong [ai] whenever possible. Secondly, the change of a certain sound affects the change of other sounds associated with it. This leads to the following changes in the phoneme system. The phoneme system of a language is the product of the development of its individual phonemes that interacted in a certain period of history. Therefore, in order to understand the existing phoneme system of the English language, to determine its relations in orthography, it is necessary to get acquainted with the legal changes that have occurred in the sounds throughout the history of the English language. There were 23 letters in the Old English alphabet.

1. a, 2. æ. 3. b. 4. c [k] [k']. 5. d 6. e, 7. f [f], [v]. 8. ʒ [g], [g'], [g], [j]. 9. h [x],[x'],[h].
10. i.11. l. 12. m. 13. n [n], [ŋ]. 14. o. 15. p. 16. p. 17. p. [s], [z] 18. t. 19. þ [th], [ð]. 20. he 21.
w. 22. x. [ks]. 23. [y], [w]

Books. ʒ- [g] before the back vowel ʒān.

ʒeār before the vowel [j] and dæʒ at the end of the word

[g] da ʒas between back vowels (close to the Uzbek r' sound)

[g'] c after sec ʒ an [gg].

h- [x] before consonant t ā hte, hnutu.

[x'] after vowels ryht.

In Old English, consonant phonemes were:

Lip phonemes; p[p] pund, b[b] b from ēo (to offer), uu[w] in modern manuals w is given. Wif -(wife), m[m]-mōna (moon).

Lip-dental phonemes; f[f] fæder father between f [v]-vowel and voiced consonant, dr ī fan [dri:v ə n], h æfde [h ævde]-to have.

Prelingual phonemes; 1) dental middle sound, þ èki ð [th] þu, [ðu], [thu]-sen. þ,ð [ð]vowels between cwe þan [kweðan]-to say, ba ð ian [ba ðian]-to buy. 2) dental phonemes;

t[t] tōþ - tooth, d[d] dōn-do, n[n] name-name, s[s]s ēon-to see, s [z] vowels and vowels and between a voiced consonant. risan-rise, bōsm-chest, r[r] ryht-straight, ƿ[l]

ceald-cold. Middle phonemes of the language; c[k]-volume-child

c ʒ [g']-bryc ʒ- bridge

ʒ [j]- ʒeard- yard

h [x']-ryht- right.

Back phonemes of the language; c[k] cumin- to come

ʒ [g] ʒōd- good

ʒ [g] dra ʒ an- to pull.

Development of English Consonants Consonant changes in Old English. In Old English, there were several changes in the consonant sound. But two of them were the most important. According to Werner's law, voiceless sounds change into voiced ones. As a result of this phenomenon, voiceless sliding sounds [f] [p] [s] and [h] come before an accented vowel sound, and these voiceless sounds are preceded by an unaccented vowel. Isa [v] [ð] [r] and [g] become voiced glides. This phenomenon was called Werner's law because it was first discovered by the Danish scientist Werner. [ð], which arose according to Werner's law, later changed to [d]. For example cweðan > cwædon, cweden. The accented [s] has changed to >[r] between vowels (rotatism). The consonant [v] at the end of the word changed to a consonant at the end of the Old English period. Thus, according to Werner's law, the consonants changed as follows.

[f]>[v]>[f] h>[g] èki is dropped.

[þ]>[ð]>[d] [s]>[g]>[r] is dropped.

We can see the result of Werner's law even now.

was-were (q.ing wæs-wæron)

2. Emergence of sliding consonants.

Old English didn't have gliding consonants in the first place. And that's it in the 11th century consonants were formed. [k] [g] [sk] >[tʃ]

It is the result of middle consonants standing before vowels.

volume>child

stide>stith, etc.

The emergence of a new phoneme is also reflected in orthography. New from the 13th century the sound was represented by lchl.

[g]>[d ʒ]

q.ing ec ʒ>edge

q.un brye ʒ >bridge

dge was introduced for this sound.

[sk] >[sf]>[ʃ]

q.ing sceadu>shadow

sceorte >shirt

skip>ship

The letter combination sh was introduced for this sound. So Old English

At the end of the period, the English language was enriched with three new sounds. It should be noted that the letters f, s are pronounced between vowels and voiceless vowels [v] and [z]. The letters þ, ð are also pronounced [ð] between vowels and before voiceless consonants. Ofer [over], selfa [selva]

Old English vowel system

The English language has had a specific vowel system since ancient times. B. A. The system of vowel sounds according to Ilish definition was as follows:

Short vowels: a; æ; e, i, o, u, y, ǣ

Long vowels: ā, á, ē, ī, ō, ū, ȳ

Diphthongs: Short; ea, eo, ie, io

Long: ēā, ēō, īē, īō 17

It is worth mentioning that long diphthongs have existed since ancient times, and short diphthongs have emerged later as a result of various processes that took place in the language. æ:- may have been of two types. æ:-primary (oldest), has existed since time immemorial, and æ-secondary is a later result of umlaut. Satjan > séttan

V. D. Arakin's definition is different: Short vowel phonemes: i, e, u, o, a Long vowel phonemes: ī, ē, ū, ō, ā, Long diphthongs: īō, ēō, æ:ā short diphthongs: eo, æa If the classifications of Ilish and Arakin are compared, Arakin considers the sounds [æ] and [a] to be variants of one phoneme. B. A. Ilish considers the sounds [æ] and [a] to be different phonemes. Both Arakin and Ilish consider the vowel ǣ to be a variant of the phoneme a. It is said that the o sound and the a sound occur only in front of the n and m sounds and are considered to be unmarked in èzuv. Mann, monn, land, lond. In Old English, long vowels were marked with long vowels (-) and (:). The sign was placed above the letter. In later editions, long vowel letters are marked with a horizontal line. Short vowels are represented by the symbol (˘). As we noted above, the main dialect in Old English was the Wessex dialect. Major changes in Old English vowels. Breaking in Old English. (breaking) The change of vowel sound system in Old English can be explained by the following reasons: 1. Breaking. 2. Umlaut. 3. Palatalization. 4. Reduction of vowels. 5. Lengthening of vowels. 6. Monophthang. 1. Fracture event. As a result of this process, short vowels became diphthongs before certain consonant combinations. This process was spread over the vowels æ and e; r+consonant, l+consonant, h+consonant, and at the end of the word, h changed to æ>ea:

fællan> feallan

mæht> meht

næht> neht

ærm> earm

sæh> seah

e> r+ consonant changed to eo, lc, lh, h+ consonant and at the end of the word.

Sterno> steorra

Elh> eolh

Feh> feoh

Fehtan> feohtan

Melcan > meolcan

V. D. Arakin, not only short vowels, but also long vowels are included in this process in the opinion.

For example: [æ]>[æā] næh> nēah The Cinish processii took place in the first half of the 6th century and is only found in Wessex.

met in the dialect. In other dialects, for example, in the Mersian dialect, there was no break in many cases. For example, the vowel sound æ later became the vowel a: as a result, the forms arm, ald, ahta, sah, arose.

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