

L10A _Group A: Variation

Variation is the opposite of contrast

Types of variation:

1. Conditioned variation or complementary distribution
2. Free Variation

Conditioned Variation

Data: Jamaican English:

- | | | | | | |
|----|-------|---------|----|---------------------|--------|
| 1. | ple: | ‘play’ | 4. | p ^h e: | ‘pay’ |
| 2. | pre: | ‘pray’ | 5. | p ^h a:st | ‘past’ |
| 3. | spre: | ‘spray’ | 6. | p ^h en | ‘pen’ |
| | | | 7. | lap ^h | ‘lap’ |
| | | | 8. | sip ^h | ‘sip’ |

☞ Do the phones [p] and [p^h] contrast?

If phones do not contrast, there is the possibility that they are variants of the same phoneme.

☞ To establish that phones are variants of the same phoneme, they must satisfy the following criteria:

- i. phonetically similar
- ii. occur in mutually exclusive environment or
- iii. occur in non-contrasting identical environment

Data Analysis Procedure

1. Provide a phonetic description of each phone
2. Chart the phonetic environment in which each phone occurs

Data #	[p ^h]		Data #	[p]	
	Preceded by	Followed by		Preceded by	Followed by
4.	#	e:	1.	#	l
5.	#	a:	2.	#	r
6.	#	e	3	s	r
7.	a	#			
8,	i	#			
Sum.	#, V	V, #		#, C	C

3. Write a summary of the general environments in which each phone occurs
4. Express in simple English the condition(s) in which each occurs
5. Note which of the two occurs in more environments. The one that occurs in more environments will be the choice to represent the phoneme
6. If the two sounds satisfy the criteria above, then your conclusion will be as follows:

In Jamaican English, [p] and [p^h] are allophones of the same phoneme /p/ in complementary distribution/condition variation



Attempt the two homework exercises before seminars