

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	page
Abstract -----	ii
Abstrak -----	iv
Acknowledgements -----	vi
List of Tables -----	xiii
List of Diagrams -----	xiv
List of Figures -----	xiv

CHAPTER ONE

1. INTRODUCTION -----	15
1.1 Statement of the Problem -----	15
1.2 Objectives of the Study -----	17
1.3 Significance of the Study -----	18
1.4 Methodology -----	19
1.4.1 Contrastive Analysis -----	19
1.4.2 Error Analysis -----	24
1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study -----	28
1.6 The English Language -----	28
1.6.1 Geographical Distribution of the English Language -----	29
1.6.2 English as a Global Language -----	31
1.6.3 Dialects and Regional Varieties -----	32
1.7 The Persian Language -----	33
1.7.1 Classification -----	34
1.7.2 Local Names of Persian Language -----	37
1.7.3 Nomenclature -----	37
1.7.4 Dialects and Close Languages -----	38
1.7.5 Old Persian -----	39
1.7.5.1 Parthian and Middle Persian -----	39
1.7.5.2 Classic Persian -----	40
1.8 The Language Situation in Iran -----	40
1.8.1 Persian -----	41
1.8.2 Azari (Torki) -----	41
1.8.3 Kurdish (Kurdi) -----	41

	page
1.8.4 Lori -----	42
1.8.5 Baluchi-----	42
1.8.6 Arabic (Arabi)-----	42
1.8.7 English -----	43
1.9 The Teaching of English in Iran-----	43

CHAPTER TWO

2. Description of Persian-----	46
2.1 Introduction -----	46
2.2 The Persian Phonetic System-----	46
2.2.1 Persian Consonants -----	46
2.2.1.1 Plosives -----	49
2.2.1.2 Fricatives -----	66
2.2.1.3 Affricates -----	73
2.2.1.4 Nasals -----	75
2.2.1.5 Laterals -----	79
2.2.1.6 Trills -----	80
2.2.1.7 Flaps -----	82
2.2.1.8 Approximants -----	82
2.2.2 Persian Vowel Sounds -----	83
2.2.2.1 Vowels -----	85
2.2.2.2 Diphthongs -----	96
2.3 The Persian Phonological System -----	100
2.3.1 Persian Consonant Phonemes -----	100
2.3.2 Persian Vowel Phonemes -----	101
2.4 The Persian Syllable -----	102
2.4.1 The Persian Syllabic Structure -----	102
2.4.2 Syllabification -----	103
2.5 Stress in Persian -----	104
2.5.1 Nouns and Adjectives -----	105
2.5.2 Adverbs -----	105
2.5.3 Verbs -----	106
2.5.3.1 The Present Tense of the Verbs -----	106

	page
2.5.3.2 The Past Tense of the Verbs	106
2.5.3.3 The Present Perfect Tense and Past Perfect tense of the Verbs	107
2.5.3.4 The Future Tense of the Verbs	107
2.5.3.5 The Imperative Verbs	107
2.6 Summary	108

CHAPTER THREE

3. Description of English	110
3.1 Introduction	110
3.2 The English Phonetic System	110
3.2.1 English Consonants	110
3.2.1.1 Plosives	112
3.2.1.2 Fricatives	123
3.2.1.3 Affricates	129
3.2.1.4 Nasals	130
3.2.1.5 Laterals	133
3.2.1.6 Flap	136
3.2.1.7 Approximants	136
3.2.1.7.1 Palatal Approximants	136
3.2.1.7.2 Bilabial Approximants	137
3.2.1.7.3 Post-alveolar Approximants	138
3.2.2 English Vowel Sounds	140
3.2.2.1 Vowels	140
3.2.2.2 Diphthongs	145
3.2.2.3 Triphthongs	150
3.3 The English Phonological System	154
3.3.1 English Consonant Phonemes	154
3.3.2 English Vowel Phonemes	155
3.3.3 English Diphthongs	156
3.3.4 English Triphthongs	157
3.4 The English Syllable	158
3.4.1 The English Syllabification	160
3.4.2 The English Syllable Structure	162

	Page
3.4.2.1 Initial Consonant Cluster -----	162
3.4.2.2 Final Consonant Cluster -----	163
3.5 Stress -----	165
3.5.1 Single-syllable Words -----	167
3.5.2 Two-syllable Words -----	167
3.5.2.1 Two-syllable Verbs -----	167
3.5.2.2 Two-syllable Adjectives -----	168
3.5.2.3 Two-syllable Nouns -----	168
3.5.3 Three-syllable Words -----	168
3.5.3.1 Three-syllable Verbs -----	168
3.5.3.2 Three-syllable Nouns -----	169
3.5.3.3 Three-syllable Adjectives -----	169
3.5.4 Complex Words -----	169
3.5.4.1 Words with Suffixes -----	170
3.5.4.2 Words with Prefixes -----	172
3.5.5 Compound Words -----	172
3.5.6 Variable Stress -----	174
3.5.7 Word Class Pairs -----	174
3.6 Summary -----	176

CHAPTER FOUR

4. Contrastive Analysis -----	178
4.1 Introduction -----	178
4.2 Contrastive Analysis of the Phonological Systems of Persian and English-----	183
4.2.1 Consonant Phonemes -----	183
4.2.1.1 Plosives -----	184
4.2.1.2 Fricatives -----	184
4.2.1.3 Affricates-----	185
4.2.1.4 Nasals -----	185
4.2.1.5 Laterals -----	186
4.2.1.6 Approximants -----	186
4.2.2 Vowel Phonemes -----	187
4.2.3 Diphthongs -----	188

	Page
4.2.4 Triphthongs	192
4.3 Syllables	194
4.3.1 Syllabic Structure	194
4.3.1.1 Syllable Initial	195
4.3.1.2 Syllable Final	197
4.4 Stress	201
4.4.1 Levels of Stress	201
4.4.2 The Placement of Stress	202
4.5 Summary	206

CHAPTER FIVE

5. Error Analysis	208
5.1 Introduction	208
5.2 Objective	211
5.3 Method	212
5.3.1 Speakers and Participants	212
5.3.2 The Tests	213
5.4 Analysis and Recommendations	215
5.4.1 Results of the Analysis	216
5.4.1.1 Consonants	216
5.4.1.2 Vowels	228
5.4.1.3 Diphthongs	234
5.4.1.4 Triphthongs	239
5.4.1.5 Syllables	241
5.4.1.5.1 Syllable Initial	241
5.4.1.5.2 Syllable Final	244
5.4.1.5.3 Syllabic Consonants	245
5.4.1.5.4 Test Results	247
5.5 Stress	254
5.6 Hierarchy of Difficulty	257
5.6.1 Speech Sounds	258
5.6.2 Initial Vowels, Diphthongs, Triphthongs, Consonant Clusters and Syllabic Consonants	260
5.6.2.1 Initial Vowels, Diphthongs and Triphthongs	260

	page
5.6.2.2 Initial Clusters-----	261
5.6.2.3 Final Clusters-----	263
5.6.2.4 Syllabic Consonants-----	265
5.6.3 Stress -----	267
5.7 Summary -----	269

CHAPTER SIX

6. Conclusion -----	270
6.1 A Comparison between the Results of the Contrastive Analysis and the Error Analysis -----	270
6.2 The Problems of Persian Speakers -----	272
6.3 The Significance of Pronunciation Teaching -----	276
6.4 Teaching Pronunciation -----	280
6.5 Recommendation for Further Research-----	283

BIBLOGRAPH -----	285
APPENDICES -----	297

LIST OF TABLES

	Page
Table 2.1: Persian Consonants	36
Table 2.2: Persian Consonant Phonemes	90
Table 2.3: Persian Vowel Phonemes	92
Table 3.1: English consonants	103
Table 3.2: English consonant phonemes	149
Table 3.3: English vowel phonemes	151
Table 3.4: English diphthongs	152
Table 3.5: English triphthongs	153
Table 3.6: Initial two-consonant clusters with pre-initial [s]	158
Table 3.7: Initial two-consonant clusters with post-initial [l, r, w, j]	158
Table 3.8: Initial three-consonant clusters	159
Table 3.9: Final three-consonant clusters (1)	160
Table 3.10: Final three-consonant clusters (2)	160
Table 3.11: Final four-consonant clusters (1)	160
Table 3.12: Final four-consonant clusters (2)	161
Table 4.1: Contrastive English and Persian consonant phonemes	182
Table 4.2: Contrastive Persian and English plosive phonemes	183
Table 4.3: Contrastive Persian and English fricative phonemes	183
Table 4.4: Contrastive Persian and English affricate phonemes	184
Table 4.5: Contrastive Persian and English nasal phonemes	184
Table 4.6: Contrastive Persian and English lateral phonemes	185
Table 4.7: Contrastive Persian and English approximant phonemes	185
Table 4.8: English and Persian vowel phonemes	186
Table 4.9: English and Persian close vowel phonemes	186
Table 4.10: English and Persian mid vowel phonemes	187
Table 4.11: English and Persian open vowel phonemes	187
Table 4.12: English and Persian diphthongs	188
Table 4.13: English and Persian triphthongs	192

LIST OF DIAGRAMS

	Page
Diagram 5.1: The production of speech sounds	264
Diagram 5.2: The perception of speech sounds	264
Diagram 5.3: The production of initial vowels, diphthongs, and triphthongs	265
Diagram 5.4: The perception of initial vowels, diphthongs, and triphthongs	266
Diagram 5.5: The production of initial clusters	267
Diagram 5.6: The perception of initial clusters	268
Diagram 5.7: The production of final clusters	269
Diagram 5.8: The perception of final clusters	270
Diagram 5.9: The production of syllabic consonants	271
Diagram 5.10: The perception of syllabic consonants	272
Diagram 5.11: The production of stressed syllables	272
Diagram 5.12: The perception of stressed syllables	273

LIST OF FIGURES

	page
Figure2.1: Persian pure vowels	74
Figure2.2: Persian diphthongs	86
Figure2.3: Tree representation of the Persian syllables	93
Figure3.1: English pure vowels	134
Figure3.2: English diphthongs	140
Figure3.3: English triphthongs	146
Figure3.4: Tree representation of the English syllables	154