

## Analyzing Question Intonation On Speaking Production Of Students TBI-A Fifth Semester through PRAAT System at IAIN Madura "

Sukron Makmun<sup>1</sup>, Nazilatul Wahyuni<sup>2</sup>.

Institut Agama Islam Negeri Madura<sup>1</sup>, Universitas Islam Madura<sup>2</sup>.

Email: [sukmakadur@gmail.com](mailto:sukmakadur@gmail.com), [ummikafa26@gmail.com](mailto:ummikafa26@gmail.com)

### Article History

Received: 23-10-2024

Revised: 8-11-2024

Published: 22-11-2024

### Key Words:

PRAAT System,  
Speaking, Intonation

**Abstract:** This research is about question intonation error on speaking production happened in the class of university, the researcher collecting data at TBI-A class fifth semester at IAIN Madura. To know the high or low the pitch in question intonation from students, it must be analyzed by using praat system, where the praat system itself is a system for analyzing sounds or phonetics. This program is often used to **analyze** sounds with a variety of language, both regional and international language. praat system can be also use for native speaker and also non native speaker. Through this program, the PRAAT system can produce wave charts that show intonation, intensity, volume and other complex details. The researcher used a qualitative research by descriptive research design to answers the questions. Then, the researcher used interview, observation and documentation to get the data. This research is done by process of analyzing data then making conclusion of the research.

## Introduction

Speaking is one skill in language learning that is very important to teach in the classroom because it can be used to achieve the ability to speak about our feelings, ideas, opinion, and also to express anything which comes into our mind orally. Speaking skill is one of basic language competence that the students should have it. Speaking is important skill that should be owned by the speaker than the other skills (Fathonah et al., 2023). But speaking is the difficult competence for some students because they must express their ideas, feeling in English orally.

And also Speaking is the process of conveying ideas, thoughts, or feelings through one or another form of language through communication. To make a communication, someone must speak up or speaking. Speaking is one of tools for communication that people use in their daily activity, and can express their thought and feeling by spoken English. Jack C Richard said that speaking is one of the elements of communication (Jack C Richard, 1999). It means that speaking in communication is very important and to make listener understands with our information, there is some component that to pay attention. The component of speaking are accuracy, fluency, and comprehension. In an accuracy involves the vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation (Khatleen Baily, 2005). Pronunciation means how we say words. According to David P Harris, pronunciation is the way how to produce the sounds of language include the segmental features, vowel, consonants, stress and intonation (David P. Harris, 1961).

Intonation is melody of speech (J.C Wells, 2006). Phonetics is one of material in phonology that consist with sounds of people are produced (Fitria, n.d.). Ken Lodge said that intonation patterns can convey a speakers attitude to the content of what someone is saying to the hearer in interaction with the order of syntactic phrases they can also indicate what the speaker believes to be new information for the hearer (Ken Lodge, 2009). The position of intonation in parts of the main communication in



phonology that used people in the speaker's expression (Ika A et al., 2022). It means that the meaning of sentences can depend in part of on sentences intonation. In common there are two types of intonation, they are falling intonation and rising intonation. According to Stefanny's statement, intonation is melody of speech that the pattern of rises and falls in pitch across a stretch of speech such as a sentences (Stefany Jannedy, 1994), For example a person who has good speaking skills says "I'm tired" with intonation that doesn't match what he feels. Intonation one of elements to speak like native speakers. So kind of this research is question intonation error on speaking production of students TBI-A fifth semester who use English language as the first language in their class.

To know the high or low the pitch in question intonation from students, it must be analyzed by using praat system, where the praat system itself is a system for analyzing sounds or phonetics. This program is often used to analyze sounds with a variety of language, both regional and international language. Based on explanation above can be conclude that praat system can use for native speaker and also non native speaker. Through this program, the PRAAT system can produce wave charts that show intonation, intensity, volume and other complex details. In analyzing the intonation, the researcher can analyze the sound by showing the pitch of the sound. Pitch can indicates rise or fall a sound based on the sound being analyzed through this system (<https://prsst.id.softonic.co>).

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **1. Intonation**

#### **a. Definition of intonation**

One of the most important cues in English in spoken language in determining interpersonal meaning is what is called intonation. By 'interpersonal meaning'. It's mean those aspects of communication that are not determined by the lexical meaning of words nor by some aspects of the syntax. Intonation patterns can convey a speakers attitude to the content of what someone is saying to the hearer in interaction with the order of syntactic phrases they can also indicate what the speaker believes to be new information for the hearer. (Ken Lodge, 2009).

Intonation is pitch variations that used in language like English, Danish, Italian or Romanian such languages use pitch variation over larger structures like phrases or sentences (Mike Davenport, 2005). So Intonation is the melody of speech And the pattern of rises and falls in pitch across a stretch of a speech such as a sentence.

#### **b. Types of Intonation**

In general, linguists distinguish several types of English intonation. Falling intonation and rising intonation are the two basic types used in different types of sentences. These types of intonation are described in Falling Intonation and Rising Intonation.

##### **1) Falling Intonation**

Falling intonation is the most common type of intonation in English. It is used in statements (declarative sentences), special questions, commands (imperative sentences), exclamatory sentences, in the first part of disjunctive questions and in the last part of alternative questions (Szilágyi László, 2014).

The function of falling intonation is for asking and giving information in normal, quiet, not emphatic style. At the same time falling intonation conveys certain emotions, such as completeness, finality, confidence.

The final fall in English is used on the last stressed syllable of a sentence and falls stronger and deeper. The simple tones fall, transcribed with the symbol “ \ “ preceding the accented syllable (Ulrike Gut, 2009).

This is the form of falling intonation.



The form of falling intonation (Roach Peter, 1991).

a) W-h questions

W-h questions ( question-word questions, special questions ) are those are formed with a questions word such as who, what, which, when, where, why, how. They ask for a more specific answer than just yes or no. the default tone for w-h questions is a fall (J.C Wells, 2006b). Example : When did you arrive?

2) rising Intonation

Rising intonation is used on general question, in introductory Phrases, in the first part of alternative question, in the second part of tag question, in direct address, and on enumerating item in a list. Rising tone, which is transcribed with the symbol “ / “ (Ulrike Gut, 2009).

This is form of rising intonation:



The form of rising intonation (Roach Peter, 1991).

a) Yes-no questions

Yes-no questions ( general questions, polar questions ) ask whether something is the case or not. Such questions are capable of meaningfully being answered ‘yes’ or ‘no’. yes-no questions can be positive or negative (Carr Philip, 2012). Example : Are you ready ?.

## 2. Review of speaking

### a. Definition of speaking

Most of people spend their much time by speaking in their life. Speaking is so much a part of daily life that we take it for granted. Speaking is complex skill requiring simultaneous use of a number of different which often developed at different rate (David P. Harris, 1961). So speaking skill is one of tools for communication that people use in their daily activity. From those definition, we can conclude that speaking is the way to express our thought and feeling by spoken English.

## **b. Function of speaking**

Numerous attempts have been made to classify the function of speaking in human instruction. According to (Jack C Richrd, 2008) that the function of speaking are:

### 1) Speaking as interaction

Speaking as interaction refers to what we normally mean by conversation and describes interaction that serve a primarily social function. When people meet, they exchange greetings, engage in small talk, recount recent experiences and so on because they wish to be friendly and to establish a comfortable zone of interaction with others.

### 2) Speaking as transaction

Speaking as transaction refer to situations where the focus is on what is said or done. The message and making oneself understood clearly and accurately is the central focus, rather than the participants and how they interact socially with others.

## **3. Review of PRAAT System**

### **Definition of PRAAT**

PRAAT is a free computer software package for speech analysis in phonetics. It was designed, and continues to be developed, by Paul Boersma and David Weenink of the University of Amsterdam on 1991 years. It can run on a wide range of operating systems, including various versions of Unix, Linux, Mac and Microsoft Windows (2000, XP, Vista, 7, 8, 10). The program supports speech synthesis, including articulatory synthesis (*Wikipedia*, 2019)




PRAAT is a very flexible tool to do speech analysis. It offers a wide range of standard and non-standard procedures, including spectrographic analysis, articulatory synthesis, and neural networks (Pascal Van Lieshot, 2003). PRAAT is a computer program that is used by linguists to analyze language sounds. In linguistics, this program is often used to analyze sounds with a variety of languages, both regional and international languages. Praat is a scientific tool for language learners who can analyze spectrograms. When the system can produce a wave graph that shows the intonation, intensity, volume and other complex details.


## **METHOD**

(J.C Wells, 2006b) This research using Qualitative research. Qualitative research is an inquiry approach useful for exploring and understanding central phenomenon. To learn about this phenomenon, the inquirer asks participants broad, general question, collects the detailed views of participants in the form of words or images, and analyzes the information for description and themes. From this data, the researcher interprets the meaning of the information, drawing on personal, reflections and past research. The final structure of the final report is flexible, and it displays the researcher's biases and thought (J.C Wells, 2006). And This research was focus mainly on question intonation the title is Analyzing Question Intonation on Speaking Production on Students TBI-A Through PRAAT System at IAIN Madura. Therefore, the researcher uses qualitative approach for this study. It gives attention to the natural data, data that related to its context.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The researcher will present the result of analysis based on observation from their question intonation on their speaking production. It is based on the research context that some students pronounce or say question sentence with intonation. Some students say interrogative sentences with various types of questions based on the theory in the previous chapter. It is based on forms of question: w-h question and yes/no question, as follows ;

No	Sentences	Student	Phonetic transcription	Utterance of question	Types of intonation	Student's Intonation	Analysis
1	What is your name ?	Observation in TBI-A class on 25th June 2023 at IAIN Madura	wɒt ɪz j ɔ: neɪm ?	Asking about name	Falling intonation		The intonation of student is rise, that's error because the sentences include w-h. so the sentence should be falling intonation
2	Are you sleepy?	Observation in TBI-A class on 25th June 2023 at IAIN Madura	ɑ: ju: 's li:pi?	Asking about condition	Rising Intonation		The intonation of student is rise, that's right because the sentences include yes/no question that have rising intonation
3	How are you?	Observation in TBI-A class on 25th	haʊ ɑ: j u:?	Asking about news	Falling Intonation		The intonation of student is rise, that's error because the sentences

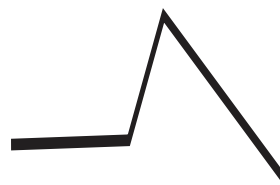
		June 2023 at IAIN Madura					include w-h question. So the sentence should be falling intonation
4	Are you hungry ?	Observation in TBI-A class on 25th June 2023 at IAIN Madura	ɑ: ju: 'h i: gri ?	Asking about condition	Rising Intonation		The intonation of student is fall, that's error because the sentences include yes/no. So the sentence should be rising intonation

**The factors that cause of question intonation error on speaking production of students TBI-A fifth semester through Praat system**

a. Wrong pitch

Based on Irma's statement the most common mistakes of intonation are no rising pitch and the use of the wrong pitch (Irma Rusadze and Sopio Kipiani, 2009). Wrong pitch is one of the causes of intonation errors. Questions that begin with W-h words have a falling intonation. For example on the picture 1.1. On the picture 1.1 the intonation of " what is your name? " is right, because the question that begin with w-h word commonly have falling intonation.

Picture 1.1. Falling intonation



What is your name ?

But from question intonation of students who said in W-h question form have not falling intonation exactly their intonation have rising intonation. If w-h question intonation goes up, intonation is wrong, for the example on the picture 1.2 .students who say " what is your name? " the intonation have rising intonation. The intonation is error because the intonation have rise while the intonation of w-h question form have falling intonation.

Picture 1.2 Student's mistake intonation



What is your name ?

Wrong pitch also there is in the picture 1.3 that the intonation of students who say " how are you ? " the intonation also have rising

intonation, that's wrong intonation. The sentence include w-h question so the intonation should be rise but the intonation should be falling intonation.

Picture 1.3 Student's mistake intonation



How are you ?

b. No rising pitch.

The most common mistakes of intonation are no rising pitch and the use of the wrong pitch (Irma Rusadze and Sopio Kipiani, 2009). Students often have more trouble imitating the rising than the falling intonation and they often don't use the right pitch to convey feelings. Make the rising pitch as high as you can, and the flat intonation sound monotone. Yes/No questions have the rising pitch towards the end, for the example on the picture 1.4 the intonation of " Are you sleepy? " have rising intonation, it is right. Because the question that use yes/no question commonly have rising intonation.

Picture 1.4 Rising intonation

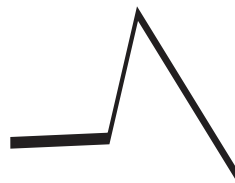


Are you sleepy ?

From question intonation of students who said in Yes/no question form have not rising intonation exactly their intonation have falling intonation. Asking yes/no questions with a rising pitch is far more common than asking them with a falling pitch. Put simply, if the person asking a question is not sure of the answer, a rising pitch should be applied.

A few of them who often make mistakes in yes / no questions intonation because they sometimes do not use the right intonation, like on the picture 1.5. students who say " Are you sleepy? " the intonation have falling intonation. The intonation is false because the intonation have fall while the intonation of yes/no question form have rising intonation.

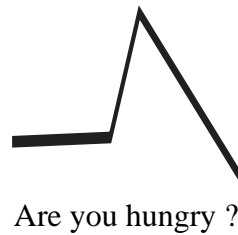
Picture 1.5 Student's mistake intonation



Are you sleepy ?

On the picture 1.6 show the intonation of sentences that need answer yes/no, that is “ Are you hungry ? “. Students who say the sentence make mistake that is the student do not rising pitch on the yes/no question intonation. The student’s intonation have falling intonation, that’s error the cause is no rising pitch in the end of sentence.

Picture 1.6 Student’s mistake intonation

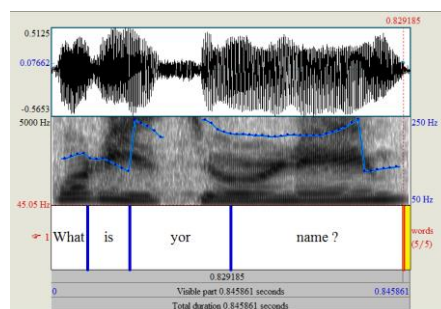


From some student’s mistake intonation, the mistake was happen because there is no rising pitch in the end of sentence. No rising pitch can be caused because someone does not know how the intonation is used when saying the question sentence in the form of yes/no question or other sentence form. Sometime students that use falling intonation on yes/no questions consequently the intonation of the question sentence will be like a statement sentence.

**The error of question intonation will be show by PRAAT system**

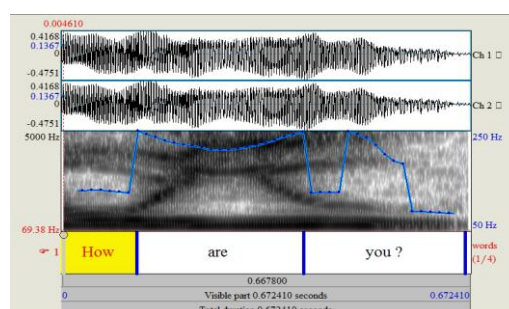
a. Wh-question

Picture 1.7 Intonation of W-h question through PRAAT system (Siti Aisyaroh Student TBI-A,2023)



In sentences said by Siti Aisyaroh, PRAAT system determines the pitch of the sentence “What is your name?”. PRAAT shows that the questions intonation who said by Siti Aisyaroh in the sentence has flat at the end of the sentence. It shows that the question intonation is errors. That's because the intonation of sentence “what is your name?” has not falling intonation. According to Szilágyi László the sentence that has w-h question form has falling intonation (Szilágyi László, 2014).

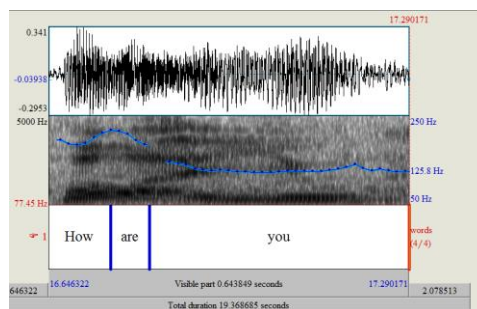
Picture 1.8 Intonation of W-h question through praat system (Diah Nur Iqamah Student TBI-A, 2023).





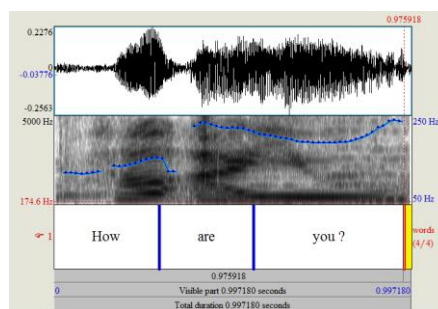
In sentences said by Diah Nur Iqamah, praat system determines the pitch of the sentence “How Are You?”. Praat shows that the questions intonation who said by Diah Nur Iqamah in the sentence has flat at the end of the sentence. It shows that the question intonation is errors. That's because the intonation of sentence “How Are You?” has not falling intonation. According to Szilágyi László the sentence that has w-h question form has falling intonation (Szilágyi László, 2014).

Picture 1.9 Intonation of W-h question through praat system (Ikhwan Maulana Student TBI-A, 2023).



Next, the sentences said by Ikhwan Maulana, praat system determines the pitch of the sentence “ How are you ? ”. Praat shows that the questions intonation who said by Ikhwan Maulana in the sentence has flat at the end of the sentence. It shows that the question intonation is errors. That's because the intonation of sentence “ How are you ?” has no falling intonation. According to Szilágyi László the sentence that has w-h question form has falling intonation (Szilágyi László, 2014).

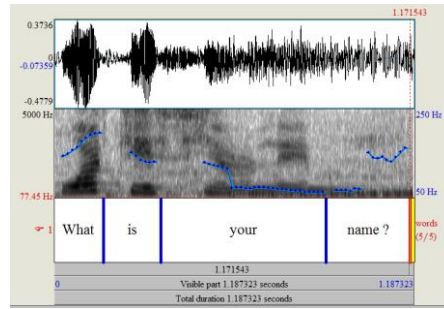
Picture 1.10 Intonation of W-h question through praat system (Kurratul aini Student TBI-A, 2023).



Next, the sentences said by Kurratul Aini, praat system determines the pitch of the sentence “ How are you ? ”. Praat shows that the questions intonation who said by Kurratul Aini in the sentence has rise at the end of the sentence. It shows that the question intonation is errors. That's because the intonation of sentence “ How are you? ” has rising intonation. According

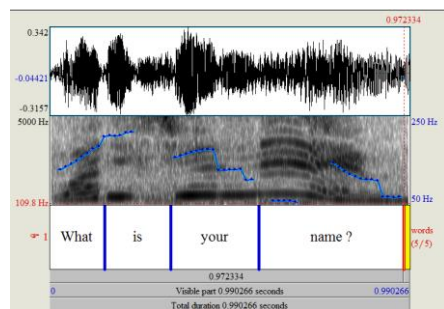
to Szilágyi László the sentence that has w-h question form has falling intonation (Szilágyi László, 2014).

Picture 1.11 Intonation of W-h question through praat system (Lailatul Fitriyah Student TBI-A, 2023)



Next, the sentences said by Lailatul Fitriyah, praat system determines the pitch of the sentence “ What is your name ? ”. Praat shows that the questions intonation who said by Lailatul Fitriyah in the sentence has rise at the end of the sentence. It shows that the question intonation is errors. That's because the intonation of sentence “ What is your name ? ” has rising intonation. According to Szilágyi László the sentence that has w-h question form has falling intonation (Szilágyi László, 2014).

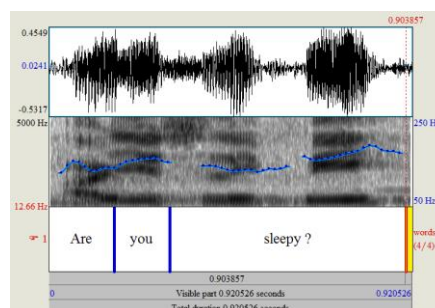
Picture 1.12 Intonation of W-h question through praat system(Lia Indriani Student TBI-A, 2023)



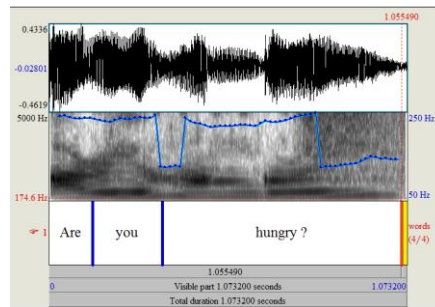
Next, the sentences said by Lia Indriani, praat system determines the pitch of the sentence “ What is your name ? ”. Praat shows that the questions intonation who said by Lia Indriani in the sentence has flat at the end of the sentence. It shows that the question intonation is errors. That's because the intonation of sentence “ What is your name ? ” has not falling intonation. According to Szilágyi László the sentence that has w-h question form has falling intonation (Szilágyi László, 2014).

b. Yes/no question

Picture 1.13 Intonation of yes/no question through praat system Khairul Fani HR Student TBI-A, 2023)



Next sentences is “Are you sleepy ?” that said by Khairul Fani HR, where the sentences include in yes/no question. Praat show that the pitch contour show that the tone of the sentences is fall t. So the intonation of sentences “Are you sleepy?” include falling intonation. The intonation of those sentences is error. According to Szilágyi László the sentence that has yes/no question form has rising intonation (Szilágyi László, 2014). Picture 1.14 Intonation of yes/no question through praat system (Nur Afni Student TBI-A, 2023).



Next sentences is “ Are you hungry ?” that said by Nur Afni, where the sentences include in yes/no question. Praat show that the pitch contour show that the tone of the sentences is fall. So the intonation of sentences “Are you hungry?” include falling intonation. The intonation of those sentences is error, because in English intonation of yes/no question is rising intonation.

## CONCLUSSION

1. The question intonation error on speaking production of students TBI-A fifth semester through praat system.
  - a. W-h question

There are two students who say w-h question. Praat system analysis the intonation of their sentences and the result is the pitch of their sound in the last sentences have flat and rise intonation.
  - b. Yes/ no question

There are two students who say yes/no question. Praat system analysis the intonation of their sentences and the result is the pitch of their sound in the last sentences have fall intonation. While the intonation of the yes/no question is rise. So the five students make question intonation error on yes/no question. The factors that cause of question intonation error on speaking production of students TBI-A fifth semester through praat system
  - c. Wrong pitch

Wrong pitch is one of the causes of intonation errors when talking. For example intonation in saying w-h question. In the form of a w-h

question is falling intonation. If w-h question intonation goes up or have rise pitch in the end of sentences, intonation is wrong.

d. No rising pitch

Rising pitch should be applied on yes/no question. But not a few of them who often make mistakes in yes / no questions intonation because they sometimes do not use the right intonation consequently the intonation of the question sentence will be like a statement sentence.

## References

- Carr Philip. (2012). *English Phonetics And Phonology An Intoduction, Second*. Wiley-Blackwell.
- David P. Harris. (1961). *Testing English as A Second Language*. MC Graw Hill.
- Fathonah, M. B., Astrid, A., & Desvitasari, D. (2023). Speaking Skills of EFL Student Teachers of UIN Raden Fatah Palembang: Problems and Strategies. *IDEAS: Journal on English Language Teaching and Learning, Linguistics and Literature*, 11(1), 13–25. <https://doi.org/10.24256/ideas.v11i1.3469>
- Fitria, T. N. (n.d.). *Using Phonetics Transcription App as Medium of Teaching Phonetics in English Pronunciation Skill*. 6.
- Ika A, D., Hartati, E., & Karw, R. (2022). An analysis of intonation pattern in the pre service english teacher's talks. *Frasa: English Education and Literature Journal*, 3(2), 64–71. <https://doi.org/10.47701/frasa.v3i2.2307>
- Irma Rusadze and Sopio Kipiani. (2009). *Intonation Difficulties in Non-Native Languages*. Ogama Press.
- Jack C Richard. (1999). *Methodology in Language teaching*. Prentice Hall.
- Jack C Richrd. (2008). *Teaching Listening and Speaking From Theory to Practice*. Cambridge University Press.
- J.C Wells. (2006a). *English Intonation An introduction*. University Press.
- J.C Wells. (2006b). *English Intonation An Introduction*,. University Press.
- Ken Lodge. (2009). *A Critical Introduction To Phonetics*. The Mpg Books Group.
- Khatleen Baily. (2005). *Practical English as A Second Language Teaching*. MC Graw Hill.
- Mike Davenport. (2005). *Introducing Phonetics & Phonology*. Ohio State University press.
- Pascal Van Lieshot. (2003). *PRAAT Short Tutorial a Basic Introduction*. Department of Speech Language Pathology.
- Roach Peter. (1991). *English Phonetics & Phonology*. Cambridge University Press.
- Stefany Jannedy. (1994). *Language Files Materials for an Introduction to Language & Linguistics*. Ohio State Univesity press.
- Szilágyi László. (2014). *Put English Phonetics into Practice ( for English Major Collage Students )*. Transcarpathian Hungarian Institute Department Of Philology.
- Ulrike Gut. (2009). *Introduction to English Phonetics and Phonology, Textbooks in English Language and Linguistics (TELL), v. 1 Frankfurt am Main*. Peter Lang.