

## Acoustic Analysis of /F/ Sound on Final Position in Pashtun Speakers of English:

By

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### Abstract:

*Bilingualism is the need of the hour, for the world has shrunk a great deal. In the ongoing process of globalization, English language has emerged as one of its agent. People throughout the world desire to learn English in order to communicate other fellow beings beyond the boundaries. L2 learners often face troubles in its acquisition on different levels. Pashtun speakers of English are one such cultural group which receives negative interference from L1 while they produce labiodental fricative /f/ sound on final position of any word. This study is aimed at deviation from RP in articulation of /f/ sound especially when it is on final position. This study needed a qualitative data and ethnographic research design; for being related to a specific behavior of a cultural entity. In order to pursue the objectives of study, 10 participants from native Pashto-speaking community were selected. Half of them belong to Lower Middle Class (henceforth LMC) while the other half were from Higher Middle Class (HMC). This was to measure the difference of acquisition based on higher degree of exposure. Long interactive session with the target population and semi structured interview were carried out. Later on a list of (05) words with /f/ sound on final position were given to the participants to read it out and their pronunciations were recorded. Afterwards these sounds were analyzed through Praat. The findings revealed that deviation from RP does exist and also that the level of deviation differ to a greater extent between the two groups.*

**Keywords:** acoustics, labiodental fricative /f/, bilabial plosive /p/, Received Pronunciation,

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