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**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE**  
**FINAL EXAMINATION**  
**DECEMBER 2011**

**TITLE OF PAPER:** AN INTRODUCTION TO ENGLISH PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY

**COURSE CODE:** ENG 102 / IDE-ENG 102

**TIME ALLOCATED:** 2 HOURS

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 1) This paper has four (4) questions
- 2) Answer two questions in all. Question 1 IS COMPULSORY
- 3) Choose the second question from questions 2 to 4
- 4) Close attention should be paid to content, organization, expression, and mechanical accuracy in the essay type questions
- 5) Number your answers appropriately
- 6) Work must be tidy and proofread.

**THIS PAPER SHOULD NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

**Question 1 (Compulsory)**

- A. Briefly explain how English consonants are classified using the principle of manner of articulation. (10 marks)
- B. Discuss the distinction between the phonological and the phonetic level. (10 marks)
- C. Discuss Logographic and Rebus Writing systems. Give one example and two limitations for each writing system. (10 marks)
- D. Transcribe the following words phonetically:
- a. Fixings
  - b. Rebate
  - c. Rebuff
  - d. Receive
  - e. Shake
  - f. Stud
  - g. Thatch
  - h. Theme
  - i. Trashy
  - j. Watch

(10 marks)

**[40 marks]****Question 2**

Express the distinction between the following as clearly as you can

- a. Oral and Nasal (5 Marks)
- b. Voiced and Voiceless (5 Marks)
- c. Acoustic Phonetics and Articulatory Phonetics (5 Marks)
- d. Complementary distribution and Free Variation (5 marks)
- e. Phoneme and Allophone (5 marks)

**Question 3**

I) Write the phonetic symbol of the sound that is described below and illustrate each of the sounds with one English word

- a. A glottal stop
- b. A Voiceless alveopalatal affricate
- c. A rounded low back vowel
- d. A short central vowel
- e. A labiovelar

(5 marks)

II) Give the correct technical name and one example for the following:

- a. Refers to speech sounds in whose production air passes along the sides of the mouth in the oral cavity
- b. A unit of linguistic structure that consists of a syllabic element and any segments that are associated with it
- c. A set of constraints on how sequences of segments pattern
- d. A vowel becomes nasalised before a nasal consonant
- e. Gaps in a language inventory that correspond to non-occurring but possible forms

(10 marks)

III) Write brief notes and provide one example for each

- a. Glottalic Airstream Mechanism
- b. Polysyllabic Word

(5 marks)

**[20 marks]**

**Question 4**

Write an essay on the complexity of the vowel system of the English language.

**[20 marks]**