

# A Comparative Study of Dari Persian and English Language Consonant Sounds

Mahmood Usmanyar

Department of Foreign Languages, Faculty of Electro Mechanics, Kabul Polytechnic University, Kabul, Afghanistan

**Abstract**— This research article compares the consonant sounds of English and Dari Persian language in terms of state of larynx, place and manner of articulation. This research article aims to determine similarities and differences between the consonant systems of English and Dari Persian language which can be useful for teachers and learners of both languages, especially in listening and speaking skills. In this research article, the qualitative method has been used to find similar and different consonant sounds. In this research article, it was found out that eighteen consonants are similar in between, two consonant sounds are slightly similar, 4 English consonants are not present in Dari Persian, and 3 Dari Persian consonants are not present in English language. It is believed that one's mother tongue obviously has influence on second or foreign language. That is, one's own language pronunciation habits are so strong that they are extremely difficult to break. On the other hand, mispronouncing the sounds in spoken language can cause miscommunication or misunderstanding. Therefore, this research article can help teachers and learners of English with Dari Persian as the first language and vice versa to maintain effective and meaningful communication while listening and speaking with more focus on the sounds which are different between the first and the second or foreign language.

**Index Terms**— English consonants, Dari Persian consonants, description of consonants, place of articulation, manner of articulation

## I. INTRODUCTION

Written language and spoken language are very different from each other. Writing consists of symbols, letters, signs or marks which can be seen by eyes. However, speaking consists of speech sounds taken in by the ears (O'connor, 2007). Therefore, spoken Language is made up of speech sounds called phonemes. Phoneme is a minimal distinctive sound unit. Although phoneme is meaningless, change in phoneme changes the meaning of a word (Yamin, 2014). For example, the different vowels in the words 'Pin' and 'pen' distinguish these words from each other. Similarly, in the words 'pet' and 'bet' only the first consonant in each word is different (Roach, 2019). That is to say, accurate pronunciation of the speech sounds obviously matter for maintaining effective communication with other people while listening and speaking. Therefore this research article compares the sounds of English language with those of Dari Persian language to find the different consonant sounds in between and recommend focusing more on them. Dari Persian language (the researcher's native language) is one of the major varieties of Persian language (belonging to the Indo Iranian sub-branch of the Indo European family of the languages) spoken in Afghanistan as one of the two national and official languages. In Afghanistan, there are several different geographical dialects of Dari Persian. However, the standard one is the Kabul educated people's dialect (Yamin, 2014). Therefore, the Kabuli standard accent of Dari Persian is used in this research paper as a reference model. Similarly, English language which is spoken as a first, second, foreign or official language worldwide, also has several different varieties of both standard and non-standard accents. For this research article, RP, the standard accent, is used as a reference model. According to Roach (2019), RP (Received Pronunciation), recently known as BBC Pronunciation, is one of the standard varieties of English language around the world and is most often recommended for foreign learners studying British English.

The main objective of this research article is to find out the differences and similarities between English and Dari Persian consonant sounds by comparing them in terms of the status of the larynx, place and manner of articulation to recommend focusing more on the sounds which are difference in between while instructing pronunciation skills. The findings of this research article also help teachers to adapt and supplement their teaching materials especially for pronunciation practices in the classrooms. Moreover, in this research, the qualitative method was used in order to find the similarities and differences between the consonants of English and Dari Persian language in terms of voicing, place and manner of articulation.

It is believed that one's mother tongue pronunciation habits influence second or foreign language (O'connor, 2007). Therefore, the current research paper answers the following questions:

- Which English and Dari Persian consonant sounds are different?
- Which English and Dari Persian consonant sounds are similar?
- What are the English consonant sounds which are not present in Dari Persian and vice versa?
- How are Dari Persian and English language consonant sounds different in terms of larynx vibration, place and manner of articulation?

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

As identifying the difficult sounds for learners of English as a second language is important, many researches have been conducted by researchers to help learners of a second or foreign language improve their pronunciation and prosper in verbal communication while listening and speaking. For instance, Sülükçü (2018) studied the problems of pronouncing Turkish sounds spoken by Arabic native speakers who were refugees in Turkey and learned Turkish as a foreign language. For this study, the informants included 20 students attending Necmettin Erbakan University Turkish Instruction Application and Research Center (KONDIL) and 15 students attending a private course in Turkey. It was found out that the informants experienced problems in pronouncing 19 Turkish sounds. It was also determined that the pronunciation problem was resolved to a great extent by comparison of the articulation points in the students' native language (Arabic) and the target language (Turkish) and practical demonstration of these articulation points and repetition. It was also recommended that the focus should be more on the determined sounds during instruction of the Turkish sounds.

Moreover, Usmanyar (2020) conducted a research comparing the pure vowels of Dari Persian (Spoken in Afghanistan as an official language and the researcher's native language) and English language pure vowel sounds to find English sounds which were different from the ones in Dari Persian. It was finally determined that out of twelve English monophthongs, three were slightly similar to Dari Persian monophthongs, and the rest nine were totally different. In other words, there were no any similar sounds in between. Therefore, it was recommended to focus more on the sounds which were determined as different vowels during instructing the English sounds. Also, it was recommended to conduct similar research comparing diphthongs and consonants of the two mentioned languages to find out more different sounds between them. Therefore, the current research article compares the consonants of Dari Persian with the consonants of English language to determine more different sounds between these languages so as to focus more on them in the instruction of the sounds of both languages to their learners as second or foreign language.

## III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Each and every language has got its own sound system, so have Dari Persian and English. Roach (2019) has divided the segmental phonemes of English language first and foremost into two groups: vowels and consonants. He also stated that there are 44 sounds in English language. Out of 44, twenty are vowels and the rest 24 are consonants. In contrast to vowels, consonants are sounds in the production of which there is either a complete or partial closure of air stream in the vocal tract (Yamin, 2014). So, the airflow is either completely blocked or so restricted that audible friction is produced (Crystal, 2008). See table 1 for the 24 consonants of English language below:

TABLE 1: (ROACH, 2019, P. 52)

PLACE OF ARTICULATION		Bilabial	Labio-dental	Dental	Alveolar	Post-Alveolar	palatal	velar	Glottal
MANNER OF ARTICULATION	Plosive	p b			t d			k g	
	Fricative		f v	θ ð	s z	ʃ ʒ			h
	Affricate					tʃ dʒ			
	Nasal	m			n			ŋ	
	Lateral approximant Approximant	w			l		r j		

Also, Yamin (2014) has divided the segmental phonemes of Dari Persian language into vowels and consonants. He has stated that there are 39 sounds out of which 23 are consonants and the rest 16 are vowels (eight monophthongs and eight diphthongs). See table 2 for the 23 consonants of Dari Persian below:

TABLE 2: (YAMIN, 2014, P. 49)

Manner of Articulation	In terms of Larynx vibration	In terms of place of articulation								
		Bilabial	Dental	Labio-dental	Alveolar	Post alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Glottal
Plosive	Voiceless	p	t					k	q	
	Voiced	b	d					g		
Fricative	Voiceless			f	s	ʃ			χ	h
	Voiced				z	ʒ			ʁ	
Affricate	Voiceless					tʃ				
	Voiced					dʒ				
Approximant	Voiced				l	r				
Nasal	Voiced	m			n					
Simi vowel	Voiced	w					j			

The consonant sounds are described in terms of voicing, place and manner of articulation (Crystal, 2008). Therefore, the consonant sounds of Dari Persian and English language are compared in the following manner:

*A. English and Dari Persian Consonants in Terms of Voicing*

In terms of voicing, speech sounds are of two kinds: voiced and voiceless. Voiced sounds are those during the production of which the vocal folds in the larynx vibrate as in /z/. Nonetheless, during the articulation of voiceless sounds, there is no vibration in the larynx. In other words, the focal folds are down apart and the air passes out freely between them as in /s/. The vibration of the larynx can also be felt simply by saying a prolong /z/ and putting your fingers on your neck by the side of your larynx. Now keep your fingers still by the side of your larynx, but say a prolong /s/, you will feel no vibration (O’connor, 2007).

According to Yamin (2014), out of twenty three consonants, 13 are voiced and the rest 10 are voiceless sounds. However, in English language, out of twenty four consonants, 15 are voiced and the rest 9 are voiceless sounds (Yule, 2016). See Table 3 for the voiced and voiceless sounds of Dari Persian and English language below:

TABLE 3: (DESIGNED BY ME, 2021)

English language consonants	Voiced	/b, d, g, v, ð, z, ʒ, dʒ, m, n, ŋ, l, w, r, j/
	Voiceless	/p, t, k, f, θ, s, ʃ, h, tʃ/
Dari Persian Consonants	Voiced	/b, d, g, z, ʒ, ɣ, dʒ, m, n, l, w, r, j/
	Voiceless	/p, t, k, q, f, s, ʃ, x, h, tʃ/

*B. English and Dari Persian Consonants in Terms of Place of Articulation*

In terms of place of articulation, there are 4 bilabial sounds, 2 dental, 1 labiodental, 4 alveolar, 5 post alveolar, 1 palatal, 2 velar, 3 uvular and 1 glottal sound in Dari Persian language (Yamin 2014). See table 2 again. However, English language, in terms of place of articulation, consists of 4 bilabial sounds, 2 labiodental, 2 dental, 6 alveolar, 5 post alveolar, 1 palatal, 3 velar and 1 glottal sound (Roach, 2019). See table 1 again.

*1. English and Dari Persian Bilabial Sounds*

Bilabials are sounds in the production of which both lips are used (Lodge, 2009). English language has 4 bilabial sounds (Roach, 2019) so has Dari Persian (Yamin, 2014). All the four bilabial sounds of both languages are similar. They are: /p/, /b/, /m/ and /w/. See figure 1 for the articulation of /p/ and /b/, figure 2 for the articulation of /m/ and figure 3 for articulation of the sound /w/ below:

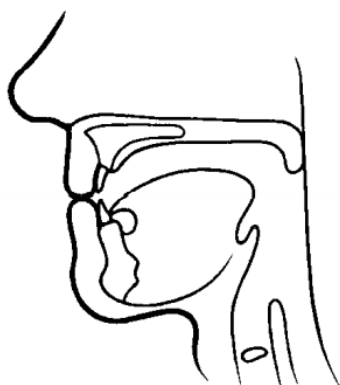


Figure 1: (Lodge, 2009, P. 27)

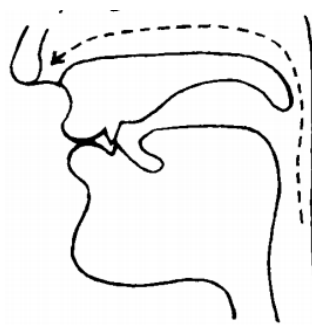


Figure 2: (O’connor, 2007, P. 49)



Figure 3: (<http://karlita2012pedagogiangles.blogspot.com>)

## 2. English and Dari Persian Labiodental Sounds

Labiodental sounds are those in the articulation of which the top teeth are placed just inside the bottom lip (Lodge, 2009). There are two labiodental sounds in English: /f/ and /v/ (Roach, 2019). Whereas, Dari Persian has only one labiodental sound: /f/ (Yamin, 2014). In other words, the sound /v/ does not exist in Dari Persian sound system. The place of articulation for the sounds /f/ and /v/ are the same. The only difference between them is voicing, that is, /v/ is voiced and /f/ is voiceless. See figure 4 for articulation of the sounds /f/ and /v/.

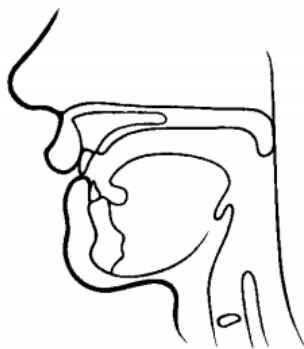


Figure 4: (Lodge, 2009, P. 27)

## 3. English and Dari Persian Dental Sounds

In the articulation of dental sounds, the tip or blade of the tongue is placed on the back surface of the top teeth or between the teeth (Lodge, 2009). Dari Persian has two dental sounds: /t/ and /d/. During the articulation of these sounds, there is a complete closure in the oral cavity (Yamin, 2014). English language has also got two dental sounds. They are: /θ/ and /ð/. However, in contrast to the two dentals of Dari Persian, in the production of the both dental sounds in English, there is no complete closure in the oral cavity. In other words, the air escapes through the gaps between the teeth and the tongue (Roach, 2019). See figure 5 for articulation of dental sounds below:

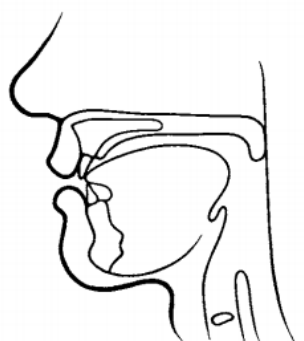


Figure 5: (Lodge, 2009, P. 28)

## 4. English and Persian Alveolar Sounds

Alveolar sounds are produced when the tip or blade of the tongue is into contact with the alveolar ridge (Lodge, 2009). See figure 6 for articulation of alveolar sound below:

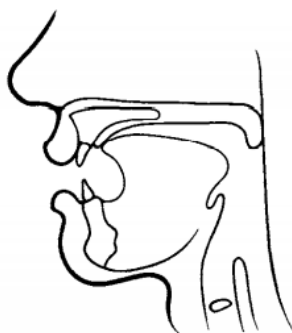


Figure 6: (Lodge, 2009, P. 29)

There are 4 alveolar sounds in Dari Persian language: /s/, /z/, /l/, and /n/ (Yamin, 2014). Nonetheless, the alveolar sounds in English language are six. They are: /t/, /d/, /s/, /z/, /n/ and /l/ (Roach, 2019). The sounds /t/ and /d/ are not alveolar in Dari Persian. They are dental (Yamin, 2014).

#### 5. English and Persian Post Alveolar Sounds

Post alveolar sounds are those in the production of which the tongue is in contact with slightly further back than alveolar ridge (Roach, 2019). See figure 7 for articulation of post alveolar sound below:

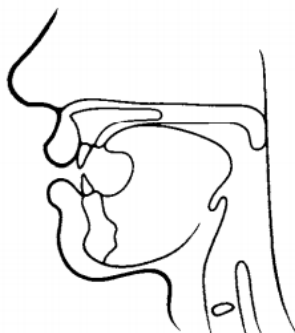


Figure 7: (Lodge, 2009, P.30)

Dari Persian has five post alveolar sounds. They are: /ʃ, ʒ, tʃ, dʒ, r/ (Yamin, 2014). English language has the same number and the same post alveolar sounds as Dari Persian (Roach, 2019). See table 1 again.

#### 6. English and Persian Palatal Sounds

The palatal sounds are made when the part between the blade and front part of the tongue is raised against the hard palate (Lodge, 2009). See Figure 8 for articulation of the palatal sound /j/ below:

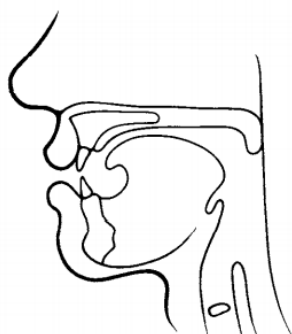


Figure 8: (Lodge, 2009, P.37)

English has only one palatal sound /j/ which is also known as semi vowel as they are phonetically like vowels but phonologically like consonants. In other words, there is no complete closure or friction in the air stream mechanism in the articulation of this sound (Roach, 2019). Similarly, Dari Persian also has one palatal sound /j/ with the same place and manner of articulation as the one in English (Yamin, 2014).

#### 7. English and Persian Velar Sounds

Velar sounds are produced by raising the back part of the tongue against the velum (Lodge, 2009). See figure 9 for the velar sounds below:



Figure 9: (Lodge, 2009, P. 31)

English language has 3 velar sounds: /k, g, & ŋ/ (Roach, 2019). However, there are only two velar sounds in Dari Persian language: /k & g/ (Yamin, 2014). The velar sound /ŋ/ is not present in Dari Persian.

#### 8. English and Persian Uvular Sounds

Uvular sounds are articulated when the extreme back part of the tongue is into contact with the soft palate (Lodge, 2009). See figure 10 for the place of articulation of the uvular sound below:



Figure 10: (Lodge, 2009, P. 32)

There are 3 Uvular sounds in Dari Persian language. They are: /q, χ and ʁ/ (Yamin, 2014). However, as seen in table 1, not any uvular sound has been given for English language.

#### 9. English and Persian Glottal Sounds

English language has only one voiceless glottal sound: /h/ (Roach, 2019), so has Dari Persian (Yamin, 2014). The voiceless glottal sound /h/ is made when the air is passed through the glottis when it is narrowed in the larynx (Roach, 2019).

Apart from voicing (larynx vibration) and place of articulation, consonant sounds are also described in terms of manner of articulation. Therefore, in terms of manner of articulation, Dari Persian and English sounds are compared in the following manner:

#### C. English and Persian Consonants in Terms of Manner of Articulation

Apart from voicing and place of articulation, consonant sounds are also described in terms of manner of articulation, that is, how they are articulated. For instance, the sounds /t/ and /s/ are both voiceless alveolar sounds. Now, the only description that can differentiate these two sounds is the manner of articulation, that is, in the way they are pronounced. The sound /t/ is a plosive consonant and the sound /s/ is a fricative consonant (Yule, 2016). In this respect, English language has 6 plosive sounds, 9 fricative, 2 affricate, 3 nasal and 4 approximant sounds (Roach, 2019). However, Dari Persian language has 7 plosive sounds, 8 fricative, 2 affricate, 4 approximant and two nasal sounds (Yamin, 2014). The English and Dari Persian consonant sounds are compared in terms of manner of articulation with more details in the following manner:

#### 1. English and Dari Persian Plosives

Plosive sounds (also known as stops) are sounds during the articulation of which the air stream is completely stopped at some point in the mouth (very briefly) by the tongue or lips, and then released abruptly with a slight explosion (O'Connor, 2007). There are 6 plosive consonant sounds in English: 2 bilabial, 2 alveolar and 2 velar (Roach, 2019). Persian language has 7 plosive consonant sounds: 2 bilabial, 2 dental, 2 velar and 1 uvular (Yamin, 2014). See Table 4 for English and Persian plosive sounds below:

TABLE 4: (DESIGNED BY ME, 2021)

Place of Articulation	Bilabial		Dental		Alveolar		Velar		Uvular	
Voicing	V -	V +	V -	V +	V -	V +	V -	V +	V -	V +
English Plosives	B	p			t	d	k	g		
Persian Plosives	B	p	t	d			k	g	q	

Table 4 indicates that the sounds /p, b, k, g/ are the similar plosive consonants between English and Dari Persian. However, the sound /q/ is a Dari Persian Plosive which is not present in English language. Moreover, the plosive sounds /t/ and /d/ are alveolar consonants in English, but dental in Dari Persian.

2. English and Dari Persian Fricatives

Fricative sounds are those in the articulation of which there is no complete or firm closure of the air stream. Instead, the air passes through a very narrow gap between the articulators and causes friction (O’connor, 2007). See figure 11 for the fricative sound /s/ and figure 12 for the fricative sound /ʃ/ below:

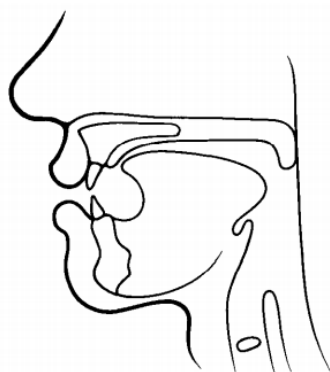


Figure 11: (Lodge, 2009, P. 32)



Figure 12: (Lodge, 2009, P. 32)

There are 9 Fricative sounds in English: 2 are labiodental, 2 dental, 2 alveolar, 2 post alveolar and one glottal sound (Roach, 2019). However, Dari Persian language has 8 fricative sounds: 1 labiodental, 2 alveolar, 2 post alveolar, 2 uvular and one glottal sound (Yamin, 2014). See Table 5 for the English and Dari Persian fricative sounds below:

TABLE 5: (DESIGNED BY ME, 2021)

Place of Articulation	Labio-dental		Dental		Alveolar		Post Alveolar		Uvular		Glottal	
Voicing	V -	V +	V -	V +	V -	V +	V -	V +	V -	V +	V -	V +
English Fricatives	f	v	θ	ð	s	z	ʃ	ʒ			h	
Persian Fricatives	f				s	z	ʃ	ʒ	χ	ʁ	h	

Table 5 shows that the sounds /f, s, z, ʃ, ʒ, h/ are similar between English and Dari Persian language. However, the sounds /v, θ, ð/ are the English fricatives which are not present in Dari Persian, and the sounds /χ/ and /ʁ/ are the Dari Persian fricatives which are not present in English language.

3. English and Dari Persian Affricates

Affricates are sounds that begin as plosives and end as fricatives (Roach, 2019). In other words, during the production of the affricate sounds, the air is stopped for a short time followed by an obstructed release which causes some friction (Yule, 2016). /tʃ/ and /dʒ/ are the only affricate sounds of the English language (Roach, 2019). Yamin (2014) has also listed /tʃ/ and /dʒ/ as the affricate sounds of Dari Persian language with the same place of articulation as in English. See Table 6 for the affricate sounds of English and Dari Persian below:

TABLE 6: (DESIGNED BY ME, 2021)

Place of Articulation	Post-alveolar	
Voicing	V -	V +
English Affricates	tʃ	dʒ
Persian Affricates	tʃ	dʒ

Table 6 indicates that the consonants /tʃ/ and /dʒ/ are exactly the same in both languages in every respect: voicing, place and manner of articulation.

4. English and Dari Persian Nasals

In the production of the nasal sounds, the soft palate is lowered and simultaneously the mouth passage is blocked at some point and the air passes through the nose. There are 3 nasal consonants in English: /m,n, ŋ/ (O’connor, 2007). However, /m/ and /n/ are the only two nasal consonants in Dari Persian language (Yamin, 2014). See Table 7 for the nasal consonants of English and Dari Persian below:

TABLE 7: (DESIGNED BY ME, 2021)

Place of Articulation	Bilabial		Alveolar		Velar	
	V -	V +	V -	V +	V -	V +
English Nasals		m		n		ŋ
Persian Nasals		m		n		

Table 7 shows that the nasals /m/ and /n/ are exactly the same sounds in terms of voicing, place and manner of articulation. However, the voiced velar nasal /ŋ/ is the only nasal consonant in English language which does not exist in Dari Persian.

#### 5. English and Dari Persian Approximants

Approximants are sounds in the articulation of which there is no complete closure in the oral cavity and the air passes through a very narrow gap between the articulators (Lodge, 2009). English language has 4 approximant consonants (Roach, 2019) so has Dari Persian (Yamin, 2014). See Table 8 for the approximant consonant sounds of English and Dari Persian below:

TABLE 8: (DESIGNED BY ME, 2021)

Place of Articulation	Bilabial		Alveolar		Post-alveolar		Palatal	
	V -	V +	V -	V +	V -	V +	V -	V +
English Approximants		w		l		r		j
Persian Approximants		w		l		r		j

Table 8 shows that all approximants in both languages are voiced and similar in terms of place of articulation.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

In this research article, the consonant sounds of English and Dari Persian language were compared in terms of voicing, place of articulation and manner of articulation to find out the differences and similarities between the consonant systems of both languages. As a result, it was found out that out of 44 sounds, 24 are consonants in English, while out of 39 sounds, 23 are consonants in Dari Persian language. The consonants of both languages contain voiced and voiceless sounds. In English, out of twenty four, 15 are voiced sounds and the rest 9 are voiceless sounds. Similarly, in Dari Persian, out of twenty three, 13 are voiced and the rest 10 are voiceless sounds.

In terms of place of articulation, English language has 4 bilabial consonants, 2 labiodental, 2 dental, 6 alveolar, 5 post alveolar, 1 palatal, 3 velar, and one glottal consonant sounds. On the contrary, Dari Persian has 4 bilabial sounds, 2 dental, one labio-dental, 4 alveolar, 5 post alveolar, one palatal, 2 velar, 3 uvular and one glottal sound. All the 4 bilabial consonants /p,b,m,w/, one voiceless labio-dental /f/, 4 alveolar /s, z, n, l/, 5 post alveolar /ʃ, ʒ, tʃ, dʒ, r/, one palatal /j/, 2 velar /k,g/, and the glottal sounds are similar between English and Dari Persian. However, the voiced fricative labiodental consonant of English /v/, 2 dental /θ, ð/ and the voiced velar nasal /ŋ/ of English do not exist in Dari Persian language. Similarly, the three uvular sounds of Dari Persian /q, χ, ʁ/ do not exist in English language sound system. In other words English language does not have any uvular sounds. In addition, the sounds /t/ and /d/ are dental plosives in Dari Persian, whereas these sounds are alveolar in English language.

In terms of manner of articulation, English has 6 plosive consonants. They are: /p, b, t, d, k, g/. Nevertheless, Dari Persian has seven plosives. They are: /p, b, t, d, k, g, q/. The two plosives /t/ and /d/ are alveolar in English language. However they are dental in Dari Persian language. Also, the voiceless uvular plosive /q/ is the only plosive which is not present in English language. See Table 4 again. Also, there are 9 fricative consonants in English and 8 in Dari Persian. The 6 fricative sounds /f, s, z, ʃ, ʒ, h/ are similar between Dari Persian and English language, while the sounds /v, θ, ð/ are the English fricatives which are not present in Dari Persian, and the sounds /χ/ and /ʁ/ are the Dari Persian fricatives which are not present in English language. See Table 5 again. Moreover, both languages have two affricates: /tʃ/ and /dʒ/ which are very similar sounds between English and Dari Persian. See Table 6 again. Furthermore, English has three nasal consonants, while Dari Persian has two. Two of the nasals /m, n/ are similar between the languages, while the voiced velar nasal /ŋ/ is the only nasal in English which is not present in Dari Persian. See Table 7 again. Also, there are four approximant sounds in each of the two languages. They are: /w,l,r,j/. All approximants in both languages are similar between English and Dari Persian. See Table 8 again.

In conclusion, it was found out that there are similarities and differences between English and Dari Persian consonant sounds, that is, 18 consonants are similar /p, b, k, g, f, s, z, ʃ, ʒ, h, tʃ, dʒ, m, n, w, l, r, j/, 2 are slightly similar /t, d/, and 7 are totally different between English and Dari Persian /v, θ, ð, ŋ, q, χ, ʁ/. In other words, the 4 consonant sounds of English /v, θ, ð, ŋ/ are not present in Dari Persian language, and the three consonant sounds of Dari Persian /q, χ, ʁ/ are not present in English language. See Table 9 for the different, slightly similar, and similar sounds between the two languages below:



TABLE 9: (DESIGNED BY ME, 2021)

Languages	Different sounds	Slightly Similar sounds	Similar sounds
English	v, θ, ð, ŋ	t, d	p, b, k, g, f, s, z, ʃ, h, tʃ, dʒ, m, n, w, l, r, j
Dari Persian	q, x, k		
Total	7	2	18

The detailed description for each of the 7 different consonants is given in the following table:

TABLE 10: (DESIGNED BY ME, 2021)

English and Dari Persian Different sounds			
	sounds	Description	Total
English	/v/	voiced labiodental fricative	4
	/θ/	voiceless dental fricative	
	/ð/	voiced dental fricative	
	/ŋ/	voiced velar nasal	
Dari Persian	/q/	voiceless uvular plosive	3
	/x/	voiceless uvular fricative	
	/k/	voiced uvular fricative	

V. SUGGESTIONS

This research article which shows the similarities and differences between the consonant sounds of English and Dari Persian, makes the following suggestions:

- During pronunciation instructions, teachers of both languages are suggested to focus more on the sounds which are either very different or not present in the second or foreign language.
- Teachers of both languages can adapt the text books’ pronunciation exercises based on the findings of this research article. That is, the sounds which are different from the ones in the second language should be considered and practiced more.
- Similar research is required to be conducted comparing the sounds of English and other national and official languages of Afghanistan.
- Another research needs to be done on the problems of pronouncing English vowels and/or consonant sounds by afghan speakers of English as foreign language.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank the conscientious and kind-hearted guide, Professor Zubair Omary (English lecturer in Rabani Education University of Afghanistan), without whose support and friendliness this research would have not been possible to be conducted successfully. I appreciate him for his guidance, insistence on perfection and his immense patience with my constant questioning during conducting this research article. I wish him all the best.

REFERENCES

[1] Crystal, D. (2008). *A dictionary of linguistics and phonetics*. New York: Black Will Publishing.  
 [2] Karlita. (2012). *Learning English: Simi-vowels (glide)*, Retrieved October 05, 2021, from <http://karlita2012pedagogiangles.blogspot.com>.  
 [3] Lodge, K. (2009). *A critical introduction to phonetics*. London. MPG Books Group.  
 [4] O’connor, J.D. (2007). *Better English pronunciation*. Hyderabad: Replica Press Pvt. Ltd.  
 [5] Roach, P. (2019). *English phonetics and phonology: A practical course* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). Delhi: Cambridge University Press.  
 [6] S il ik çü, Y. (2018). Determination of the Turkish language sounds that Arabic native speaker students experience problems with and proposed. *Journal of Education and Training Studies*. V.6 (11), p. 223-233.  
 [7] Usmanyar. M. (2020). A comparative study of Dari Persian and English language pure vowel sounds. *International Journal of Advanced Academic Studies*. V.2 (3), p. 345-349.  
 [8] Yamin, M.H. (2014). *Dastoor e Moaser e Parsi e Dari*. Kabul: Maiwand Publishers.  
 [9] Yule, George. (2016). *The study of language* (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). New York: Cambridge University Press.



**Mahmood Usmanyar** was born in Kabul Afghanistan in January 1986 and educated at Mirwais Hotak High School in Peshawar Pakistan and completed his Bachelor’s in Language and Literature Faculty of Kabul Education University in 2007. He then pursued Master’s degree in English (Linguistics) with specialization on phonetics and spoken English at the EFL University of Hyderabad, India in 2010.

He worked as the Education Program Manager with Solidarity Afghanistan Belgique (the international NGO) in 2011. And, from 2014-2016, he worked as Faculty member in English Department of the National Institute of Management and Administration, ACBSP accredited of the United States. He also completed a one-year Diploma course in teacher training from the World Learning of the United States in 2020 which is internationally recognized. He currently works as Assistant Professor in the Departments of Foreign

Languages of the Kabul Polytechnic University, Kabul, Afghanistan.

Mr. Usmanyar has presented several conferences in Kabul University of Afghanistan, delivered several workshops for school language teachers, published several scientific articles in international journals and is keen on publishing more scientific and research articles in the world's most popular international journals.