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### **SOME SHIFTS IN THE SYSTEM OF BRITISH VOWELS**

#### **Abstract**

The article is focused upon formant structure of British monophthongs; the study is aimed at getting modern and objective data that would specify their place in RP vowels' classification. The article discusses some facts concerning RP history, different ways of British vowels classification. In the paper we present the results of instrumental analysis of stressed vowels of British political speeches. The results of the study are compared to the ones obtained by A. Cruttenden. Comparative analysis of monophthongs' formant structure shows certain differences in the degree of vowels' opening and their advancement / retraction that in their turn indicate the shift of vowels within the system.

**Keywords:** British vowel system, stressed monophthongs, instrumental study, mean formant values (F1, F2).