

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION - MAY 2015

COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO ENGLISH PHONETICS
AND PHONOLOGY

COURSE CODE: ENGL 102

TIME ALLOCATED: TWO (2) HOURS

TOTAL MARKS: 60 MARKS

INSTRUCTIONS

1. THIS PAPER HAS **FOUR** (4) QUESTIONS.
2. ANSWER **TWO** (2) QUESTIONS IN ALL.
3. QUESTION **ONE** (1) IS COMPULSORY AND IS WORTH **40 MARKS**
4. ANSWER **ANY ONE** (1) MORE QUESTION WORTH **20 MARKS** FROM THE OTHER
REMAINING THREE (3) QUESTIONS
5. IMPROPER USE OF PHONETIC ANNOTATIONS AND CONVENTIONS WILL RESULT IN THE
LOSS OF MARKS

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

QUESTION 1

A) Write the phonetic symbol(s) for the vowel in each of the following words. (5)

i) coat

ii) fight

iii) pat

iv) tease

v) hot

B) Give a complete phonetic description of the following consonants. (7)

i) [θ]

ii) [ʒ]

iii) [l]

iv) [ʔ]

v) [ŋ]

C) In English the phoneme /l/ has 3 allophones. Clear [l], dark [ɫ] and voiceless [l̥]. Consider the data below:

i)

live [l]

milk [ɫ]

claw [l]

wool [l]

plague [l]

filler [l]

hill [ɫ]

plum [l]

stall [ɫ]

a) Determine in which contexts the allophones of /l/ occur by studying the data in (i). (3)

b) What is the name of this type of variation of /l/. (1)

c) Predict which allophones of /l/ will occur in the words in category (ii) below. (4)

ii)

will

class

long

melt

D) Transcribe the following words and indicate the stress pattern where relevant. (10)

i. Eaten

ii. Cattle

iii. Phonology

iv. Intonation

v. Construct

vi. Acoustics

vii. High

viii. Onset

ix. Coda

x. Extra

E) Use the words above in orthographic form to answer the following questions. (10)

i. Write two words that have open syllables.

ii. Write two words that have closed syllables.

iii. Write two words that have syllabic consonants.

iv. Write two words that contain syllables with a CCC onset.

v. Write two words that contain a syllable onset or coda that violates the maximum onset principle.

40 MARKS

QUESTION 2

A) Write the phonetic symbol for the last sound in each of the following words. (5)

- i. Rough
- ii. Bleached
- iii. Rags
- iv. Watch
- v. Cow

B) Provide the IPA symbols representing each of the following sounds of English and give a representative word of one syllable that contains each phoneme. (10)

Example: close front tense unrounded vowel /i:/ > eat

- i. Centring diphthong
- ii. Voiced dental fricative
- iii. Voiceless aspirated alveolar stop
- iv. Near back near close rounded vowel
- v. Palatal approximant

C) For each set of sounds below, identify the sound that does not belong to the set and then name the category to which the other sounds in the set belong. (5)

Example: affricates > tʃ, dʒ

- i.> i, p, u, æ
- ii.> t, m, p, k
- iii.> d, s, ʃ, ʒ
- iv.> u, i, o, ɔ
- v.> m, n, ŋ, l

20 MARKS

QUESTION 3

A) Using examples define the following concepts: (10)

- i. Zero onset
- ii. Cultural transmission
- iii. Vowel
- iv. Triphthong
- v. Voice assimilation

B) Vowels in a chart are described in relation to their positions. Using examples describe which vowels are classified as below and why? (10)

- i. Open mid-front unrounded vowel
- ii. Mid central vowel
- iii. Close, front, high unrounded vowel

20 MARKS

QUESTION 4

A) Write the standard orthographic representation of the following English words. (6)

Example: /bedz/ > beds

- i. /rəʊz/
- ii. /laɪən/
- iii. /kæmpɛ/
- iv. /tɔ:t/
- v. /meɜə/
- vi. /gæp/

B) Syllabify the following words in English and state the number of syllables each one has. (9)

- i. Upper
- ii. Bathroom

C) Using examples define what ambisyllabicity is? (5)

20 MARKS