

Perfect Pronunciation

Phonology & Listening Exercises

3

Michael Dyer

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Content

About the Course			iv
Course Aim			
Unit Components			
Phonetics Guide			v
Lesson	Focus	Examples	
Lesson 1	Words with Similar Vowel Shifts	plight (plaɪt), plot (plɒt), plate (pleɪt)	1
Lesson 2	Complex Consonant Clusters	glimpse (glɪmps), clench (klɛntʃ), blitz (blɪts)	3
Lesson 3	Palatal Sounds	pitch (pɪtʃ), patch (pætʃ), peach (pi:tʃ)	5
Lesson 4	Words with Schwa Sound	banana (bəˈnænə), agenda (əˈdʒɛndə)	7
Lesson 5	Allophonic Variations	butter (ˈbʌtər), button (ˈbʌʔn), baton (bəˈtɒn)	9
Lesson 6	Vowel Length and Tension	scope (skou̯p), scamp (skæmp), skip (skɪp)	11
Lesson 7	Homophones with Complex Spellings	medieval knight (naɪt), starry night (naɪt)	13
Lesson 8	Linking Sounds Between Words	pick it (pɪk ɪt), kick it (kɪk ɪt), click it (klɪk ɪt)	15
Lesson 9	Word-Initial Voicing Contrasts	fettle (ˈfɛtəl), vessel (ˈvɛsəl), nettle (ˈnɛtəl)	17
Lesson 10	Tricky Consonant-Vowel Combinations	reflect (rɪˈflɛkt), deflect (dɪˈflɛkt), reject (rɪˈdʒɛkt)	19
Lesson 11	Word-Final Devoicing	resolve (rɪˈzɒlv), result (rɪˈzʌlt), resist (rɪˈzɪst)	21
Lesson 12	Aspiration Differences	deplete (dɪˈpli:t), deflate (dɪˈfleɪt), delete (dɪˈli:t)	23
Appendix			
Definitions			25

Phonetics Guide

Phonetics is the study of the sounds of human speech. Understanding phonetics helps learners improve their pronunciation by recognizing and producing the correct sounds in English. Below is a guide to the phonetic symbols used in this book, along with examples to illustrate each sound.

Consonants

Symbol	Sound	Example Words
b	voiced bilabial stop	bat, bed, big
d	voiced alveolar stop	dog, did, dot
f	voiceless labiodental fricative	fan, fit, fun
g	voiced velar stop	go, get, gun
h	voiceless glottal fricative	hat, hit, hut
k	voiceless velar stop	kit, cut, cap
l	voiced alveolar lateral approximant	lap, lot, lip
m	voiced bilabial nasal	man, met, map
n	voiced alveolar nasal	not, net, nap
p	voiceless bilabial stop	pat, pen, pot
r	voiced alveolar approximant	rat, run, rip
s	voiceless alveolar fricative	sit, sip, sun
ʃ	voiceless postalveolar fricative	ship, she, fish
t	voiceless alveolar stop	tap, tip, top
v	voiced labiodental fricative	van, vet, vat
w	voiced labio-velar approximant	wet, win, wood
z	voiced alveolar fricative	zip, zap, zoo
ʒ	voiced postalveolar fricative	measure, vision
ŋ	voiced velar nasal	sing, song, ring

Vowels

Symbol	Sound	Example Words
æ	near-open front unrounded vowel	cat, bat, pan
e	close-mid front unrounded vowel	bet, set, pen
ɪ	near-close near-front unrounded vowel	bit, sit, pin
i:	close front unrounded vowel	bead, seed, feel
ɒ	open back rounded vowel	cot, pot, lot
ʌ	open-mid back unrounded vowel	cup, but, sun
ʊ	near-close near-back rounded vowel	put, foot, book
u:	close back rounded vowel	boot, too, loop
ɔ:	open-mid back rounded vowel	law, saw, talk
ɑ:	open back unrounded vowel	car, father, bar
ɛ	open-mid front unrounded vowel	bet, set, get
ə	mid-central vowel (schwa)	about, sofa, ago

Pronunciation Guide

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. plight (plaɪt), plot (plɒt), plate (pleɪt) | 9. grind (graɪnd), grand (grænd), greet (gri:t) |
| 2. grove (ɡrouv), grip (ɡrɪp), grape (ɡreɪp) | 10. prime (praɪm), prom (prɒm), pram (præm) |
| 3. stride (straɪd), strut (strʌt), street (stri:t) | 11. slope (sloʊp), slip (slɪp), slap (slæp) |
| 4. thrive (θraɪv), threat (θret), throne (θroun) | 12. crave (kreɪv), craft (kræft), crypt (kript) |
| 5. swoop (swu:p), swap (swɒp), sweep (swi:p) | 13. grope (ɡroup), grid (ɡrɪd), grate (ɡreit) |
| 6. clothe (kloʊð), cloth (klɒθ), clove (kloʊv) | 14. stroke (stroʊk), strip (stri:p), strap (stræp) |
| 7. frown (fraʊn), frill (frɪl), freight (freɪt) | 15. climb (klaɪm), clamp (klæmp), clump (klʌmp) |
| 8. spite (spaɪt), spat (spæt), spout (spaut) | 16. trite (traɪt), treat (tri:t), trot (trot) |

A. Pronounce

- | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. plight, plate, plot | 3. strut, stride, street | 5. sweep, swoop, swap | 7. freight, frown, frill |
| 2. grape, grove, grip | 4. throne, thrive, threat | 6. clove, clothe, cloth | 8. spat, spite, spout |

B. Read

- He decided to swap the swoop for a clean sweep.
- His frown was deeper when the freight arrived with no frills.
- She used a strong grip to grope her way to the grate.

C. Listen and Number

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. greet (), grind (), grand () | 5. grope (), grate (), grid () |
| 2. pram (), prime (), prom () | 6. strap (), stroke (), strip () |
| 3. slip (), slap (), slope () | 7. clump (), climb (), clamp () |
| 4. craft (), crave (), crypt () | 8. trot (), trite (), treat () |

D. Listen and Write

- _____
- _____
- _____

Student B Answers

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. plight (1), plate (2), plot (3) | 5. sweep (1), swap (3), swoop (2) |
| 2. grip (3), grape (1), grove (2) | 6. clothe (2), cloth (3), clove (1) |
| 3. stride (2), street (3), strut (1) | 7. frill (3), freight (1), frown (2) |
| 4. thrive (2), threat (3), throne (1) | 8. spout (3), spite (2), spat (1) |

Pronunciation Guide

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. plight (plaɪt), plot (plɒt), plate (pleɪt) | 9. grind (graɪnd), grand (grænd), greet (gri:t) |
| 2. grove (grouv), grip (grɪp), grape (greɪp) | 10. prime (praɪm), prom (prɒm), pram (præm) |
| 3. stride (straɪd), strut (strʌt), street (stri:t) | 11. slope (sloʊp), slip (slɪp), slap (slæp) |
| 4. thrive (θraɪv), threat (θræt), throne (θroun) | 12. crave (kreɪv), craft (kræft), crypt (kript) |
| 5. swoop (swu:p), swap (swɒp), sweep (swi:p) | 13. grope (group), grid (grɪd), grate (greet) |
| 6. clothe (kloʊð), cloth (klɒθ), clove (kloʊv) | 14. stroke (stroʊk), strip (stri:p), strap (stræp) |
| 7. frown (fraʊn), frill (frɪl), freight (freɪt) | 15. climb (klaɪm), clamp (klæmp), clump (klʌmp) |
| 8. spite (spaɪt), spat (spæt), spout (spaut) | 16. trite (traɪt), treat (tri:t), trot (trot) |

A. Pronounce

- | | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. grand, greet, grind | 3. slap, slope, slip | 5. grate, grope, grid | 7. clump, clamp, climb |
| 2. pram, prom, prime | 4. crave, crypt, craft | 6. stroke, strip, strap | 8. trite, trot, treat |

B. Read

- He couldn't decide whether to take the prime pram to go to the prom.
- The crypt was crafted with care, and she craved to see it.
- The slope was slippery, so she slapped the ground so as not to slip.

C. Listen and Number

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. plight (), plate (), plot () | 5. sweep (), swap (), swoop () |
| 2. grip (), grape (), grove () | 6. clothe (), cloth (), clove () |
| 3. stride (), street (), strut () | 7. frill (), freight (), frown () |
| 4. thrive (), threat (), throne () | 8. spout (), spite (), spat () |

D. Listen and Write

- _____
- _____
- _____

Student A Answers

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. greet (2), grind (3), grand (1) | 5. grope (2), grate (1), grid (3) |
| 2. pram (1), prime (3), prom (2) | 6. strap (3), stroke (1), strip (2) |
| 3. slip (3), slap (1), slope (2) | 7. clump (1), climb (3), clamp (2) |
| 4. craft (3), crave (1), crypt (2) | 8. trot (2), trite (1), treat (3) |



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