

A5. Phonological Theories

Aim: revise basic theoretical approaches and how they explain sound systems, rules, and contrasts.

Activity 1. Theory comparison table.

Theory / approach	Main idea	Simple example
Structural phonology		
Generative phonology		
Functional phonology		
Autosegmental / prosodic view		

Activity 2. Match theory words.

Term	Meaning
Opposition	
Distinctive feature	
Rule	
Underlying form	
Surface form	

Activity 3. Rule practice.

Observation	Possible phonological rule
/p, t, k/ are aspirated in pin, top, key	
Plural -s is /s/ in cats but /z/ in dogs	
Past -ed is /t/ in worked but /d/ in played	

Activity 4. Theory presentation card.

Choose one approach. Prepare a 2-minute explanation: What does it focus on? What is one strength? What English example can show it?
