



RESEARCH PAPER

Contrastive Analysis of Consonant Sounds: A Perspective of English and Urdu Languages

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ABSTRACT

This is an open secret now that all the languages around the world use different phenomes. But in the recent years' it has been noticed that researchers are longingly exploring the phenomics variations across languages. Urdu and English languages have distinctive phonemic features; first one is national language, while the latter is used as a second language in Pakistani context. Phonemic cognizance preforms a pivotal role in getting command in second language. Owing to this fact present research was conducted to ease the communication process. The contrastive analysis approach was used to analyze the consonant sounds of English and Urdu languages. The findings of this study divulge that there are notable similarities in the consonantal features of both languages; and similarly, there are also some dissimilarities between the consonantal features of both languages. The findings of the present research would be valuable for educationalists and ESL learners.

KEYWORDS Consonant Sounds, Contrastive Analysis, English Language, Urdu Language

Introduction

“Language is vehicle of cultural transmission, a tool for communication, a system of symbols and signs through which we can transmit and receive our emotion, desire and feelings in order to full fill them” (Younas et al., 2023, p,1). Speaking skill is very important element in learning a second language, on this base command over pronunciation is also vital for an individual to accomplish his/her communicating goals. English language is the most commonly spoken language in the world; one of the five people can speak or at least understand English language. It is officially spoken in fifty-three countries of the world; every person prefers it and often used to communicate everywhere in the world. English language is spoken as a first language by four hundred million people in the world. English language has become the language of science, aviation, computers, diplomacy, and tourism (Sutono, 2014; Younas et al., 2023).

In Pakistan Urdu language holds immense position and it is serving as a national language; moreover, it is uniting people from various linguistic backgrounds. As a nationwide language Urdu language preforms a vital role in fostering national identity, cultural cohesion, and effective communication among the inhabitants across the country. In Pakistani cultured spheres Urdu language is considered as a status symbol after English language. It is not only the national language of Pakistan but also one of the two languages of Pakistan, and the other official language in Pakistan is English language. There are almost sixty-five million speakers of Urdu language around the world, mostly residing in subcontinent particularly, in Pakistan. Both languages are considered very important languages in Pakistan that is why these both languages are selected to make comparison phonologically (Zaigham al., 2022).

As we make comparison between the phonology of English and Urdu languages, we find that both languages have some characteristics based on place and manner of articulation (Zaigham al., 2022) In the field of phonology, the place of articulation means which mouth position is involved to pronounce particular consonant sounds whereas, manner of articulation indicates that how consonant sounds are produced by particular speech articulators. In the current study, the comparison of English and Urdu consonant speech sounds was made by using contrastive analysis approach.

“Contrastive analysis is the study systematic of a pair of languages to analyze the differences and similarities” (Rizky 2018). “Contrastive analysis is a second language acquisition approach that compares the features of the first language and second language to determine the similarities and differences between them” (Al-Zoubi, 2019). Contrastive analysis abbreviated as (CA) is an approach which is employed to make comparison between the structures of two different languages. The purpose of the current study was to highlight the phonological variation i.e. similarities and differences between the native (Urdu) and foreign language (English). For the present research the researchers employed contrastive analysis approach to analyze the consonant sounds in the perspective of English and Urdu Languages.

Literature Review

“A review of literature may only be a clear overview of the sources, in an organizational pattern, and its function is to estimate and summarize the previous writings linked to current topic” (Ahmad et al., 2024, p, 3). The literature review of this study is divided in two parts; first part is consisting on the previous researches conducted on the international context, while the second part is comprised of the previous researches conducted in the national or local context.

Some Related Researches Conducted in the International Context

Sutono (2014) in his doctoral dissertation at Sanata Dharma University analyzed the consonants of English language and Cantonese language. In his research he used contrastive analysis method and the findings revealed some similarities and differences in the consonant sounds of both languages. Ali (2015) analyzed the both consonants and vowels of RP and Indian English on phonological base and found some similarities and differences in both languages. Islam (2017) made a comparison between the consonants of English and Bengali languages to analyze the similarities and dissimilarities of each language in comparison with its encounter language. The results suggested that there was no difference in both languages regarding the place and manner of articulation; however, difference was found in other elements of language such as in wording, meaning and aspiration of both languages.

Rizky (2018) analyzed the consonant sounds of English and Thai languages by using contrastive analysis approach; the main objective of his research was to observe the phonetic changes in Thai to English when Thai people speak English and highlight the causes of differences between these two languages. To fulfil this purpose researcher used quantitative method; data was recorded, and analyzed by identifying, transcribing, classifying and concluding. The results showed seven replacements of consonants which are causing and replacing sounds. Moreover, the results also revealed that the absent of phonetic alphabets in Thai language are main reason behind this alteration.

Huyen (2021) in his research contrastively analyzed twenty-four consonant sounds of English and thirty consonants sounds of Vietnamese language. In Vietnamese

twenty-two are initial and eight are ending consonants “p, t, k, m, n, ŋ” from which two i, and u semi vowel consonants. Findings of this research showed that there is significant deference between the consonant sounds of these both languages; moreover, the findings of this research revealed that Vietnamese spend less time on the practice of pronunciation and they are not taught phonemic sounds properly. Lastly, there are some similar consonants in both languages but some sounds just exist in one language but not exist in other language. Huyen’s research indicated that English language has consonants which does not exist in Vietnamese language.

Simbolon (2022) in his research study compared the consonants between English and Batak Toba language; he made comparison of the consonants of these two languages in educational setting. Comparison was made by employing descriptive qualitative research method in educational conversation. Ten consonants of both languages were compared to find the variances. Findings of the research suggested that there is smaller number of consonants in English language as compared to the Batak language. Finding of this research also showed the difference in the consonants of both languages. In the Batak language consonants are based on place of articulation, and consonants d/t/n/r/l/ and /s/ in English are pronounced alveolar whereas in Batak are pronounced dental. The research speculate that the consonant p and dare not found properly in the final position in the Batak language.

Tungkup et al. (2023) made contrastive analysis of the consonant sounds of English language and an anti heroic song in Indonesian language. The researchers took fifteen consonants of English language and fifteen from Indonesian consonants selected from a heroic lyric song and made a comparison of these sounds by using contrastive analysis approach. The findings of the research revealed that there are various similarities in the consonant sounds of both languages. The findings showed that consonants /s/ and /r/ are in used in initial, while consonant /t/ is used in the middle and final positions in English language. Moreover, /h/w/r/l/ sounds did not appear in the middle position and sounds of /b/d/f/g/k/r/t/v/w/ did not appear in the final position. Research findings revealed that in Indonesian language /b/ and /k/ are found in the initial /r/ in the middle and /m/ in the final position.

Some Related Researches Conducted in the National Context

Sharif (2015) investigated that how consonants are acquired by children in Urdu language. For this study researcher selected six children from each gender for sampling ages between eight to ten years. Finding of the research showed that girls acquired consonants sounds more easily as compared to boys. Shabbir, et al. (2013) analyzed the consonants of Pakistani English. Syed et al. (2017) in their research represented consonants used by ESL speakers in Pakistani English. For this study researchers selected merely those consonants which are produced in Pakistani English and British English in a different way from each other. Particularly, the researchers discussed the obstruent plosives /p b t d k g/, fricatives /θ ð ʒ v/, affricates /ʧ ʤ/ and approximants /l r w/ consonants in this research. The main purposes of this research were firstly, to investigate the consonants in Pakistani English; secondly, make comparison between productions and perceptions of consonants by Pakistani speakers. The findings of the study suggested that various differences as variance in aspiration, voicing, allophonic, dental fricatives, nasal valor etc. However, this study was limited to only specific consonants of Pakistani English.

Moreover, regarding the consonants in Pashtu and English languages, Ullah and Clark (2011) analyzed the impact of phonological characteristics of Pashtu and native

English consonants. Rahman (2016) comparatively studied Pashto and English consonants. Similarly, Nasir, (2022) in his study analyzed the consonant sounds of English and Pashto languages by observing in to those divergent consonant sounds of English which are posing complications for the native speakers of Pashto language while learning English language. The researcher comparatively analyzed English language consonant sounds pronounced by the native speakers of Pashto language. The contrastive analysis approach used by the researcher showed some resemblances and variances while pronouncing consonant sounds in English language. Findings of this research showed that the native speaker of Pashto language who has English context, also has the ability of pronouncing fricative consonant sounds. The results also revealed that the way of pouncing consonants of both languages is different. Recently Abbas (2023) also investigated the perception and production of consonants of English by Pashto language speakers.

Niazi et al. (2023) analyzed vowel sounds system of English and Urdu languages by using contrastive analysis approach which is mostly used by the researchers to analyze resemblances and variances between two languages more effectively. Findings illustrated that, in English language vowel sound is articulated differently by ESL and ENL speakers due to phonemic deviation of both languages. The research findings also showed that in English language occasionally sound 'h' is conserved as consonant or semivowel but, in Urdu language its preserved in vowels; additionally, in Urdu language it pronounced in breathy vocal sound but English language is lacking this feature. On the bases of literature review of the previous researches, it was examined that there is a lack of research data regarding the contrastive analysis of all consonant sounds in the perspective of English and Urdu languages. The researchers found this gap and decided to fill this gap through conducting this comparative analysis of consonant sounds of Urdu and English languages by using same approach in their previous study while employing the comparative analysis of the vowel sounds of both languages. The present study is an effort to do comparison and cover all the consonant sounds of both English and Urdu languages.

Material and Methods

The contrastive analysis method is employed in the present research, because its aim is to analyze consonant sounds of both English and Urdu languages by means of contrastive analysis. Contrastive analysis is linguistic method which is employed to make comparison between two languages, for the purpose of identifying the differences and similarities. It examines the structures, sounds, and vocabulary. Contrastive analysis theory was presented in the year (1957) by Lado. This theory has utilized various researchers in contrastively analyzing different languages. Recently, Huyen (2021) contrastively analyzed the consonants sounds of English and Vietnamese. Simbolon (2022) compared the consonants between English and Batak Toba language; Tungkup, et al. (2023) made contrastive analysis of the consonant sounds of English language and a heroic song in Indonesian language. Similarly, this method is adopted in the present research.

Consonants

Consonants are sounds that are produced by an obstruction of an air-stream either in the pharynx or in the vocal tract; these sounds involving closure of vocal tract partially or completely. Whereas, vowel sounds are entirely divergent from consonants because vowels do not involve closure of vocal tract.

Consonant of English Language

There are twenty-four consonants of English language.

p FIG	b BED	t TIME	d DO	tʃ CHURCH	dʒ JUDGE	k KILO	g GO
f FIVE	v VERY	θ THINK	ð THE	s SIX	z ZOO	ʃ SHORT	ʒ CASUAL
m MILK	n NO	ŋ SING	h HELLO	l LIVE	r READ	w WINDOW	j YES

Figure: 01 Consonant Sounds of English Language.

The above figure 1 shows twenty-four consonant sounds of English language and usage of these consonants in English language.

Consonant of Urdu Language

The meaning of consonant in Urdu is and Urdu language has totally forty-one consonants, including twenty-two stops and affricates, eight fricatives, five nasals, and six liquids or glides. The stops and nasals are articulated at five different places classified as labial, dental, retroflex, palatal and velar. The palatal stops are in fact affricates. Every series of stops includes voiceless and voiced consonants, aspirated and unaspirated, these four ways, contrast being in unique to Indo-Aryan and Indo-European languages, while proto-Indo-European had only a three-way contrast.

		Labial	Dental	Retroflex	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Glottal
Stop	Voiceless	p p ^h	t t ^h	ʈ ʈ ^h		k k ^h	q	ʔ
	Voiced	b b ^h	d d ^h	ɖ ɖ ^h		g g ^h		
Affricate	Voiceless				tʃ tʃ ^h			
	Voiced				dʒ dʒ ^h			
Fricative	Voiceless	f	s		ʃ	x		h
	Voiced		z		ʒ	ɣ		
Nasal		m	n	ɳ	ɲ	ŋ		
Liquid			l r	ɭ ɭ ^h				
Glide		v			j			

Figure: 2 Consonant Sounds of Urdu Language

The meaning of consonant in Urdu is and Urdu language has totally forty-one consonants, including twenty-two stops and affricates, eight fricatives, five nasals, and six liquids or glides. Moreover, in Urdu language all letters are consonant except (ا, و, ی, ے) letters.

Place and Manner of Articulation

The division between consonants sounds is made on dual aspects named as place of articulation and manner of articulation. The former refers to the parts of the mouth which are used to pronounce particular sounds; while later refers to the movement of air from the lungs and throat and out of the nose and mouth.

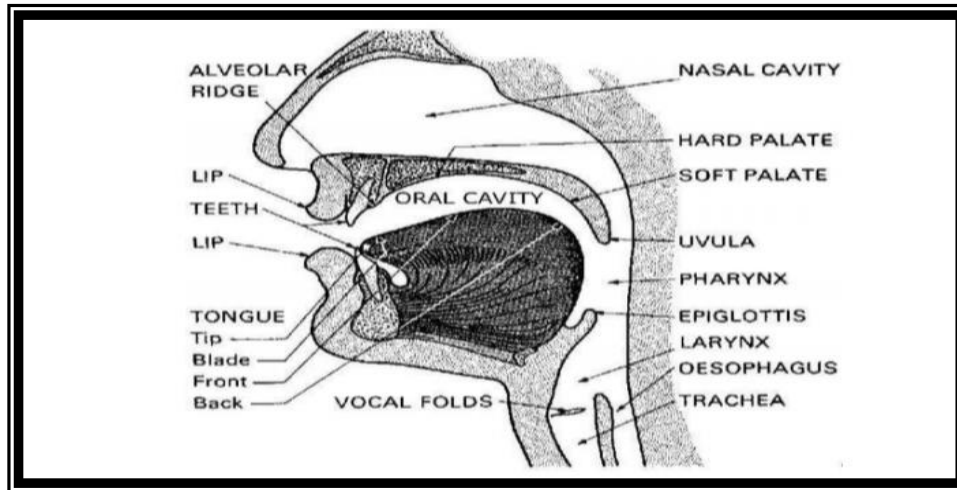


Figure: 03 Place of Articulation.

Figure 3 is presenting the place of articulation of the consonant sounds of English language.

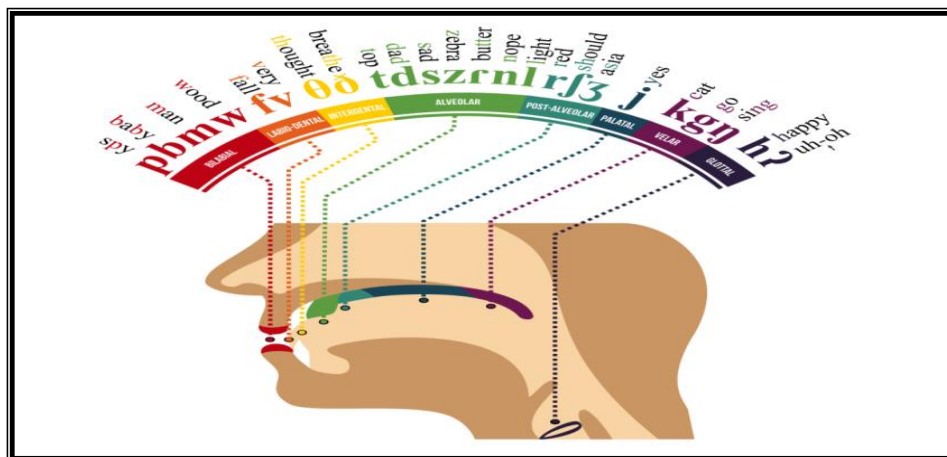


Figure: 4 Manner of Articulation Source: (<https://www.google.com/twistedstifter.com>).

The above figure 4 presents the manner of articulation of the consonant sounds of English language.

Results and Discussion

The findings of the contrastive analysis of the consonant sounds of both English and Urdu languages are presented in detail in the following tables.

Contrastive Analysis of Consonant Sounds

Having compared the vowels and diphthongs in the two languages, we are in a position to proceed towards a comparative study of the consonants in English and Urdu.

Here again we find that the Urdu consonants are much larger in number and their phonemic features are comparatively more varied.

Table 01
Contrastive features of Urdu and English consonant sounds

Urdu sound	Place of articulation	Manner of articulation	Quality	Difference from English
p	Bi-labial	Plosive	Voiceless	In Urdu, p is used in aspirated as well as in unaspirated forms. The aspirated 'p' is stronger as in /phuL/پھول/flower or in 'ph ^h L'/پھل/fruit. While the unaspirated 'p' is also strongly produced, as in /pakka/پکا/cooked.
b	Bi-labial	Plosive	Voiced	As in case of 'p', the consonant 'b' is also used in Urdu in two forms. The unaspirated 'b' as in /bæl/بیل/Bull or as in /bap/باپ/father. Then other as in /bhai/بھائی/brother or in /bhari/بھاری/heavy.
m	Bi-labial	Plosive	Voiced	Same as in English/ moat/ موت/ death.
f	Labio-dental	Fricative	Voiceless	Same as in English /f ^h n/ فن/ art.
v	Labio-dental	Fricative	Voiced	Same as in English/ voh/ وہ/ they
θ	Apico-dental	Fricative	Voiceless	Same as in English/θaLi/تھالی/ dish.
ə	Apico-dental	Fricative	Voiced	Italian-dental form in Urdu is used, but sometime it is also uttered by pressing the tongue against the corrugated part of the palate. The aspirated form is also used in Urdu/ə ^h s/دس/ten/, əin/دن/day, dəhəməka/دھماکہ/explosion.
s	Apicoalveolar	Fricative	Voiceless	Same as in English/s ^h b/سب/all.
z	Apicoalveolar	Fricative	Voiced	Same as in English/zimmadari/داری ذمہ/responsibility.
t	Apicoalveolar	Plosive	Voiceless	In Urdu three different forms are used. The apico-dental as in /tali/تالی/clapping of hands. The unaspirated 't' as in /tokri/ٹوکری/basket the aspirated 't' as in /thokər/ٹھوکر/kick.
d	Apicoalveolar	Plosive	Voiced	In Urdu, both the aspirated and the unaspirated sounds are used/dak/ڈاک/post (unaspirated)/dhilan/ڈھلان/sloping. (aspirated)
l	Apicoalveolar	Lateral	Voiced	In contrast with the English 'l', in Urdu 'l' retains uniform sound irrespective of its position in the word /l ^h b/لب/lip;/ilm/علم/knowledge/jal/جال/net.
g	Dorso-velar	Plosive	Voiced	Both the unaspirated and the aspirated forms are used in Urdu, as in /gira/گرا/fell; /ghair/گھیر/surrounded. This sound does not occur in English, but as in French, it occurs very frequently in Urdu as in, this voiceless allophone of 'h' /Clock not occur in Urdu, but the voiced/gaib/غائب/vanished.
h	Glottal	Fricative	Voiceless	The one is used in two varieties. The one written as 'h' is less toned and less voiced as in /zehr/زیر/poison. While the other written as " goes closer to 'X' in sound and tends to become a velar-fricative as in /hajət/حاجت/need.

J	Lamin Palatal Alveolar	Affricative	Voiced	In Urdu, the unaspirated form of the sound as well as the aspirated one are used. In IPA the unaspirated sound is shown as in /jan/جان/ soul. While another slightly different variety of this sound is represented as 'j' as in /ju/ جو /As. And the aspirated as 'j' in /Jhag/جھاگ/lather.
n	Lamin Alveolar	Nasal Nasal	Voiced Voiced	Same as in English /nam/ نام /name but not so frequently used. Does not occur in the beginning/mang/مانگ /demand/dang/دنگ /surprised.
K k k ²	Dorso-velar	Plosive	Voiceless	In Urdu three different types of sounds are used i.e. the unaspirated 'k' and the aspirated 'h' and the glottal voiced 'k ² ' which does not occur in English. In English the sound undergoes a change when it moves from the beginning of a word to the middle of the end, as in, camel, ache, and booked. In Urdu all three sounds may occur anywhere in the word as in 1. /Kitab/ کتاب /book; mktb/ اسکول /school; and mulk/ ملک /country 2. /Kheer/ کھیر /pudding /rkhna/ رکھنا /to keep; /pankha/ پنکھا /fan. 3. /k ² hila/ قلعہ /fort; mulak ² at/ ملاقات /rendezvous; hək ² / حلق /throat.
tc ch	Lamin Palatal Alveolar	Affricative	Voiceless	The sound used in Urdu is more pronounced and is of both the aspirated and is of both the aspirated. In IPA the unaspirated consonant showing t sound is shown as 'c' as in /cəmk/ چمک /shine; while the aspirated one is shown as 'ch' as in /churi/ چھری / knife.
r	Lamin postalveolar Retroflex Lamin Palatal Alveolar Lamin Palatal Alveolar	Frictionless continuant Flap Fricative Fricative	Voiced Voiced Voiceless Voiced	In Urdu the 'r' is trilled and more pronounced than it is in English/roti/ روٹی /bread. This sound is not present in English, while in Urdu it is used only in the middle or at the end of a word and never in the beginning, /guria/ گڑیا /doll/rewā/ ریوڑ /herd. Same as in English. /ərIk/ شریک /Partner, Same as in English but very scarcely used in Urdu. /ala/ اُلا / hailing /əal/ اُال /mane.
j	Lamin Palatal	Semi-vowel	Voiced	Same as in English but much more frequently used as in /jar/ یار /dude/ zjada/ زیادہ /more.
X	Velar-guttural	Fricative	Voiceless	This sound is not used in English, but as in German it occurs quite frequently in Urdu, as in /Xjal/ خیال / thought; Xəma/ خیمہ /tent.

Analysis

In English, there is one-to-one relation between the system of writing and the system of pronunciation. Alphabet which we use to write English has 26 letters but in English there are approximately 44 speech sounds. Urdu is richer having 36 letters with 62 sounds with numerous diphthongs. To represent the basic sound of spoken languages, a set of phonetic symbols called the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) could be utilized.

Additionally, as we exhale, we modify the flow of air in a variety of ways to produce the various sounds of speech; the individual segments of sound or phonemes as well as the supra-segmental or prosodic features of stress and intonation. One way of

making a consonant is to block the flow of air so that pressure builds up, and then suddenly released it. Consonants form in its way are referred to as plosive or stops.

Table 02
Place of Articulation

Point of Articulation	Voiced	Voiceless	Examples
The two lips Bilabial	b	p	Bat/Pat
Tongue tip and tooth ridge Alveolar	d	t	Dug/tug
Back of tongue and soft palate or velum Vela	g	k	Big/pick

The above table is showing that the point of articulation the two lips bilabial voiced b and voiceless p as bat/pat; tongue tip and tooth ridge alveolar voiced d and voiceless t as dug/tug; and back of tongue and soft palate or velum vela voiced g voiceless k exemplified as big/pick.

Table 03
Fricative consonants



Point of Articulation	Voiced	Voiceless	Example
Labio-dental: Lip and teeth	v	f	Vat/fat
Dental: Tongue tip and teeth.			That/think
Alveolar: Tongue and tooth ridge.			Peas/Peace
Palatal: Tongue and Hard palate.			Measure/mesh
The glottis is partially constricted		h	hat

Some fricative consonants are produced when it is forced through a narrow opening. The above table is showing that the point of articulation the labio-dental, lip and teeth voiced v and voiceless f as vat/fat. Dental, tongue tip and teeth, example that/think; alveolar, tongue and tooth ridge, example peas/peace; palatal, tongue and hard palate, example measure/mesh. The glottis is partially constricted voiceless h as hat.

Discussion

Farhat, (2019) in her doctoral dissertation stated that "Pronunciation is the most neglected and ignored area of language skills in Pakistan. As a result, Pakistani learners are facing much difficulty to get command over pronunciation of English Language". That is why the main focus of the researchers of present study was making comparison of both English and Urdu languages. Previously, in their study they made contrastive analysis of vowel sounds of both languages; while in the present study they performed contrastive analysis of consonant sounds of both languages.

In English language consonants referred all alphabet letters except a, e, i, o, u which are vowels. Consonants are pronounced by obstructing the flow of air in the vocal tract. Consonant sounds are produced by the partial or complete obstruction of air by lips, teeth's, tongue or throat. Among the forty-four speech sounds twenty-four consonant sounds; while Urdu language has totally forty-one consonants, including twenty-two stops and affricates, eight fricatives, five nasals, and six liquids or glides.

In the case of **p** and **b** both consonants are used aspirated and unaspirated forms; the aspirated 'p' is stronger as in /phuL/ /flower or in 'ph^L' / /fruit. While the

unaspirated 'p' is also strongly produced, as in /pakka/ پکا / cooked. The unaspirated 'b' as in /bæl/ بیل /Bull or as in /bap/ باپ /father. Then other as in /bhai/ بھائی /brother or in /bhari/ بھاری /heavy.

In the case of consonant **t** in Urdu three different forms are used. The apicodental as in /tali/ تالی /clapping of hands. The unaspirated 't' as in /tokri/ ٹوکری /basket the aspirated 't' as in /thokər/ ٹھوکر /kick.

In the case of consonant **J** in Urdu, the unaspirated form of the sound as well as the aspirated one are used. In IPA the unaspirated sound is shown as " " as in /jan/ جان /soul. While another slightly different variety of this sound is represented as 'J' in /Ju/ جو /as and the aspirated as 'J' in /Jhag/ جھاگ /lather.

In the case of consonant **n** same as in English /nam/ نام /name. Same as in English but not so frequently used. Does not occur in the beginning /mang/ مانگ /demand/dang/ دنگ /surprised.

In the case of consonants **K, k, k²** in Urdu three different types of sounds are used i.e. the unaspirated 'k' and the aspirated 'h' and the glottal voiced 'k²' which does not occur in English. In English the sound undergoes a change when it moves from the beginning of a word to the middle of the end, as in, camel, ache, and booked. In Urdu all three sounds may occur anywhere in the word as in 1. /Kitab/ کتاب /book; mktb/ اسکول /school; and mulk/ ملک /country 2. /Kheer/ کھیر /pudding /rkhna/ رکھنا /to keep; /pnkha/ پنکھا /fan. 3. /k²hila/ قلعہ /fort; mulak²at/ ملاقات /rendezvous; hək²/ حلق /throat.

In the case of consonants **tc, ch** the sound used in Urdu is more pronounced and is of both the aspirated and is of both the aspirated. In IPA, the unaspirated consonant showing t sound is shown as 'c' as in /cəm/ چمک /shine While the aspirated one is shown as 'ch' as in /churi/ چھری / knife.

In the case of consonant **X** this sound is not used in English, but as in German it occurs quite frequently in Urdu, as in /Xjal/ خیال / thought; Xəma/ خیمہ /tent. This finding matches with the finding of Khana (2021) as in her research article entitled "Phonemic variation in similar words of Turkish and Urdu language" she finds that, "Turkish language alphabets have the غ sound but it is always silent". Similarly, X sound is silent in English language.

In the case of consonant **ə** Italian-dental form in Urdu is used, but sometime it is also uttered by pressing the tongue against the corrugated part of the palate. The aspirated form is also used in Urdu /əʎs/ دس /ten/, əin/ دن /day, dəhəməka/ دھماکہ /explosion.

In the case of consonant **d** in Urdu, both the aspirated and the unaspirated sounds are used /dak/ ڈاک /post (unaspirated)/ dhilan/ ڈھلان /sloping (aspirated).

In the case of consonant **l** in contrast with the English l, in Urdu l retains uniform sound irrespective of its position in the word /lʌb/ لب /lip;/ ilm/ علم /knowledge/jal/ جال /net.

In the case of consonant **g** in both the unaspirated and the aspirated forms are used in Urdu, as in /gira/ گرا /fell; /ghair/ گھیر /surrounded. This sound does not occur

in English, but as in French, it occurs very frequently in Urdu as in, this voiceless allophone of 'h' /Clock not occur in Urdu, but the voiced/gaib/ غائب /vanished.

In the case of consonant **h** the one is used in two varieties. The one written as 'h' is less toned and less voiced as in/zehr/ زهر /poison While the other written as " goes closer to 'X' in sound and tends to become a velar-fricative as in/ hajat/ حاجت /need.

In the case of consonant **f** same as in English /f^n/ فن /art.; In the case of consonant **j** same as in English but much more frequently used as in/jar/ یار /dude//zjada/ زیادہ /more; in the case of consonant **m** same as in English/moat/ موت /death; In the case of consonant **v** same as in English/voh/ وہ / they; in the case of consonant **θ** same as in English/θaLi/ تھالی //dish; In the case of consonant **s** same as in English/s^b/ سب /all; in the case of consonant **z** same as in English/zimadari/ ذمہ داری /responsibility.

The results of the present study match with the results of some national contextual studies as; consonants of English language were compared with Pashtu by Nasir in (2022) by using contrastive analysis method; and phonological structures in Urdu and Punjabi languages were comparatively analyzed by Shaikh (2022) similar approach in the present research is used for analyzing Urdu and English languages, but it differs because in the present study particularly consonant sounds of English and Urdu languages are compared.

The results of the present research match with the results of some international contextual studies as; consonants of English and Vietnamese languages are analyzed by Huyen (2021) by using contrastive analysis, similar method is used in the present research to analyze consonants of English and Urdu languages. The consonants of English and Batak language were analyzed in the studies of Nahampun et al. (2022) and Simbolon et al. (2022) by using contrastive analysis method, similar method is used in the present research to analyze consonants of English and Urdu languages. Tungkup et al. (2023) contrastively analyzed the consonant sounds of English language and national language of Indonesia, similarly in the present study the consonant sounds of English language is compared with Urdu language which is the national language of Pakistan. Moreover, like present study, consonants of English and Bengali languages were contrastively analyzed by Islam in (2017); and consonants English and Thai languages were analyzed by Rizky (2018) in doctoral dissertation using contrastive approach.

Conclusion

The present research put forward several types of similarities and dissimilarities between the features of consonant sounds of both English and Urdu languages. The contrastive analysis theory was employed by the researchers to highlight the similarities and dissimilarities in the consonant sounds of both languages. The research findings revealed that there are noteworthy similarities in the consonant sounds of both languages; and likewise, there are also some dissimilarities between the consonant sounds of both English and Urdu languages. In a nutshell, the main purpose of conducting this research was to equally facilitate both the ESL teachers and ESL learners in identifying the dissimilar sound systems of English and Urdu languages. By familiarizing themselves with the sound system of the both concerned languages, it will become easy for second language learners to enrich their communication skill.

Recommendations

- The researchers recommend the need of further researches to explore innovative things.
- The present research is conducted on consonant sounds further researches can be conducted on other phonemic units.
- In the present research only consonant sounds of English and Urdu languages are analyzed by using contrastive approach. In the further researches similarly, the phonemic system of other languages can be compared.
- Contrastive analysis approach is used in this study which can be applicable for the upcoming researches.
- The research findings will also help in reducing consonantal mistakes of these languages.

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