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English Phonetics: A Study Guide to Segmental and Suprasegmental Levels

Chernivtsi
2026

УДК 811.111’342 (075.8)
К 937

Друкується за ухвалою методичної комісії
кафедри англійської мови Чернівецького національного університету
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К 937 Англійська фонетика: сегментний та суперсегментний рівні навч. посіб. / Укладачі: Суродейкіна Т. В., Довгопола А. С., Ліннікова В. О. Чернівці, 2026. 164 с.

Практичний посібник висвітлює питання основних розділів курсу практичної фонетики сучасної англійської мови. Його мета – ознайомити студентів з основними особливостями артикуляції окремих фонем, вживання різних типів інтонації в смислових групах у реченні, а також дати можливість студентам закріпити теоретичні знання за допомогою практичних завдань. Всі матеріали викладені англійською мовою.

Посібник призначений для студентів першого курсу факультету іноземних мов, які вивчають англійську мову як першу іноземну, а також усіх, хто цікавиться вивченням фонетики.

УДК 811.111’342 (075.8)

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Папір офсетний. Формат 60х84/16.
Ум. друк. арк. 9,54. Тираж 135 прим.

CONTENTS

FUNDAMENTALS OF SEGMENTAL PHONETICS ……. 5
PART 1 ……... 6
CHAPTER 1. ENGLISH PHONETICS: SCIENCE, SOUNDS AND ARTICULATION …….. 6
CHAPTER 2. TRANSCRIPTION …… 10
CHAPTER 3. TRANSLITERATION …… 14
PART 2 …….. 20
CHAPTER 1. CLASSIFICATION OF VOWELS …… 20
MONOPHTHONGS PRONUNCIATION PRACTICE …… 24
1.1. /ɪ/ - /iː/ 25
…… 28
1.2. /ʊ/ - /uː/ 31
…… 36
1.3. /e/ - /ɜː/ - /æ/ - /ə/ 39
…….. 42
1.4. /ɒ/ - /ɔː/ 43
…….. 45
1.5. /ʌ/ - /ɑː/ …….. 47
DIPHTHONGS PRONUNCIATION PRACTICE …….. 49
2.1. /eɪ/ - /ɔɪ/ - /aɪ/ ……. 49
2.2. /eə/ - /ɪə/ - /ʊə/ …… 52
2.3. /aʊ/ - /əʊ/ …… 53
PART 3 ……... 55
CHAPTER 1. CLASSIFICATION OF CONSONANT SOUNDS …… 57
CONSONANT SOUNDS PRONUNCIATION PRACTICE …… 59
3.1. /p/ - /b/ …… 62
3.2. /t/ - /d/ …… 65
3.3. /k/ - /g/ …… 67
3.4. /f/ - /v/ - /w/ …… 69
3.5. /l/ - /m/ - /n/ - /ŋ/ …… 71
3.6. /ʃ/ - /ʒ/ …… 73
3.7. /ʧ/ - /ʤ/ …….. 76
3.8. /s/ - /z/ …… 78
3.9. /θ/ - /ð/ …… 82
3.10. /h/ - /r/ - /j/ …… 84
TONGUE TWISTERS …….. 91
COMMON PRONUNCIATION RULES ……. 92
TRAINING TESTS I ……. 94
REPRESENTATION OF ENGLISH SOUNDS …… 95
DICTIONARIES …… 96
GLOSSARY I ……. 97
EXAM QUESTIONS I ……... 97

INDIVIDUAL TASK I ……. 102
FUNDAMENTALS OF SUPRASEGMENTAL PHONETICS ……. 107
PART 4 ……... 110
CHAPTER 1. WORD STRESS ……. 114
1.1.POLYSYLLABIC WORDS …… 117
1.2. COMPOUND WORDS …….. 120
1.3. NOUN/VERB PAIRS ……. 123
1.4.PHRASAL VERBS ……. 127
CHAPTER 2. SENTENCE STRESS …….. 130
CHAPTER 3. INTONATION …… 134
CHAPTER 4. RHYTHM …… 134
CHAPTER 5. PAUSATION ……... 136
CHAPTER 6. LOGICAL STRESS …… 138
CHAPTER 7. FALLING INTONATION PATTERNS ……. 140
7.1. Intonation of Statements …… 141
7.2. Intonation of Wh-questions ……... 143
7.3. Intonation of Imperatives ……... 145
CHAPTER 8. RISING INTONATION PATTERNS ……. 148
8.1. Intonation of yes/no Questions …….. 148
8.2. Intonation of Polite Requests …… 151
8.3. Intonation of Enumeration …… 153
CHAPTER 9. FALLING — RISING INTONATION PATTERNS ……. 155
9.1. Intonation of Disjunctive Questions …….. 158
9.2. Intonation of Alternative Questions …….. 159
9.3. Intonation of Exclamations …… 160
9.4. Intonation of Direct Address ……. 162
EXAM QUESTIONS II ……. 163
GLOSSARY II …… 164
TRAINING TESTS II …….
LIST OF LITERATURE USED …….
APPENDIX …….
PAIR REVIEW CHECKLIST ……

I

FUNDAMENTALS OF SEGMENTAL PHONETICS

PART 1
CHAPTER 1.
ENGLISH PHONETICS: SCIENCE, SOUNDS AND ARTICULATION

Overview:

- Phonetics as a branch of Linguistics.
- Branches and levels of Phonetics.
- Sounds and phonemes.
- Vowels, consonants and sonorants.
- The organs of speech and their functions.
- Articulation and articulation basis.
- Accent and pronunciation variation.

Key terms: phonetics, speech sound, phoneme, segmental phonetics, suprasegmental phonetics, vowel, consonant, sonorant, speaking apparatus, active organs of speech, passive organs of speech, articulation, articulation basis, accent.

Read and study the theoretical material carefully. Translate any unfamiliar words and expressions and check the pronunciation of unfamiliar words using a reliable dictionary. Check your understanding of the material by answering the questions that follow the text, and complete the exercises and tasks provided after the theoretical material.

1.1. Phonetics and the Sound System of English

Phonetics is an independent branch of Linguistics which studies the sound matter of language, its semantic functions and the ways of its development. As a scientific discipline, phonetics began to develop actively in the 19th century. Phonetics examines speech sounds from different points of view, including their production, physical characteristics and function in communication.

Three main branches of phonetics are traditionally distinguished: articulatory, acoustic and auditory phonetics. Articulatory phonetics studies how speech sounds are produced by the organs of speech. Acoustic phonetics deals with the physical properties of speech sounds, such as frequency, intensity and duration. Auditory phonetics studies how speech sounds are perceived and interpreted by the listener.

Phonetics can also be considered at two interconnected levels: segmental and suprasegmental. Segmental phonetics deals with individual speech sounds and their combinations, including vowels, consonants and phonemes. Suprasegmental phonetics studies phonetic features which extend over individual sounds or groups of sounds. These features include stress, rhythm, intonation, pitch, tempo and pauses. Suprasegmental features play an important role in organizing speech and conveying meaning, emphasis and the speaker's attitude. Thus, effective English pronunciation requires attention not only to individual sounds but also to the way these sounds are combined and organized in connected speech.

Speech sounds are organized into language units called phonemes. A phoneme is the smallest distinctive unit of a language which can differentiate one word from another or one grammatical form of a word from another. For example, changing one phoneme in a word may result in a completely different word.

The English sound system consists of vowels and consonants. Modern English has 20 vowel sounds and 24 consonant sounds. A vowel is a voiced speech sound produced when the air stream passes through the mouth without significant obstruction. Vowels are characterized mainly by the position of the tongue, the shape of the lips and the degree of openness of the mouth. They are generally described as sounds in which musical tone predominates.

Consonants are produced when the air stream meets a complete or partial obstruction in the vocal tract. Depending on their articulation and acoustic characteristics, consonants may be divided into noise consonants and sonorants. In sonorants, tone predominates over noise.

1.2. The Organs of Speech and Their Functions

To understand how speech sounds are produced and why their pronunciation differs, it is necessary to know the structure and functions of the human speaking apparatus. The speaking apparatus consists of a number of organs which participate in the production of speech sounds.

The main organs of speech include the upper and lower lips, the upper and lower teeth, the tongue, the palate, the upper and lower jaws, the pharynx, the larynx, the vocal cords, the trachea, and the oral and nasal cavities.

The palate, or the roof of the mouth, consists of several parts. These are the alveolar ridge, which is situated behind the upper teeth, the hard palate, the soft palate, and the uvula, which forms the end of the soft palate. Different parts of the palate serve as points of contact or approximation for the tongue during the articulation of speech sounds.

The tongue is one of the most important organs of speech and the most mobile one. It is traditionally divided into the tip, blade, front, back and root. Different parts of the tongue participate in the production of different consonants and vowels.

The organs of speech are traditionally divided into active and passive organs. Active organs are movable and take an active part in the production of speech sounds. They include the vocal cords, tongue, soft palate with the uvula, lips and lower jaw. The tongue is the most mobile and versatile organ of speech.

Passive organs are relatively fixed and provide points of contact or approximation for active organs. They include the upper teeth, alveolar ridge, hard palate and upper jaw. The interaction between active and passive organs determines many of the articulatory characteristics of consonants.

Speech production begins when air exhaled from the lungs passes through the bronchi and the trachea and reaches the larynx. The vocal cords are located in the larynx, and the space between them is called the glottis. When the vocal cords are brought close together and the air stream makes them vibrate, voice is produced.

When the vocal cords are apart, the air passes through the glottis without causing vibration, and voiceless sounds are produced.

The soft palate also plays an important role in speech production. When it is raised, it can block the passage to the nasal cavity, directing the air stream through the mouth. When it is lowered, air can pass through the nasal cavity, which is essential for the production of nasal sounds such as /m/, /n/ and /ŋ/.

The work of the speech organs necessary for producing a particular speech sound is called articulation. Articulation involves the coordinated movement and positioning of the speech organs. Different languages have their own characteristic ways of using the organs of speech.

The habitual and relatively stable manner of producing the sounds of a particular language is called its articulation basis. The articulation basis of English differs in certain respects from that of other languages. These differences may influence the pronunciation of learners whose native language has a different articulation basis. Knowledge of the English articulation basis therefore helps learners develop more accurate pronunciation.

Another important concept in phonetics is accent. Accent refers to the characteristic way in which a person or group of speakers pronounces a language. It may be influenced by geographical region, social background, age, individual speech habits or the speaker's native language. A foreign accent occurs when a speaker's pronunciation reflects the phonetic and phonological patterns of another language. Accent is a natural feature of language variation and should be distinguished from individual pronunciation errors.

Understanding the organs of speech, the English sound system and the principles of articulation provides a necessary foundation for further study of English pronunciation. It enables learners to understand not only how individual sounds are produced but also how they function and interact in connected speech.

Self-Check Questions

- What is Phonetics and what does it study?
- What are the main branches of Phonetics?
- What does articulatory phonetics study?
- What is the difference between acoustic and auditory phonetics?
- What is meant by the segmental level of Phonetics?
- What is meant by the suprasegmental level of Phonetics?
- What is a phoneme and what is its main function?
- How many vowel and consonant sounds are there in English?
- How do vowels and consonants differ in their articulation?
- What is a speaking apparatus?
- What are the main organs of speech?
- How are the organs of speech classified?
- What is the difference between active and passive organs of speech?
- What is the role of the vocal cords in sound production?
- What is the glottis?

- What is articulation?
- What is the articulation basis of a language?
- What factors may influence a speaker's accent?
- What is the difference between accent and pronunciation error?
- Why is knowledge of the organs of speech important for learning English pronunciation?

Tasks

1. Sum up the chapter using the key terms.
2. Draw a scheme of the English Sound System and show its main components.

TRAINING TESTS I

1. There are _____ letters and _____ sounds in English.
a) 25; 32 b) 26; 44 c) 23; 41 d) 18; 27

2. There are _____ sonorants in English.
a) 9 b) 5 c) 7 d)12

3. The letters that are not pronounced, read, but are written according to the traditional spelling are called _____.
a) mute b) deaf c) blind d) dead

4. The ending –s is read /iz/ in _____.
a) flowers b) benches c) books d) dolls

5. The term which is used to denote names of different institutions is _____.
a) toponym b) theonym c) anthroponym d) ergonym

6. English diphthongoids are:
a) /i:/, /u:/ b) /ʊ/, /i:/ c) /ɑ:/, /aʊ/ d) /ɔ:/, /ʌ/

7. Which sound is NOT fricative?
a) θ / b) /z/, c) / ʒ / d) /r/

8. Combination oo is read differently word in the word
a) book b) cook c) blood d) look

9. According to the work of the vocal cords consonants are divided into:
a) voiced, voiceless b) tense, lax c) labial; bilabial
d) plosives, stops

10. English nasal consonant sounds are:
a) /k/, /n/, /p/ b) /ʒ/, /l/, /n/ c) /m/, /n/, /ŋ/ d) /d/, /r/, /t/

11. IPA stands for
a) International Phoneticians Association
b) International Phonetic Alphabet
c) International Phonological Articulation
d) International Phonemic Allophone

12. The only sound in English with its own name is:
a) /ə/ b) /ʒ/ c) /r/ d) /s/

13. The vowel /ɜ:/ may be defined as

a) central, mid-open, unrounded, long and tense.
b) central, high, rounded, long and tense.
c) front, mid-open, unrounded, short and lax.
d) back-advanced, mid-open, labialized, long and lax.

14. The English /f/ may be defined as:
a) a labial constrictive-occlusive fricative voiceless consonant phoneme.
b) a labio-dental occlusive fricative voiced consonant phoneme.
c) a labio-dental constrictive fricative voiceless consonant phoneme.
d) a labial constrictive sonorant voiceless consonant phoneme.

15. The English /ʃ/ may be defined as:
a) a glottal dental apical fricative voiceless consonant.
b) a forelingual post-alveolar apical sonorant voiced consonant.
c) a bilabial palato-alveolar apical fricative voiceless consonant.
d) a forelingual palato-alveolar apical fricative voiceless consonant.

REPRESENTATION OF ENGLISH SOUNDS

Monophthongs

#	Sound	Letters	Examples
1.	/iː/	e	He /hiː/, She /ʃiː/
		ee	See /siː/, Tree /triː/
		i (before a silent 'e')	Machine /məˈʃiːn/ Police /pəˈliːs/
		i in certain contexts	Taxi /ˈtæksiː/, Fiji /ˈfiːdʒiː/
		ea	Sea /siː/, Tea /tiː/
		ie	Field /fiːld/, Believe /bɪˈliːv/
		y (at the end of a word)	Happy /ˈhæpiː/, City /ˈsɪtiː/
		ei	Receive /rɪˈsiːv/, Seize /siːz/
2.	/ɪ/	i	Sit /sɪt/, Fish /fɪʃ/
		y (in certain contexts)	Gym /dʒɪm/, Hymn /hɪm
		ui	Build /bɪld/, Guilt /gɪlt/
		ee	Been /bɪn/, Pretty /ˈprɪti/
		e	English /ˈɪŋglɪʃ/, Women /ˈwɪmɪn/
3.	/e/ or /ɛ/	e	Bed /bed/, Pen /pen/
		ea	Bread /bred/, Head /hed/
		ai	Said /sed/
		a	Many /ˈmeni/, Any /ˈeni/
		ie	Friend /frend/
4.	/æ/	a	Cat /kæt/, Bat /bæt/
		Borrowed words where 'a' represents /æ/:	Matzah /ˈmæt.sə/ (a borrowing from Hebrew), Plaza /ˈplæzə/ (a borrowing from Spanish)

5.	/ɜː/	er	Her /hɜːr/, Term /tɜːrm/
		ur	Burn /bɜːrn/, Turn /tɜːrn/
		ir	Bird /bɜːrd/, First /fɜːrst/
		or	Word /wɜːrd/, Work /wɜːrk/
		ear	Learn /lɜːrn/, Earth /ɜːrθ/
6.	/ə/	any vowel letter in unstressed position	About /əˈbaʊt/, Sister /ˈsɪstər/, Cousin /ˈkʌzən/, Support /səˈpɔːrt/, Autumn /ˈɔːtəm/
7.	/ʊ/	u	Put /pʊt/, Pull /pʊl/
		oo	Good /gʊd/, Book /bʊk/
		o	Wolf /wʊlf/ Woman /ˈwʊmən/
		ou	Could /kʊd/, Should /ʃʊd/
8.	/uː/	oo	Food /fuːd/, Moon /muːn/
		u	Flute /fluːt/, June /dʒuːn/
		o	Who /huː/, Lose /luːz/
		ou	You /juː/, Group /gruːp/
		ue' (at the end of words):	True /truː/, Blue /bluː/
9.	/ɑː/	a	Car /kɑːr/, Star /stɑːr/
		ar	Hard /hɑːrd/, Park /pɑːrk/
		au	Father /ˈfɑːðər/, Calm /kɑːm/
		al	Palm /pɑːm/, Half /hɑːf/
		Borrowed words	Bizarre /bɪˈzɑːr/
10.	/ʌ/	u	Cup /kʌp/, Sun /sʌn/
		o' (in some words):	Love /lʌv/, Other /ˈʌðər/
		ou' (in specific contexts):	Country /ˈkʌntri/, Cousin /ˈkʌzən/

		oo	Blood /blʌd/, Flood /flʌd/
11.	/ɒ/	o	Pot /pɒt/, Hot /hɒt/
		a	Want /wɒnt/, What /wɒt/
		au	Laurel /ˈlɒrəl/
12.	/ɔ:/	o	Port /pɔ:rt/, Short /ʃɔ:rt/
		a	All /ɔ:l/, Talk /tɔ:k/
		aw	Saw /sɔ:/, Law /lɔ:/
		au	Caught /kɔ:t/, Author /ˈɔ:θər
		ough	Bought /bɔ:t/, Thought /θɔ:t/

Diphthongs

#	Sound	Letters	Examples
1.	/eɪ/	a	Day /deɪ/, Say /seɪ/
		ai	Rain /reɪn/, Paint /peɪnt/
		ay	Play /pleɪ/, Stay /steɪ/
		ea	Great /greɪt/, Steak /steɪk/
		ei	Vein /veɪn/, Rein /reɪn/
		e' (in specific contexts):	Café /ˈkæfeɪ/
2.	/aɪ/	i	Fine /faɪn/, Time /taɪm/
		ai	Thai /taɪ/
		ie	Pie /paɪ/, Lie /laɪ/
		igh	High /haɪ/, Light /laɪt/
		y' (at the end of words):	My /maɪ/, Sky /skaɪ/
		uy	Buy /baɪ/, Guy /gaɪ/

		eye	Eye /aɪ/, Eyebrow /ˈaɪbraʊ/
3.	/ɔɪ/	oi	Coin /kɔɪn/, Boil /bɔɪl/
		oy	Boy /bɔɪ/, Toy /tɔɪ/
4.	/aʊ/	ou	House /haʊs/, Mouse /maʊs/
		ow	Cow /kaʊ/, Now /naʊ/
5.	/əʊ/	o	Go /gəʊ/, No /nəʊ/
		oa	Boat /bəʊt/, Road /rəʊd/
		oe	Toe /təʊ/, Joe /dʒəʊ/
		ou	Soul /səʊl/, Shoulder /ˈʃəʊldər/
6.	/ɪə/	ear	Hear /hɪə/, Ear /ɪə/
		eer	Career /kəˈrɪə/, Engineer /ˌɛn.dʒɪˈnɪə/
		ier	Pier /pɪə/, Tier /tɪə/
7.	/eə/	air	Air /eə/, Fair /feə/
		are	Care /keə/, Dare /deə/
		ear	Bear /beə/, Pear /peə/
8.	/ʊə/	our	Tour /tʊə/, Four /fʊə/ (in some accents)
		ure	Cure /kjʊə/, Pure /pjʊə/

Consonant Sounds

#	Sound	Letters	Examples
1.	/p/	p	Pat /pæt/, Top /tɒp/
		pp	Happen /ˈhæpən/, Apple /ˈæpl/
2.	/b/	b	Bat /bæt/, Cab /kæb/

		bb	Rabbit /ˈræbɪt/, Bubble /ˈbʌbl/
3.	/t/	t	Top /tɒp/, Cat /kæt/
		tt	Better /ˈbɛtər/, Letter /ˈlɛtər/
		th' (in specific borrowed words):	Thomas /ˈtɒməs/ (a borrowing from Greek), Thames /tɛmz/ (a borrowing from Celtic)
4.	/d/	d	Dog /dɒg/, Red /rɛd/
		dd	Added /ˈædɪd/, Ladder /ˈlædər/
5.	/k/	c	Cat /kæt/, Car /kɑːr/
		k	Kit /kɪt/, Skate /skeɪt/
		ck	Back /bæk/, Check /ʧek/
		qu	Queen /kwiːn/, Quick /kwɪk/
6.	/g/	g	Go /gəʊ/, Bag /bæg/
		gg	Aggressive /əˈgrɛsɪv/, Bigger /ˈbɪgər/
7.	/f/	f	Fish /fɪʃ/, Fit /fɪt/
		ff	Coffee /ˈkɒfi/, Effort /ˈɛfərt/
		ph	Phone /fəʊn/, Graph /græf/
		gh	Laugh /læf/, Cough /kɒf/
8.	/v/	v	Van /væn/, Victory /ˈvɪktəri/
		vv	Havvah (a variation of "Eve" in some transliterations)
9.	/θ/	th	Think /θɪŋk/, Bath /bæθ/
10.	/ð/	th	This /ðɪs/, Father /ˈfɑːðər/
11.	/s/	s	See /siː/, Sun /sʌn/
		ss	Miss /mɪs/, Boss /bɒs/

		sc	Scene /siːn/, Science /ˈsaɪəns/
		ps	Psychology /saɪˈkɒlədʒi/. Pseudonym /ˈsuːdənɪm/
12.	/z/	z	Zoo /zuː/, Zero /ˈzɪəroʊ/
		zz	Fizz /fɪz/, Buzz /bʌz/
		s	Rose /roʊz/, Horses /ˈhɔːrsɪz/
		ss	Dessert /dɪˈzɜːrt/, Possess /pəˈzɛs/

		x	Xylophone /ˈzaɪləfəʊn/, Xenon /ˈzɛnɒn/
13.	/ʃ/	sh	She /ʃiː/, Fish /fɪʃ/
		ch	Chef /ʃɛf/ , Machine /məˈʃiːn/
		ss	Mission /ˈmɪʃən/, Passion /ˈpæʃən/
		s	Sure /ʃʊər/, Sugar /ˈʃʊgər/
		sch	Schwa /ʃwɑː/
14.	/ʒ/	si	Vision /ˈvɪʒən/, Asia /ˈeɪʒə/
		s	Measure /ˈmeʒər/, Leisure /ˈlɛʒər/
		ge	Garage /gəˈrɑːʒ/, Massage /məˈsɑːʒ/
15.	/h/	h	Hat /hæt/, Hot /hɒt/
		j	Jalapeno /ˌhæləˈpeɪnjoʊ/
16.	/m/	m	Man /mæn/, Moon /muːn/
		mm	Summer /ˈsʌmər/, Hammer /ˈhæmər/
17.	/n/	n	No /nəʊ/, Sun /sʌn/

		nn	Dinner /ˈdɪnər/, Banner /ˈbænər/
18.	/ŋ/	ng	Sing /sɪŋ/, Song /sɒŋ/
		nk	Think /θɪŋk/, Bank /bæŋk/
19.	/l/	l	Let /lɛt/, Lip /lɪp/
		ll	Bell /bɛl/, Hello /hɛˈloʊ/
20.	/r/	r	Red /rɛd/, Car /kɑːr/
		rr	Arrow /ˈæroʊ/, Berry /ˈbɛri/
21.	/j/	y	Yes /jɛs/, Yellow /ˈjɛloʊ/
		j	Hallelujah /ˌhælәˈluːjə/
22.	/w/	w	Wet /wɛt/, Window /ˈwɪndoʊ/
		wh	What /wɒt/, Why /waɪ/
23.	/tʃ/	ch	Chop /tʃɒp/, Chair /tʃɛər/
		tch':	Watch /wɒtʃ/, Match /mætʃ/
		cc	Cappuccino /ˌkæpʊˈtʃiːnoʊ/
24.	/dʒ/	j	Judge /dʒʌdʒ/, Jump /dʒʌmp/
		dge	Edge /ɛdʒ/, Bridge /brɪdʒ/
		g	Giraffe /dʒɪˈræf/

DICTIONARIES

Here you can find links for well-known dictionaries.

Use them to check your pronunciation and improve it.

Oxford English Dictionary (OED) **British English**	**Collins English Dictionary** **British English**
Cambridge Dictionary **British and American English**	**Merriam-Webster Dictionary** **American English**

GLOSSARY I

Accent − A particular way of pronouncing a language, typical of a person, region, or social group.

Active organs of speech − The speech organs that move during articulation, such as the tongue, lips, and lower jaw.

Anthroponym − A proper name of a person, including a first name, surname, or nickname.

Articulation − The movement and positioning of the speech organs to produce speech sounds.

Articulation basis − The typical position and movement of the speech organs used by speakers of a particular language to produce its sounds.

Consonant − A speech sound produced with a complete or partial obstruction of the airflow.

Diphthong − A vowel sound that changes from one vowel quality to another within one syllable.

Diphthongoid − A vowel sound that is mainly a monophthong but has a slight movement towards another vowel quality.

Ergonym − A proper name of an organization, institution, company, business, or other establishment.

Glide − The second, less prominent part of a diphthong, which moves towards or away from the nucleus.

IPA − The International Phonetic Alphabet, a system of symbols used to represent speech sounds accurately.

Monophthong − A vowel sound pronounced with a relatively stable tongue and lip position throughout its articulation.

Nucleus − The central and most prominent part of a syllable or diphthong; in a diphthong, it is usually the stronger vowel element.

Passive organs of speech − The speech organs that remain relatively still and provide a place of articulation, such as the teeth, alveolar ridge, and hard palate.

Phoneme − The smallest distinctive unit of sound in a language that can distinguish one word from another.

Phonetics − The branch of linguistics that studies speech sounds, their production, transmission, and perception.

Segmental phonetics − The branch of phonetics that studies individual speech sounds, such as vowels and consonants.

Sonorant − A speech sound produced with relatively free airflow and greater resonance than obstruent consonants, e.g. /m/, /n/, /l/, /r/, and /j/.

Speaking apparatus − The group of organs involved in producing speech sounds, including the lungs, vocal cords, tongue, lips, teeth, and palate.

Speech sound − A sound produced by the human speech organs and used in spoken language.

Suprasegmental phonetics − The branch of phonetics that studies features extending over individual sounds, such as stress, rhythm, intonation, and tone.

Theonym − A proper name of a deity, god, goddess, or other divine being.

Toponym − A proper name of a geographical place, such as a city, country, river, or mountain.

Transcription − A system of writing speech sounds using special symbols to show their pronunciation.

Transliteration − The representation of the letters of one writing system by the letters of another writing system.

Transliteration standard − An officially established set of rules for representing letters from one writing system in another.

Vowel sound − A voiced speech sound produced with relatively free airflow and without significant obstruction in the vocal tract.

EXAM QUESTIONS I

I Semester

1. Phonetics. Its subjects and objects
2. Branches of Phonetics
3. Sounds and Phonemes
4. Vowels and Consonants
5. Anatomy of speaking apparatus
6. Classification of the organs of speech
7. Pronunciation of the article ‘THE’ and endings
8. “Mute” Letters
9. Linking Sounds in English
10. Twin consonants
11. Transcription
12. Transliteration
13. Classification of vowel sounds according to the position of the tongue
14. Classification of vowel sounds according to the length of the vowels
15. Classification of vowel sounds according to the position of the lips
16. Classification of vowel sounds according to the degree of tenseness.
17. Classification of diphthongs according to the movement of the tongue
18. Classification of diphthongs according to the comparative importance of the elements
19. Classification of consonant sounds according to the active organs of speech which form the obstruction and according to the place of obstruction
20. Classification of consonant sounds according to the manner of the production of noise and according to the type of obstruction
21. Classification of consonant sounds according to the work of the vocal cords
22. Classification of consonant sounds according to the position of the soft palate
23. Characteristics of vowel sounds
24. Characteristics of consonant sounds.

INDIVIDUAL TASK I

PRONUNCIATION POEM

Here is some pronunciation.
Ration never rhymes with nation,
Say prefer, but preferable,
Comfortable and vegetable.

B must not be heard in doubt,
Debt and dumb both leave it out.
In the words psychology,
Psychic, and psychiatry,
You must never sound the p.

Psychiatrist you call the man
Who cures the complex, if he can.
In architect, chi is k.
In arch it is the other way.
Please remember to say iron
So that it'll rhyme with lion.

Advertisers advertise,
Advertisements will put you wise.
Time when work is done is leisure,
Fill it up with useful pleasure.
Accidental, accident,
Sound the g in ignorant.

Relative, but relation,
Then say creature, but creation.
Say the a in gas quite short,
Bought remember rhymes with thwart,
Drought must always rhyme with bout,
In daughter leave the gh out.

Wear a boot upon your foot.
Root can never rhyme with soot.
In muscle, sc is s,
In muscular, it's sk, yes!
Choir must always rhyme with wire,
That again will rhyme with liar.

Then remember it's address.
With an accent like posses.
G in sign must silent be,
In signature, pronounce the g.
Please remember, say towards
Just as if it rhymed with boards.

Weight's like wait, but not like height.
Which should always rhyme with might.
Sew is just the same as so,
Tie a ribbon in a bow.
When You meet the queen you bow,
Which again must rhyme with how.

In perfect English make a start.
Learn this little rhyme by heart.

AUDIOLINK
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y-GDoVBlVeA

II

FUNDAMENTALS OF SUPRASEGMENTAL PHONETICS

Exam Questions II
Spring Semester

1. Dwell upon the topic: Word stress in English
2. Dwell upon the topic: Stress in polysyllabic words
3. Dwell upon the topic: Stress in compound words
4. Dwell upon the topic: Stress in noun/verb pairs
5. Dwell upon the topic: Stress in phrasal verbs
6. Dwell upon the topic: Sentence stress
7. Dwell upon the topic: Intonation
8. Dwell upon the topic: Rhythm
9. Dwell upon the topic: Pausation
10. Dwell upon the topic: Logical stress
11. Dwell upon the topic: Intonation of statements
12. Dwell upon the topic: Intonation of wh-questions
13. Dwell upon the topic: Intonation of imperatives
14. Dwell upon the topic: Intonation of yes/no questions
15. Dwell upon the topic: Intonation of polite requests
16. Dwell upon the topic: Intonation of enumeration
17. Dwell upon the topic: Intonation of exclamations and interjections
18. Dwell upon the topic: Intonation of direct address
19. Dwell upon the topic: Intonation of disjunctive questions
20. Dwell upon the topic: Intonation of alternative questions

GLOSSARY II

Word stress can be defined as the singling out of one or more syllables in a word, which is accompanied by the change of the force of utterance, pitch of the voice, qualitative and quantitative characteristics of the sound, which is usually a vowel.

Polysyllabic words are words which have two or more syllables. Polysyllabic words normally have 2 stresses in isolation but they may lose one of the stresses in connected speech when preceded or followed by a stressed word.

Compound words normally have 2 stresses in isolation but they may lose one of the stresses in connected speech when preceded or followed by a stressed word.

Noun/ verb pairs part-of-speech alternations between nouns and verbs can be also singled via lexical stress. The noun form has a primary stress on the first syllable whereas the second syllable receives the secondary stress. The verb form, on the other hand, receives no stress on the first syllable and primary stress on the second syllable.

Phrasal verbs normally have 2 stresses in isolation but they may lose one of the stresses in connected speech when preceded or followed by a stressed word.

Thought groups – a term that refers to a discrete stretch of speech that forms a semantically and grammatically coherent segment of speech.

Intonation unit describes this same segment of discourse but refers also to the fact that each segment has its own intonation contour, or itch pattern and typically contains one prominent element.

Sentence stress is a greater prominence of words, which are made more or less prominent in an intonation group.

Intonation is pitch variations, or speech melody. Intonation is the combination of musical tones.

Nucleus is the last stressed syllable, within which fall or rise in the intonation group is accomplished.

The **prehead** – the unstressed or half stressed syllables before the first stress.

The **head** – starting with the first stressed syllable and ending with the last unstressed syllable before the nucleus.

The **tail** – the unstressed syllables following the nucleus.

The **onset** – the first fully stressed syllable with which the head begins.

Tones: The **falling tones** convey completion and finality, they are categoric in character. The **rising tones** are incomplete and non-categoric. Of all the **level tones** mid level tone is used most frequently. The level tones may express hesitation and uncertainty.

Rhythm is the regular alternation of stressed and unstressed syllables.

Logical stress – the nucleus is shifted from the last notional word of the intonation group to the semantically important word.

The **falling intonation** is used at the end of statements of fact (declarative sentences), imperatives, wh-questions.

The **rising intonation** is used in yes/no questions, polite requests, enumeration.

The **falling – rising intonation** pattern is used in disjunctive (tag) questions, alternative questions, exclamations, direct address.

TRAINING TESTS II

1. Polysyllabic words normally have ___ stresses in isolation.
   A. 1
   B. 2
   C. 0
2. The stress of a _____ is on the last syllable.
   A. Pronoun
   B. Verb
   C. Noun
3. Which syllable is usually stressed?
   A. phoTOgraph
   B. PhotoGRAPH
   C. PHOtograph
4. I can't decide which book to borrow.
   A. DE-cide
   B. de-CIDE
   C. DECIDE
5. Which are NOT usually stressed?
   A. prepositions, articles, pronouns, conjunctions
   B. nouns, adjectives,
   C. main verbs, adverbs
6. Which is a list of content words?
   A. they, should've, through
   B. Donald's, eyes, small
   C. The, me, of
7. Intonation is _____variations.
   A. Pitch
   B. Accent
   C. Voice
8. The prehead is_____.
   A. The first stressed syllable up to the last stressed syllable
   B. Unstressed and half stressed syllables preceding the first stressed syllable.
   C. The syllables (or one syllable), that follow the nucleus
9. Indicate prehead in the sentence
   The flat is not large but it is comfortable.
   A. The
   B. Flat is not large but it is
   C. “Com” in comfortable
10. Rhythm is the regular alternation of _____.
    A. Falling and rising tones
    B. Stressed and unstressed syllables
    C. Stressed syllables
11. The rising tones are_____.

A. Complete
B. Uncertain
C. Incomplete

12. Intone the sentence
You play the guitar, don't you?

13. Intone the sentence
You go into the humanities to pursue your intellectual passion.

14. Intone the sentence
Would you like some ice cream or some cake?

15. Intone the sentence

Leave me alone!

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APPENDIX

Word Stress “Read the text” task. Record yourself reading this text and store it till the end of the term.

Cloud Storage: Where Does Your Data Really Go?

Every day, millions of people save photos, documents, and videos to the cloud. But what does "the cloud" actually mean? In simple terms, it's not a mysterious place in the sky — it's a network of powerful computers called servers. These servers are located in huge buildings known as data centers. When you upload a file, it travels through the internet and is stored on one of these servers, often thousands of kilometers away from you. Companies like Google, Amazon, and Microsoft own most of the world's largest data centers. Cloud storage has become popular because it lets people access their files from any device, at any time. It also means you don't lose everything if your laptop breaks or gets stolen. However, storing data in the cloud raises some concerns. Users must trust companies to keep their information private and secure. Hackers sometimes try to break into cloud accounts to steal personal data. That's why experts recommend using strong passwords and two-factor authentication. Despite the risks, most specialists agree that cloud storage is generally safer than keeping files only on one device. As technology develops, our dependence on the cloud will likely continue to grow.

Pair review checklist

PEER OBSERVATION CHECKLIST
All 20 Topics (tick what you notice in the audio)

	Topic		Topic
1	☐ Word stress in English	**2**	☐ Stress in polysyllabic words
3	☐ Stress in compound words	**4**	☐ Stress in noun/verb pairs
5	☐ Stress in phrasal verbs	**6**	☐ Sentence stress
7	☐ Intonation (overview)	**8**	☐ Rhythm
9	☐ Pausation	**10**	☐ Logical stress
11	☐ Intonation of statements	**12**	☐ Intonation of wh-questions
13	☐ Intonation of imperatives	**14**	☐ Intonation of yes/no questions
15	☐ Intonation of polite requests	**16**	☐ Intonation of enumeration
17	☐ Intonation of exclamations	**18**	☐ Intonation of direct address
19	☐ Intonation of disjunctive questions	**20**	☐ Intonation (synthesis)

Overall pronunciation clarity:
1 — Needs work 2 — Developing 3 — Good 4 — Very good 5 — Excellent

STUDENT SELF-REFLECTION CARD

Question	My answer
Which feature has improved the most in your video compared to your earlier speech?	
Which topic still feels uncertain or inconsistent?	
What specific moment in the video shows your best pronunciation? (timestamp)	
One goal you set for yourself before the next speaking task:	