

SICH5009-EngPres-PPT-Yujie Chen-2006724

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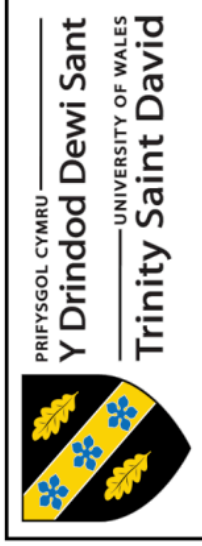
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HOW TO LEARN AND STUDY PHONOLOGY EFFICIENTLY



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WHAT IS PHONOLOGY?



WHAT IS PHONOLOGY?

ABC

Phonology is the scientific study of sound structure and evolution in Chinese.

- Chinese phonological system
 - the pronunciation of Chinese characters in a range of historical periods
 - Evolution
- A traditional subject
- More than a thousand years of history



01

The knowledge of phonetics



SOUND



Abstract



5

IN ANCIENT TIME

1. Indicated the pronunciation of one character by another character, the formula like $X=Y$.
2. A method of notation called fanqie 反切 was invented. The formula like $C=A+B$.

A : the initial consonant of the syllable

B : the final and the tone of the syllable

For example,

character 東 dong = 德 de + 紅 hong

德 de indicates the initial consonant of 東 dong

紅 hong indicates its final and its tone



It is obvious that Chinese characters are not the accurate phonetic symbols.

THE STUDY OF PHONETICS

HOW TO USE IPA (INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ALPHABET)

WHAT RULES OF PHONETIC EVOLUTION

HOW TO FORM PHONETICAL SYSTEM

CONSONANTS (PULMONIC) Place of articulation © 2005 IPA

	Bilabial	Labiodental	Dental	Alveolar	Postalveolar	Retroflex	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyngeal	Glottal
Plosive	p b			t d		ʈ ɖ	c ɟ	k ɡ	q ɢ		ʔ
	m			n		ɳ	ɲ	ŋ	ɴ		
	B			ɾ					ʀ		
		ʋ		ɽ		ɻ					
	ɸ β	f v	θ ð	s z	ʃ ʒ	ʂ ʐ	ç ʝ	x ɣ	χ ʁ	ħ ʕ	h ɦ
				ɬ ɮ							
Approximant		ʋ		ɹ		ɻ	j	ɰ			
Lateral approximant				l		ɭ	ʎ	ʟ			

Chinese pinyin [b]

The way of pronunciation

Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a voiced consonant. Shaded areas denote articulations judged impossible.

<https://bit.ly/3G8C8d8>

THE STUDY OF PHONETICS

HOW TO USE IPA (INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ALPHABET)

WHAT RULES OF PHONETIC EVOLUTION

HOW TO FORM PHONETICAL SYSTEM

- Having the knowledge of phonetics, we can accurately transcribe and compare pronunciations.
- Today, it is thanks to the phonetics that we can reconstructing Old Chinese and Middle Chinese.





02

Understanding is more
important than cramming



CRAMMING



In China, people have been emphasizing on learning by memorization since ancient time.

- ✓ Good for leaning literature or classics
- ✗ Not that good to learn phonology

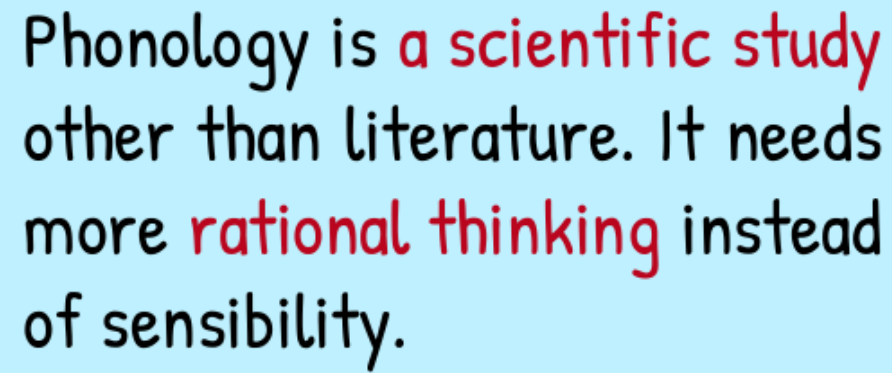
Just memorize a pair of nouns and terms, but do not understand how to use it.

- ✗ Spend lots of time
- ✗ Lose confidence for learning phonology.





- ✓ Memorize the stuff effortlessly
- ✓ Increase interests





03

Exact historical perspective



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OLD CHINESE

MIDDLE CHINESE

MODERN CHINESE

Zhou dynasty

Han dynasty

Wei Jin dynasties

Song dynasty

Yuan
dynasty

Present

The pronunciation would change over time.

EXAMPLES

Fanqie 反切 was a product of Middle Chinese period, we cannot use the modern pronunciation to read it.

CHARACTER	FANQIE
Xing 行	Hu胡 Meng孟 fan 反

Modern pronunciation: ~~'Heng'~~

h Palatalization → x

eng Vowel raising → ing

Which period should we
start with while learning
Phonology?



WHICH PERIOD SHOULD WE START WITH WHILE LEARNING PHONOLOGY?

Abundant
materials

BOOKS, DIALECTS

*Middle Chinese is the
key to learn phonology.*

OLD
CHINESE

MIDDLE
CHINESE

THE EVOLUTION OF
MODERN CHINESE



CONCLUSION

01

Having a solid background of phonetics

02

Being curious

03

Having an exact historical perspective

04

Middle Chinese phonology

HOPE YOU STUDY WELL AND HAPPILY



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ABC

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THANK YOU FOR LISTENING



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