

Titel: On the Principles of Phonematics, [Principles] 142-0180

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all this means to say that sounds and sound-ideas are not ~~essentially~~ connected with phonemes and cannot be taken into account ~~in~~ the phonematic definition.

Now it is a fact that phonetics is the theory of sounds as symbols of phonemes, and that phonology is the theory of sound-ideas as symbols of phonemes. ~~But the~~ The phonological definitions and the phonological systems are based exclusively on the existence of sound-ideas as an important element in the native usage of any language. Neither phonetics nor phonology study the phonemes themselves, the language units which are independent of their physiological and psychological representation.

It follows from this that neither phonetics nor phonology can be recognized as being idealized to phonematics. Phonetics and phonology must be defined as theories of phonematic usage, whereas phonematics are meant to be the theory of phonematic systems.

When speaking about phonematics, I am speaking about a science which has not yet come into existence, but which claims its rights as the most important of all phonetic sciences, because it constitutes at the same time the utmost aim and the deepest basis of all phonetic sciences. Phonematics will be the last and definitive stage in the evolution of phonetic science.

All linguistic theory must be a theory of the system or the form of languages. Linguistics is equivalent to morphology of language. A theory which only takes into account the usage or the expressions adopted in certain language communities, is not a proper branch of linguistics itself, because its field of investigation remains outside of the central part of language. The same would be true of a theory which would only take into account the content of language and neglect the form. ~~But~~ As F. de Saussure has it: language is a form and not a substance.

Phonetics and phonology are auxiliary sciences of linguistics. Phonematics alone are the morphology of phonemes and make a part of linguistic science itself. As form is the central part of language, no phonetics and no phonology can be of any linguistic importance without being based on phonematics.

Y of the three parts or strata I was speaking of before: content, form and expression, form is the central and principal one.