

Phonetics: You need a working knowledge of articulatory phonetics, including:

- The ability to draw a simple representation of the vocal tract
- The names of the articulators and points of articulation
- The kinds of sounds which function as speech sounds and the kinds that do not
- The symbols used by linguists to represent speech sounds
- The function of pitch in language

Phonology. You need to know how speech sounds are organized in languages, including:

- The grouping of sounds into sets, called **phonemes**, in individual languages
- The phonemes of the language you are teaching, and their **allophones** (the sounds making up the set that is each phoneme)
- The phonemes of the languages of (at least most) of your students and the grouping of their allophones into phonemes, which is always different from that of the target language
- The permissible sequences of phonemes in the target language – its syllable structure – and the differences between that and the native language(s) of your students
- The positions within the syllable, if any, in which phonemic distinctions are **neutralized** in the target language, and (perhaps) those in the native language(s).
- The difference between languages with a tendency to give equal time to each syllable and those with a tendency to reduce the prominence of unstressed syllables
- The features of tone languages, both contour and register
- The role of pitch in the distinction of words, phrases, sentences, and communicative structures

More may be added...

