Chapter 2: *Articulatory, Auditory and Acoustic Phonetics. Phonology*

2.1. **Phonetics and phonology**
2.2. **Articulatory phonetics**
2.3. **Auditory phonetics**
2.4. **Acoustic phonetics**
2.5. Synchronic, diachronic, comparative phonology

We have so far examined the interest of phoneticians in what may be called the production, the perception and the physical characteristics of sounds and we have briefly presented various domains of phonetics dealing with the respective data: articulatory, auditory and acoustic phonetics. Languages, however, are not given once for ever and they are subject to change as all human things are. Of course that changes affecting a certain language are not easily noticeable over a short period of time and if we want to collect relevant data regarding these phenomena we often have to refer to periods of one or several centuries. Pronunciation changes too and though we do not have recordings of the way in which people spoke centuries ago, specialists can, however, “reconstruct” the manner in which words used to be pronounced in the past. A linguistic approach that is interested in data that pertain to the evolution or changes in the pronunciation of a given language over a longer period of time belongs to the domain of *historical or diachronic phonology*. If, on the contrary, the phonetician’s approach focuses on aspects linked to the phonological system of a language at a given moment in its evolution we say that his or her approach is synchronic and can be subscribed to what is called *synchronic phonology*. If a phonetician’s analysis deals with aspects regarding the pronunciation of different languages or even of dialects or regional varieties of one and the same language, in other words if he or she is interested in comparing phonetic features of different linguistic systems, the respective approach belongs to what is called *comparative phonology*.

2.6. **Varieties of English. The international spread of English. Regional variation, Accents, Standard English and Received Pronunciation.**

2.7. **Sound Change. The gap between spelling and pronunciation. The International Phonetic Alphabet. Homonyms, homo-phones, homographs**