

The Characteristics of Korean Artists in Pronouncing English Words on Korean Reality Shows: A Generative Phonology Perspective

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Article Info	Abstract
<p><i>Article History:</i> Received 5 February 2024 Approved 27 April 2024 Published 30 April 2024</p> <hr/> <p>Keywords: common errors, distinctive features, Korean phonetics, phonological process.</p>	<p>South Korea's cultural industry, known as the "Korean Wave" (Hallyu), has gained international popularity, particularly among younger generations, with its media attracting global attention. Prior studies have extensively investigated the pronunciation of English words by Koreans, although these studies have not yet approached it from a phonological perspective. This study seeks to examine the pronunciation of English by Korean artists, considering the widespread acquisition of English for many purposes globally. It aims to identify common errors made by native Korean speakers in their English pronunciation and its reasons, specifically from a phonological standpoint. Qualitative analysis was conducted on data acquired from YouTube. The findings indicate that Koreans encounter difficulties with some English phonemes due to limited exposure. In phonological perspective, errors commonly seen in Korean include phoneme substitution, assimilation, vowelization, epenthesis, monophthongization, and diphthongization, with the highest number of epenthesis. These errors can be classified according to phonological processes, specifically, those linked to the place and manner of articulation, where sounds are produced whether or not obstruents are involved. In addition, Koreans tend to enhance plosive sounds with tension and aspiration. These findings enhance comprehension of linguistic discrepancies and can bolster language education endeavors.</p>

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INTRODUCTION

The term "Korean Wave" (Hallyu) currently denotes the worldwide appeal of South Korea's cultural economy, which involves exporting popular culture, entertainment, music,

TV dramas, and movies. These forms of media have gained significant popularity across other societies, particularly among the younger generations. Their activities are widely seen by people worldwide. Societies often mimic the behaviors of Korean artists. This focus is closely

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related to Koreans' linguistic aspect, mainly those artists generate. They are also concerned about the interest they receive from international fans.

One method utilized by Koreans, especially artists, to captivate their worldwide fans is to frequently use particular English words in various situations. It plays an important role in today's environment due to its significance to attract more attention from their fans. The situation under discussion resembles reality shows like *Running Man* or *Knowing Brothers*. Due to disparities in phonetic alphabets and the structure of their native language compared to English, errors are often made by the speakers. Therefore, it can be exceedingly challenging to meticulously analyze and address each error made by Koreans.

There are a lot of previous studies regarding the Korean - English phenomenon. Cho and Park (2006) examines the justification for offering pronunciation instruction in the target language B to interpretation students working from the source language B. Additionally, it offers a comprehensive comparative examination of phonological structures and processes in Korean and English, along with instructional recommendations for interpretation educators. Based on this study, it can be inferred that Korean students of interpretation can improve their speech delivery and interpretation quality in English by thoroughly understanding the contrasting analyses of phonetic/phonological structures and processes and by receiving appropriate teaching and practice. Annisa and Havid (2022) assumed that many non-native English speakers worldwide speak English. Thus, the mother tongue affects foreign language or second language speech. Their study examined Korean speakers' phonetic and phonological errors in English vowels. This study employed descriptive methods to collect linguistic symptoms in words. The data came from various Korean drama *Descendant of the Sun* episodes. This research relied on direct listening by the researcher and validation by a native speaker. Korean speakers mispronounce six monophthongs and three diphthongs of English vowels. These errors are /ə/, /e/, /ei/, /ae/, /a/, /ʊ/, /ɪ/, /iə/, and /oʊ/ which are replaced with /ɛ/, /o/, /ɪ/, /ɔ/, /ʌ/, /u/, /ɪə/, /ɪ/, /ɛʌ/, /ɑ/. Another research in relation with this topic has been done by Leung and Brice (2012). Their study investigated the English phonological processes and speech articulation of adult Cantonese-English speakers in Hong Kong. The Phonology Test for Cantonese Speakers of English (PTCSE) was developed to assess the English articulation and phonological processes of native speakers of Cantonese. Data from 37 adult participants, analyzed descriptively,

yielded 466 phonological process deviations. Cluster-consonants words presented the most difficulty. Results indicated that this group of Cantonese-English-speaking participants displayed various articulatory patterns, some of which were not evidenced by the literature. Phonological processes noted in this study included (a) stopping, (b) fronting, (c) deaffrication, (d) gliding, (e) devoicing, (f) lip rounding, (g) backing, (h) affrication, (i) voicing; (j) pre-vocalic singleton omission; (k) post-vocalic singleton omission; (l) consonant sequence reduction; (m) vowel deviations; and, (n) vowel additions. Five suggested instructional strategies focusing on speech production are provided. Another study was done by Aulya (2023). She examines the Korean-English phenomena on *Hilokal*, a popular app for English learners, by comparing original English sounds to Korean sounds utilizing descriptive qualitative data from audio recordings. The study found that 7 Korean learners aged 20-35 generate sounds distinct from the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) of English due to variations in writing systems and the Korean alphabet. Five articulation points (labiodental, alveolar, post-alveolar, bilabial, and palatal) produce word sounds by replacement, addition, and omission. The most significant shift in sounds is the insertion of /ə/ or /ɪ/, with 27 entries and 17 from foreign words. This study offers new phonological analysis data that can be applied to English instruction for foreign languages to improve pronunciation and intelligibility with the patented standard. These prior investigations have greatly assisted the researcher and are expected to serve as the supporting data for this study.

As someone majoring in linguistics, the researcher found it intriguing to examine the disparities in one of the current most popular phenomena. The researcher also encountered highly suitable theories for describing this event, developed by Chomsky (1957), Chomsky and Halle (1968), and Odden (2005). Chomsky and Halle creates a generative phonology which aims to elucidate the process of human language acquisition and the universal linguistic potential inherent in all individuals, notwithstanding variations in specific languages among people. While John Odden, a well-known expert in the field of phonology, emphasizes the significance of phonological processes in the evolution of language. He formulated the primary theory employed in this investigation about the processes encompassing substitution, assimilation, coalescence, epenthesis, diphthongization, and monophthongization. Substitution replaces a

phoneme with a different sound in a particular situation, guided by linguistic principles. Assimilation refers to incorporating characteristics from a nearby closed segment, whereas insertion or epenthesis involves the addition of sound segments to facilitate more straightforward pronunciation. Coalescence is the process of combining two separate parts, leading to a more straightforward pronunciation. Monophthongization and diphthongization are separate phonological processes that include alterations in the number or duration of vowel sounds. These techniques are commonly encountered in Korean phonetic alphabets.

These theories are intriguing because of their possibility of examining future data. While numerous earlier studies have examined these Korean phenomena, the researcher has yet not come across any that have examined errors produced by Korean artists in pronouncing English words seen from a phonological perspective. This research subsequently addresses two questions: First, what are the prevalent errors made by Korean artists in Reality Shows when producing English sounds, and second, how do these errors emerge from a phonological standpoint?

METHODS

• Research Design

The research design for this study is descriptive qualitative, aiming to examine and analyze the common pronunciation errors made by native Koreans when speaking English words in Korean reality shows. The study seeks to understand these errors from a phonological standpoint and identify the underlying phonological processes.

• Data and Data Sources

The primary data source for this study is Korean reality shows, focusing on the reality show *Running Man*. The selection of reality shows is based on their widespread use of English and the diverse range of celebrities who employ it. The sample size consists of five celebrities from selected reality shows who frequently mispronounce English terms.

• Participants and Sampling

The data is sourced from Korean celebrities who regularly engage in English communication on

reality shows. A purposive sampling technique is employed to select five celebrities who demonstrate a high frequency of mispronouncing English terms. The sample size of five celebrities from selected reality shows who frequently mispronounce English terms is determined based on the criteria of high frequency of mispronunciation, diverse representation, variety of English terms, and relevance to the research questions.

• Methods of Data Collection

The researcher obtained the data by actively listening to the conversations and proceeded to document the errors that were made. Upon gathering the errors, the researcher organized them according to the shared phonological occurrences to analyze the significant phonological process.

• Methods of Data Analysis

The collected data, comprising the phonetic features of spoken English by Korean entertainers, is analyzed using a descriptive qualitative approach. The researcher organizes the errors based on shared phonological occurrences to identify significant phonological processes. Qualitative methods, such as thematic analysis and content analysis, are employed to describe and interpret the data. The analysis focuses on identifying patterns, themes, and underlying phonological constraints that contribute to pronunciation errors. By following this methodology, the researcher aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the common pronunciation errors made by native Koreans when speaking English words in Korean reality shows. The descriptive qualitative approach allows for a detailed exploration, analysis, and interpretation of the phonological processes involved in these errors.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The prevalent errors frequently uttered by Korean artists are:

• English	meaning	Korean
['sɑ:ri]	sorry	['sɑ:wi]
• English	meaning	Korean
['kɑm.fə.ʔə.bəl]	comfortable	['kɑm.pə.ʔə.bəl]
['feɪ.vər.ət]	favorite	['peɪ.v nbjr.it]
[fu:d]	food	[pu:d]
• English	meaning	Korean
['vɪd.i.oʊ]	video	['bɪd.i.oʊ]
['mu:vi]	movie	['mu:bi]
[lʌv]	love	[lʌb]
• English	meaning	Korean

	[ˈæn.sə]	answer	[ˈæn.sə]
	[ˈflaʊ.ə]	flower	[ˈflaʊ.ə]
	[ˈmem.bə]	member	[ˈmem.bə]
	[ˈpaʊ.ə]	power	[ˈpaʊ.ə]
• English	meaning	Korean	
	[θæŋk]	thank	[tæŋk]
	[θri:]	three	[tri:]
• English	meaning	Korean	
	[ðer]	there	[der]
	[ðis]	this	[dis]
• English	meaning	Korean	
	[raɪs]	rice	[raɪs]
	[ɑ:r]	are	[ɑ:r]
	[mɔ:r]	more	[mɔ:r]
	[rɪˈkɔ:r.dɪŋ]	recording	[rɪˈkɔ:r.dɪŋ]
• English	meaning	Korean	
	[ˈɑ:l.weɪz]	always	[ˈɑ:l.weɪdzɯ]
	[ɪz]	is	[ɪdzɯ]
	[tʃi:z]	cheese	[tʃi:dʒɯ]
• English	meaning	Korean	
	[ˈfeɪ.məs]	famous	[ˈfeɪ.məsɯ]
	[haʊs]	house	[haʊsɯ]
	[pæs]	pass	[pæsɯ]
	[eg]	egg	[egɯ]
	[gəʊld]	gold	[gəʊldɯ]
	[ru:t]	root	[ru:tɯ]
	[fæst]	fast	[fæstɯ]
	[mʌsk]	mask	[mʌskɯ]
• English	meaning	Korean	
	[tʃeɪndʒ]	change	[tʃeɪndʒɪ]
	[ˈɔ:rɪndʒ]	orange	[ˈɔ:rɪndʒɪ]
	[mʌtʃ]	much	[mʌtʃɪ]
	[wɑ:tʃ]	watch	[wɑ:tʃɪ]
• English	meaning	Korean	
	[ʌmˈbrɛlə]	umbrella	[ʌmˈbʊrɛlə]
	[ˈkəʊbrə]	cobra	[ˈkəʊbʊrə]
	[ˈdrækjələ]	dracula	[ˈdʊrækjələ]
	[ˈfredi]	Freddie	[ˈpʊredɪ]
	[spi:k]	Speak	[supi:k]
• English	meaning	Korean	
	[naɪs]	nice	[najsɯ]
	[saɪd]	side	[sajdu]
• English	meaning	Korean	
	[kaʊ]	cow	[kaw]
	[bɔɪ]	boy	[bɔj]
• English	meaning	Korean	
	[ˈeɪndʒl]	angel	[ˈeɪndʒl]
	[seɪv]	save	[sɛv]
	[peɪn]	pain	[pɛn]
• English	meaning	Korean	

[ˈəʊpən] open [ˈopən]
[ˈəʊnli] only [ˈonli]

These errors can be further explained from a phonological perspective as follows:

• **Substitution**

Halliday and Hasan (2014) grammatically described substitution as a process where one item is replaced by another item. This phenomenon also occurs from a phonological standpoint. It happens frequently among Koreans when they pronounce English words. The process of substituting or replacing one item with another can be further categorized into many subcategories, including:

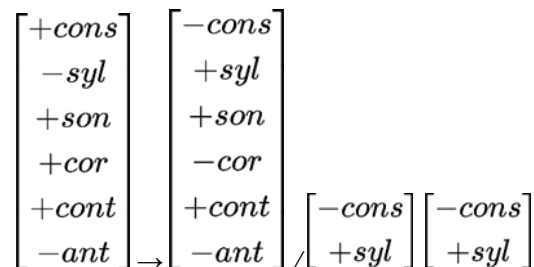
— **Gliding**

According to Williamson (2010), gliding is the act of substituting a continuant, particularly a liquid, with a glide. Gliding happens when a continuant is substituted with a glide /w j/. One specific and frequent example of gliding is the movement of liquids. During this process, only the liquid consonants /r l/ are substituted with the glide consonants /w j/ as seen on the first example (“sorry”).

The Gliding of [w] for [r]

The distinctive features can be seen as follows;

[r] → [w] / [vowel] _ [vowel]



During the data collection process, the researcher discovered that several Korean actresses utilize the phoneme glide /w/ as a replacement for liquid consonant /r/ when it is located between vowels and alternatively recognized as a gliding substitution. The phenomenon can be attributed to the observation that Koreans modify the place of articulation (+cor to -cor) for challenging phonemes by substituting them with the nearest available sounds. The absence of the /r/ sound in Korean makes it tolerable to change it into glides vowels such as /w/. However, the researcher is uncertain whether the substitute sound is solely used for amusement or if some Koreans utilize this

pronunciation pattern, as some of them frequently say /'sa:wi/ instead of /'sa:ri/.

— **Stopping**

According to Williamson (2010), stopping is the process of substituting continuant consonants with stop consonants. It refers to the substitution of continuant consonants (such as nasals, fricatives, affricates, and approximants) with stop consonants, specifically /p, b, t, d, k, g, ?/. In this case, there are two stopping phenomena.

The Stopping of [p] for [f]

The first one is the stopping of voiceless bilabial plosive /p/ for voiceless labiodental fricative /f/. The errors are found in pronouncing the words “comfortable”, “favorite” and “food”.

The Stopping of [b] for [v]

The second one is the stopping of voiced bilabial plosive /b/ for voiced labiodental fricative /v/ found in pronouncing the words “video”, “movie” and “love”.

The distinctive features;

[f, v] → [p, b] / _[vowel]

$$\begin{bmatrix} +cons \\ -syl \\ -son \\ -cor \\ +cont \\ +ant \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} +cons \\ -syl \\ -son \\ -cor \\ -cont \\ +ant \end{bmatrix} / \begin{bmatrix} -cons \\ +syl \end{bmatrix}$$

Another characteristic observed in Korean pronunciation is the absence of some English consonants, particularly fricative sounds. Therefore, in certain instances, Koreans tend to replace fricative consonants with the consonants they have in terms of manner of articulation; how specific sounds form, either with or without obstruction. (+cont to -cont). The researcher has discovered that Koreans typically substitute the labiodental fricative sounds to stop or plosive sounds as in phoneme /f/ with /p/ (voiceless labials) and the phoneme /v/ with /b/ (voiced labials) where their position is on the initial, middle and end preceded and followed by vowels.

— **Vowelization**

In relation to the title, vowelization refers to the act of replacing a liquid (l, r) sound with a vowel sound.

The Vowelization of [ɔ] for [ə]

There is also a process called vowelization in which words ending with -er are often replaced with a particular vowel. The researcher found that Korean artists experienced a vowelization phenomenon in pronouncing words like “answer”, “flower”, “member” and “power”. Furthermore, this observation confirms that Koreans lack the phoneme /r/ and encounter difficulty pronouncing it, particularly at the end of words. It is known as a rhotic /r/ consonant: The rhotic /r/ is a distinctive feature found in certain dialects of English. It is characterized by a more pronounced and impactful /r/ sound that can influence the quality of neighboring vowels. This rhotic /r/ tends to change the pronunciation or coloring of the vowels that precede or follow it. For instance, words like “power” and “member”, the rhotic /r/ alters the way the preceding vowel is pronounced, giving it a distinct quality compared to non-rhotic dialects. The rhotic /r/ affects vowel sounds nearby, often causing changes in their pronunciation, while the standard /r/ doesn't exert this influence on neighboring vowels to the same extent. Once again, Koreans find it challenging to articulate this particular sound. Therefore, they replaced the closest sound to the preceding vowel before the /r/ sound, an /ə/, with an /ɔ/.

— **Alveolarization**

Alveolarization is a replacement of consonants made with the teeth or lips with consonants made at the alveolar ridge. In short, alveolarization is the substitution of an alveolar sound (t, d) for a non-alveolar sound. In this case, there are two alveolarization phenomena.

The Alveolarization of [t] for [θ]

The first one is the alveolarization of voiceless dental fricative /θ/ for voiceless alveolar plosive /t/. Koreans showed this pattern through their pronunciation of the words “thank” and “three”.

The Alveolarization of [d] for [ð]

The second one is the alveolarization of voiced dental fricative /ð/ for voiced alveolar plosive /d/ found through the pronunciation of the words “there” and “this”.

The distinctive features:

[θ, ð] → [t, d] / #_

$$\begin{bmatrix} +cons \\ -syl \\ -son \\ +cor \\ +cont \\ +ant \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} +cons \\ -syl \\ -son \\ +cor \\ -cont \\ +ant \end{bmatrix} / \#_-$$

Another phonological phenomenon observed in Koreans is the tendency to replace dental fricative sounds with alveolar sounds, known as alveolarization. The researcher has observed that Koreans substitute the voiceless fricative dental /θ/ sound with a voiceless alveolar plosive /t/ and the voiced dental fricative /ð/ sound with voiced alveolar plosive /d/ due to their shared characteristics regarding their manner of articulation. (+cont to -cont)

• **Assimilation**

Assimilation occurs when a speech segment is changed into another due to the effect of a nearby segment. Typically, the segments consist of individual phonemes, although there are situations where an entire syllable can have an impact on a subsequent syllable.

The Assimilation of [r] for [r]

In addition to the gliding process, some Koreans also engage in an assimilation process where they tend to replace the trill /r/ sound with the tap consonant /ɾ/. This phenomena happens whenever the trill /r/ sound is present at the beginning, middle, or end of a word. It is more logical for them to replace the sound they lack with a similar sound that they have, which shares some features. It is found whenever they try to pronounce words like “rice”, “are”, “more” and “recording”. The researcher is uncertain about this phenomenon due to the difficulty in identifying whether Koreans articulate taps /ɾ/ or laterals /l/. Koreans cannot articulate trill sounds. However, the replacement is challenging to distinguish and requires further investigation.

• **Coalescence**

Feature synthesis is a common method used to simplify clusters. This phenomenon arises when the phonetic attributes of one component of the cluster merge with the phonetic attributes of the other component, resulting in the formation of a singular new segment. Consider the following, where the new segment follows the voicing state of

the other whenever they are in the middle of the words “always”, “is” and “cheese”.

The Coalescence of [dʒ] for [z]

The distinctive features:

$$[z] \rightarrow [dʒ] / \#_-$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} +cons \\ -syl \\ -son \\ +cor \\ +cont \\ +ant \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} +cons \\ -syl \\ -son \\ +cor \\ -cont \\ -ant \end{bmatrix} / \#_-$$

• **Epenthesis**

Epenthesis is the linguistic phenomenon in which a vowel is inserted into a segment. Epenthesis can be defined as the act of inserting a vowel to separate a cluster in some instances.

— At the end of the word

Koreans tend to add specific vocals at the end of the words as seen in the words “famous”, “house”, “pass”, “egg”, “root”, and “mask”.

The distinctive features:

$$[consonants] \rightarrow [u] / \#_-$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -cons \\ +syl \\ +high \\ +back \\ -round \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} +cons \\ -syl \end{bmatrix} / \#_-$$

On the first case, there is an insertion of the unrounded close back /u/ vowel everytime the English words are ended with a voiceless alveolar fricative /s/. This occurred because Koreans are generally unable to correctly pronounce a consonant at the end of words.

The distinctive features:

$$[dʒ, tʃ] \rightarrow [i] / \#_-$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} +cons \\ -syl \\ +cor \\ -ant \\ +high \\ -low \\ -back \\ -round \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -cons \\ +syl \\ -cor \\ -ant \\ +high \\ -low \\ -back \\ -round \end{bmatrix} / _ \#$$

Similarly to the preceding example, when a word ends with /dʒ/ or /tʃ/ sounds, Koreans tend to append an unrounded close front /i/ vowel as an aid to enhance their pronunciation. They substitute the sound which is in the certain place of articulation as they have.

— In the middle of the word

The distinctive features:

$$[consonants] \rightarrow [u] / [consonants] _ [consonants]$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -cons \\ +syl \\ +high \\ +back \\ -round \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} +cons \\ -syl \end{bmatrix} / \begin{bmatrix} +cons \\ -syl \end{bmatrix} _ \begin{bmatrix} +cons \\ -syl \end{bmatrix}$$

The second case occurred when a vowel was inserted with the intention of separating a cluster. Koreans are unable to articulate two distinct phonemes that occupy the exact location. They struggle to articulate it, for example, words like "umbrella" and "Dracula." Therefore, they tend to insert a specific vowel they have between those two phonemes which is an unrounded close back vowel /u/ to make it easier to pronounce. This phenomenon also occurs when a word ends with specific consonants, such as /s/, /g/, /d/, /t/, and /k/. Koreans commonly attach this vowel for more straightforward pronunciation. This vowel is the unrounded close-back vowel /u/. The term for this occurrence is known as epenthesis.

• **Diphthongization**

Odden (2005) also suggests that a monophthong sound can function as a diphthong in some occurrences. A monophthong is a vowel sound that is uttered as a single, unvarying sound, with no substantial alteration in quality or duration. A diphthong is a set of vowel-like features within a single syllable.

The Diphthongization of [aj] for [aɪ]

The first one is the diphthongization of an /aj/ vowel for /aɪ/ in pronouncing “nice” and “side”. Diphthongization takes place in specific Korean words where an unrounded close round front vowel /i/ is transformed into a diphthong with an /aj/ sound.

The Diphthongization of [aw] for [aʊ]

The second one is the diphthongization of an /aw/ vowel for /aʊ/ in the pronunciation of “cow” and “boy”. It also occurs when certain words end with the /ʊ/ sound and get diphthongized to the /aw/ sound.

The distinctive features:

$$[aɪ, aʊ] \rightarrow [aj, aw] / _ \#$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -cons \\ +syl \\ +vocalic \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -cons \\ +syl \\ -vocalic \end{bmatrix} / _ \#$$

The researcher has also discovered a diphthongization that Koreans utter. Koreans commonly replace the monophthong sound /aɪ/, found in words like "nice" with /aj/, and the monophthong sound /aʊ/, found in words like "cow" with /aw/. It appears that they struggle with pronouncing monophthongal sounds, resulting in adding extra sounds during pronunciation. This phenomenon is referred to as diphthongization. The characteristics demonstrate the process of vocalization. Distinctions among Vocalic sounds are generated when there is unobstructed airflow via the vocal tract without significant constraints. At the same time, Diphthongs are excluded from this categorization.

• **Monophthongization**

Monophthongization is the process in which a diphthong sound is transformed into a monophthong sound, contrasting with diphthongization. This phenomenon also occurs in Korean due to the absence of certain diphthongs in their language.

The Monophthongization of [ɛ] for [eɪ]

The first one is the monophthongization of an unrounded open-mid front /ɛ/ vowel for /eɪ/ found in words like “angel”, “save” and “pain”.

The distinctive features:

$$[eɪ] \rightarrow [ɛ] / [consonants] _ [consonants]$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} -high \\ -low \\ -back \\ +tense \\ -round \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} +high \\ -low \\ -back \\ -tense \\ -round \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[\begin{array}{c} -high \\ -low \\ -back \\ -tense \\ -round \end{array} \right] / \left[\begin{array}{c} +cons \\ -syl \end{array} \right] _ \left[\begin{array}{c} +cons \\ -syl \end{array} \right]$$

The Monophthongization of [o] for [əʊ]

The second one is the monophthongization of an rounded close-mid back /o/ vowel for /əʊ/.

The distinctive features:

$$[əʊ] \rightarrow [o] \quad / \quad \# _$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} -high \\ +low \\ +back \\ +tense \\ -round \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} +high \\ -low \\ +back \\ -tense \\ +round \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[\begin{array}{c} -high \\ -low \\ +back \\ +tense \\ +round \end{array} \right] / \quad \# _$$

Koreans also observe the monophthongization process, when the sound /eɪ/ changes to /ɛ/, as seen in words like "angel" and "pain." Another phenomenon occurs when pronouncing the /əʊ/ sound as /o/ in words like "open" and "only". This phenomenon occurs because Koreans replace English phonemes by incorporating phonemes that share comparable characteristics with diphthong phonemes. They can combine these traits to create a compilation of sounds that are present in the Korean language as seen in the data. (/ɛ/ and /o/)

While conducting the research, the researcher discovered several points regarding the common errors frequently made by Koreans and their associated phonological processes. These issues are outlined below:

- Standard Korean is characterized by certain phonetic sounds distinct from those found in English.
- As this phenomenon arises, Koreans encounter significant challenges in articulating sounds absent in their language. Korean lacks the English fricative and affricate sounds, including /f/, /v/, /θ/, and /ð/. Consequently, Koreans often replace it with the sounds they own that share similar features with the English sounds which are /p/, /b/, /s/, and /d/.
- The absence of the trill /r/ sound in Korean might confuse the listener. It is impossible to predict whether Koreans will substitute the sound of a trill /r/ with a flap /r/ or a lateral /l/. Some also replace it with glides /w/ as it can provide a more straightforward method of

articulating the trill /r/ sound. Koreans often replace the sound /r/, especially those preceded with /e/, with the vowel /ə/ when it appears at the end of a word, as it benefits the pronunciation of specific words.

- Koreans undergo monophthongization and diphthongization processes similar to those in English instead.
- In contrast to English sounds, Korean does not possess voicing state features. They produce sounds that carry out both tension and aspiration. It is expected that they will utilize tense and aspiration in plosive sounds such as /p/, /t/, and /k/.
- Koreans face difficulty pronouncing consonant cluster sounds, but English has a wide range of cluster consonant clauses. In this situation, it is common for them to insert a vowel between the sounds or at the end of the sounds. The typical phonological process of adding a sound, epenthesis, is represented by /w/ and /i/. Epenthesis is a frequently employed phonological process.

CONCLUSION

Koreans find it more challenging to understand English pronunciation that sounds similar to native speakers. These arise by the fact that English and Korean differ in their phonetic and phonological structures and processes, particularly in cases where certain sounds are absent in one language but present in the other. This research highlights patterns and issues in the pronunciation of Korean entertainers of Korean reality shows. It demonstrates the presence of numerous phonological phenomena produced by Koreans when speaking English. The processes can be categorized into several components: substitution, assimilation, coalescence, epenthesis, diphthongization, and monophthongization. In the substitution process, at least four phenomena can occur when the substitute sound is similar to the original sound: gliding, stopping, alveolarization, and vowelization. The findings indicate that Koreans' difficulty pronouncing English sounds is addressed by specific phonological processes utilizing the sounds available in Korean. The primary findings indicate that Koreans struggle to articulate consonant clusters and the trill /r/ sound. Therefore, several phenomena related to these sounds, such as epenthesis, gliding, vowelization, and assimilation, can be observed. These phenomena provide concrete evidence of how Koreans articulate specific English sounds and the underlying reasons behind them. These faults can be

identified by analyzing the various distinctive features of each sound. It is believed that several factors may affect their English pronunciation: Korean interference or their mother tongue, lack of knowledge of English phonological constraints, and the influence of Received Pronunciation whether it is the British or American dialects. The phonemic absence between languages can lead certain individuals to have difficulty distinguishing and producing specific sounds. This study aims to serve as a valuable resource for individuals interested in learning languages, mainly English and Korean. The phonological faults are expected to serve as a valuable learning opportunity for anyone. By comprehending these distinctions, individuals globally can enhance their comprehension of one another's languages. The linguistic domains can be further enhanced to provide a more promising future.

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