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Jakobsonian (*adj.*) Characteristic of, or a follower of, the linguistic principles of the American LINGUIST Roman Jakobson (1896–1983), a principal founder of the PRAGUE SCHOOL, and a major influence on contemporary linguistics. Two terms in particular are associated with his name, ‘Jakobsonian DISTINCTIVE FEATURE theory’ refers to the use he and other scholars made of the notion of distinctive feature in the mid-1950s, in which features are defined primarily in ACOUSTIC terms. In this dictionary, the main reference to this approach is cited as ‘Jakobson and Halle’ (i.e. R. Jakobson and M. Halle, *Fundamentals of Language* (1956)). In LANGUAGE ACQUISITION, the **Jakobsonian hypothesis** concerns the order in which he predicted OPPOSITIONS between sounds would appear (and also be lost, in cases of language breakdown).

jaw setting In PHONETICS, a term used in the classification of the characteristic jaw (or mandible) positions adopted during speech. In a neutral jaw position, a small vertical gap is just visible between the biting surfaces of the upper and lower teeth. In various degrees of ‘close’ jaw settings, this gap disappears, until one reaches clenched teeth; in ‘open’ jaw settings, several degrees of opening are possible.

jers (*n.*) see YERS

JND see JUST NOTICEABLE DIFFERENCE

junction (*n.*) see NEXUS (1)

junction (*n.*) (1) A term used in PHONOLOGY to refer to the PHONETIC boundary features which may demarcate GRAMMATICAL UNITS such as MORPHEME, WORD or CLAUSE. The most obvious **junctional** feature is silence, but in CONNECTED SPEECH this feature is not as common as the use of various MODIFICATIONS to the beginnings and endings of grammatical units. Word division, for example, can be signalled by a complex of PITCH, STRESS, LENGTH and other features, as in the potential contrast between *that stuff* and *that’s tough*. In a SEGMENTAL phonological TRANSCRIPTION, these appear identical, /ðætstʌf/, but there are several phonetic modifications which can differentiate them in speech. In *that stuff* the

/s/ is strongly ARTICULATED and the /t/ is unaspirated, whereas in *that's tough* the /s/ is relatively weak and the /t/ is ASPIRATED. In rapid speech such distinctions may disappear: they are only potentially CONTRASTIVE.

There have been several attempts to establish a typology of junctures. A commonly used distinction is between **open** or **plus** juncture (the features used at a word boundary, before silence), as illustrated in the above example (usually transcribed with a plus sign <+>), and **close** juncture (referring to the normal TRANSITIONS between sounds within a word). To handle the special cases of an open transition within a word, as in *co-opt*, the notion of **internal open juncture** may be used. A more general distinction sometimes used to handle these possibilities is that between 'open' and 'close' transition.

In some American analyses of the INTONATION patterns of larger grammatical units than the word, several types of juncture are distinguished: **single-bar** or **sustained juncture** is recognized when the pitch pattern stays level within an UTTERANCE (transcribed with a single forward slash </> or a level arrow <→>); **double-bar** or **rising juncture** is recognized when the pitch pattern rises before a silence (transcribed with a double slash <>//> or a rising arrow <↑>); a **terminal, double-cross, falling, or fading** juncture is recognized when the pitch pattern falls before a silence (transcribed with a double cross <#> or a falling arrow <↓>).

(2) **Juncture** is used in ROLE AND REFERENCE GRAMMAR to describe that part of the grammar which deals with how sub-CLAUSAL units combine. It is seen in association with a theory of NEXUS – the type of SYNTACTIC relationship which obtains between the units in the juncture.

jussive (*adj./n.*) A term sometimes used in the GRAMMATICAL analysis of VERBS, to refer to a type of MOOD often equated with an IMPERATIVE (*leave!*), but in some languages needing to be distinguished from it. For example, in Amharic, a jussive paradigm is used for wishes ('May God give you strength'), greetings, and certain other contexts, and this is formally distinct from the imperative.

just noticeable difference (JND) A term from psychophysics, referring to the minimal change along some physical dimension (such as FREQUENCY or INTENSITY) which needs to take place before a listener can perceive that something has happened.