

I. General linguistic terminology

A. Lexical (vocabulary) terms

1. lexicon
2. lexeme

B. Grammatical terms

1. morpheme
2. morphology
3. derivational morpheme
4. inflectional morpheme
5. free morpheme
6. bound morpheme
7. syntax

C. Meaning and context terms

1. semantics
2. pragmatics

D. Phonological (sound) terms

1. phoneme
2. allophone
3. minimal pair
4. phonetic transcription
5. consonant articulatory descriptions

- a. where is the sound produced? = place of articulation
- b. how is the sound produced? = manner of articulation

- i. stop (plosive)
- ii. fricative (continuant)
- iii. affricate
- iv. nasal
- v. liquid

- lateral
- retroflex

- vi. glide or semivowel

- c. vocal cord activity (voicing)?

I. D. 6. vowel articulatory descriptions

- a. height
- b. frontedness
- c. tense or lax
- d. monophthongs and diphthongs

II. What is language variation?

A. Categories of language variation

1. lexical
2. phonological
3. grammatical (morphological and syntactic)

B. Independent variables: speaker characteristics that interact with language

1. region / geography
2. gender
3. race / ethnicity
4. urban / rural
5. social class
6. age
7. education
8. community, in-group, subcultural affiliations / communities of practice

III. Ways to approach the study of language variation; methods of data collection and analysis

A. Sociolinguistics

B. Dialectology

C. Examples of various methods of data collection and analysis:

1. Labov (1966) New York City study, especially department store study
 - a. research question: prestige and /r/ pronunciation
 - b. methodology: "fourth floor" pronunciations of store employees
2. Preston's language attitudes and perceptual dialectology research
 - a. differential valuation of different language varieties
 - b. methods: map-drawing and dialect rankings
3. Linguistic Atlas: the first major surveys of American English
 - a. dialect geography: who says what where?
 - b. methodology: focus on older, rural speakers

IV. Regional Variation

A. Individuality of speech versus regional generalizations

1. idiolect
2. variation in the Linguistic Atlas data
3. social affiliations
4. intra-speaker variation and context/situation
5. geographical proximity and shared features

B. Why are there dialects in the U.S.?

1. immigration and subsequent migration routes in U.S. (geographical mobility)
2. settler diversity

C. major contemporary phonological changes in U.S. English

1. Northern Cities Shift
2. Southern Shift
3. Low Back Merger (*caught/cot*)

V. The Northern Cities Shift

- A. What is NCS?
- B. Geographical locations where it has been identified
- C. Pronunciation features associated with NCS
- D. Relationship among NCS features; vowel chart