

SUMMARY

The systems of English and Ukrainian vowel phonemes differ in many points.

1. The number of phonemes is not the same in the two languages.

There are 20 vowel phonemes in the English language, 12 of them are monophthongs, 8 diphthongs.

Vowel phonemes: [J], [I], [e], [x], [R], [P], [L], [V], [u:], [A], [E:], [q].

There are only 6 vowel phonemes in the Ukrainian language [I], [И], [E], [A], [O], [Y].

2. Besides the difference in quality, English vowel phonemes differ from Ukrainian vowel phonemes in length.

In the English language there are long and short vowel phonemes while in Ukrainian long vowel phonemes do not exist.

3. According to the stability of the articulation and quality English vowel phonemes are divided into monophthongs and diphthongs.

All the Ukrainian vowel phonemes are monophthongs, there are no diphthongs in Ukrainian.

4. The division of vowel phonemes into different groups according to the position of the tongue is not the same in the English and Ukrainian languages.

In the English language there are front, back and mixed vowel phonemes. In Ukrainian there are no mixed vowel phonemes.

The English front and back vowel groups include a considerably greater number of phonemes than those of the Ukrainian language.

5. Phonematic systems of the English and Ukrainian languages differ also in the articulation of vowel phonemes belonging to the same group.

Thus, the English front vowel phonemes [i:], [I], [e] are closer and more front than the corresponding Ukrainian [I], [И], [E].

The English back vowel phonemes [P], [H], [L] are more retracted than the Ukrainian back vowel phonemes [O], [Y].

6. The position of the lips is not the same in forming English and Ukrainian

labialized vowel phonemes. In forming English labialized sounds the lips are rounded but not protruded. In Ukrainian the rounding of the lips is accompanied by considerable protrusion.

The position of the lips is not the same in pronouncing English and Ukrainian non-labialized vowels either. In pronouncing English non-labialized vowels the lips are flat and not protruded. In making Ukrainian non-labialized vowels the lips move noticeably forward from the teeth.