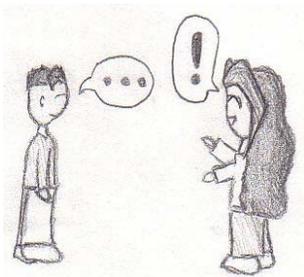


Appendix 8 – More About Language Sounds



More About Language Sounds

- Sounds by themselves don't have meaning. Or do they? The words in the list below are all made up. Can you tell which ones are large or describe large things and which are small? Circle the words you think refer to large things.

fruka
shrid

geetle
zeen

biddel
wookla

rooget
neewen

- Words are put together with sounds, but are sounds alone enough? We have to pause between sounds or we can't distinguish one word from another. The game *Mad Gab* uses this idea by taking recognizable phrases and breaking the sounds up differently. One phrase they include is *Up He Such Ease*. Can you tell what the real phrase is? You have to combine the sounds differently!
- There's more to stringing sounds together than pauses too! To guess what *Up He Such Ease* really says, you would also have to change which sounds you stressed. For example, the first sounds in *A pup* are stressed differently than the first sounds in *Up his*.
- Whether you make your voice go up or down can also change meaning, although the sounds are the same. For example, what's the difference between *What's that thing in the road ahead?* And *What's that thing in the road? A head?*

If you are interested in the sounds of languages, here are some web sites you can visit:

<http://hctv.humnet.ucla.edu/departments/linguistics/VowelsandConsonants/vowels/chapter13/chapter13.html>

This site has sounds from many different languages. These are sounds like clicks not used in English to make words.

<http://hctv.humnet.ucla.edu/departments/linguistics/VowelsandConsonants/index.html>

The main page of the site above.

<http://web.uvic.ca/ling/resources/ipa/ipa-lab.htm>

*This site has a chart of the international phonetic alphabet. You can click on the symbols in the chart to hear the sounds. (Look toward the bottom of the page where it says *NEW* to get to the chart.)*