**Level : First year English students**

**Subject : Phonetics Linguistics**

Exercise 1 : Practice saying the following questions and giving the answers.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Is it a big cat?   2. Is it a big cut?   3. What's a buck?   4. What's a book?   5. Was it cut?   6. Was it caught?   7. What's a skull?   8. What's a school?   9. Do you need many? 10. Do you need money? 11. What's a goal? 12. What's a gull?1. Why did you sleep? 2. Why did you slip? 3. What's a sheep for? 4. What's a ship for? 5. When will you leave? 6. Where will you live? | 1. No, it's a dog.   2. No, it's not too deep.   3. It's one dollar.   4. The thing you read.   5. No, it was broken.   6. No, it's still free.   7. It's the protection for your brain.   8. It's a place for learning.   9. No, I only need a few. 10. Yes, I need ten dollars. 11. It's an aim or purpose. 12. It's a seabird.1. I was tired. 2. The floor was wet. 3. It's to produce wool. 4. To carry things on the water. 5. I leave in two weeks 6. In Britain. |

Exercise 2 : Practice oronouncing the following sounds.

**Contrasting monophthongs (simple vowels)**

**Monophthongs**

[i:], [i], [e], [æ], [a:], [o:], [o], [u:], [yu:], [u], [ər], [ə]

bean – bin – Ben – ban – bar – born – bond – boom – beauty – book – burn – bun;

peat – pit – pet – pat – part – port – pot – pool – pew – put – purr – pus;

**Contrasting monophthongs in pairs**

**[i:] – [i]**

lead – lid, read – rid, feel – fill, deal – dill, heel – hill, team – Tim, keen – kin, seen – sin, teen – tin

peak – pick, seek – sick; sheep – ship, heap – hip, leap – lip, beat – bit, feet – fit, seat – sit;

[i:] – [i]: eat fish, be sick, feel ill, see him, meet Bill, deal with, read this, beat it; [i] – [i:]: kiss me

**[i] – [e]**

bill – bell, fill – fell, till – tell, him – hem, pin – pen, tin – ten, win – when, bid – bed, did – dead, Liz – Les, since – sense;

pit – pet, sit – set, Nick – neck, pick – peck, miss – mess, wrist – rest, lift – left;

[i] – [e]: Big Ben, six guests, live well, since ten; [e] – [i]: tell Tim, test him;

**[e] – [æ]**

bed – bad, said – sad, beg – bag, leg – lag, hell – Hal, hem – ham;

Ben – ban, pen – pan, den – Dan, ten – tan, men – man; bend – band, lend – land, send – sand;

bet – bat, met – mat, pet – pat, set – sat, mess – mass, wreck – rack, peck – pack, letter – latter, better – batter;

[e] – [æ]: red bag, fell back, met Alice, pen pal; [æ] – [e]: Ann said, bad pen, add ten, marry Mary;

**[æ] – [a:]**

bad – bard, lad – lard, Pam – palm, cam – calm, carry – car, Barry – bar;

cat – cart, hat – heart, mat – mart, pat – part, cap – carp, back – bark, pack – park,

[æ] – [a:]: Dan's father, last part, fast cars; [a:] – [æ]: smart Alex, hard candy, Karl's cat;

**[æ] – [ə]**

fan – fun, ran – run, sang – sung, land – lung, Dan – done, man – month, frank – front, Sam – some, ram – rum, damp – dump, bag – bug, rag – rug;

cat – cut, bat – but, hat – hut, fat – fuss, last – lust, task – tusk, back – buck, lack – luck, tack – tuck

[æ] – [ə]: bad cut, bad blood, bad luck, black gun, last month, Ann's mother; [ə] – [æ]: some tan, one man

**[a:] – [o:]**

far – four, car – core, tar – tore, star – store, card – cord, bard – board, barn – born;

park – pork, stark – stork, part – port, cart – court, Marty – Morty,

[a:] – [o:]: carport, Bart bought, hard core; [o:] – [a:]: four cars, ball park, small yard;

**[a:] – [ə]**

barn – bun, calm – come, drama – drum, march – much, darn – done, far – sofa, father – mother;

bark – buck, dark – duck, lark – luck, tar – tuck, stark – stuck, heart – hut,

**[a:] – [ər]**

hard – heard, card – curd, far – fur, farm – firm, barn – burn, large – splurge, charge – church;

heart – hurt, cart – Curt, dark – dirt, lark – lurk, park – perk, carton – curtain,

**[o:] – [ər]**

call – curl, hall – hurl, all – earl, Paul – pearl, saw – sir, lawn – learn;

war – were, ward – word, warm – worm, reward – reword, walk – work, wart – worth;

four – fir, sore – sir, store – stir, core – occur, pour – purr;

born – burn, torn – turn, form – firm, board – bird, cord – curd,

course – curse, caught – curt, short – shirt, talk – Turk;

[o:] – [ər]: warm words, four birds, call Kurt; [ər] – [o:]: first floor, third door, learn all;

**[o] – [ə]**

bomb – bum, rob – rub, college – color, common – come, comma – company, body – buddy, bother – brother;

gone – done, nonsense – none, honor – honey, monitor – money, monument – Monday, fond – front

conference – confess, continent – contain, content (n.) – content (adj.) , contract (n.) – contract (v.)

lock – luck, sock – suck, cop – cup, hot – hut, not – nut, cloth – nothing, bottle – butter, bottom – button;

**[u:] – [yu:]**

food – feud, fool – fume, cool – cute, who – hue, ooze – use, moose – muse, boot – beauty;

**[u:] – [u]**

fool – full, pool – pull, womb – woman, food – foot, Luke – look, tooth – took, shoot – should;

**[u] – [o]**

cook – cock, look – lock, rook – rock, took – stock, put – pot, good – god;

**[u] – [ə]**

book – buck, look – luck, took – tuck, put – but, push – hush, full – dull, pull – hull;

**The sounds [ə] (but) and [ər] (bird)**

**[ə] – [ər]**

bud – bird, cub – curb, bun – burn, ton – turn, fun – fern, soda – coder;

luck – lurk, shut – shirt, but – Bert, hut – hurt, such – search, bust – burst, sofa – suffer, quota – quarter;

**stressed [ə] – unstressed [ə]**

son – lesson, some – awesome, muss – famous, numb – venom, thud – method,

**stressed [ər] – unstressed [ər]**

fur – offer, refer – suffer, sir – answer, purr – helper, burn – stubborn, turn – lantern;

**Contrasting monophthongs and diphthongs in pairs**

**[e] – [ei]**

pen – pain, den – Dane, many – main, fell – fail, sell – sail, bed – bade, fed – fade, red – raid;

let – late, met – mate, debt – date, bet – bait, wet – wait, sec – sake, wreck – rake, neck – snake;

[e] – [ei]: next day, let's stay, Ben met Kate, felt great, tell tales; [ei] – [e]: make friends, raise hell

**[a:] – [ai]**

par – pie, are – eye, bar – by, charm – chime, hard – hide,

park – pike, spark – spike, harp – hype, cart – kite, Bart – bite;

[a:] – [ai]: far cry, hard to find, barfly; [ai] – [a:]: die hard, my card, like art;

**[a:] – [au]**

hard – hound, darn – down, lard – loud,

art – out, part – pout; start – stout; shark – shout;

[a:] – [au]: start now, calm down, dark house, farther south; [au] – [a:]: how hard, downhearted;

**[æ] – [ai]**

pal – pile, pan – pine, man – mine, band – bind, candy – kind, hand – hind;

lack – like, tap – type, rap – ripe, mass – mice, rat – right, fat – fight;

**[æ] – [au]**

Al – owl, lad – loud, sand – sound, tan – town, Dan – down, Fran – frown, mass – mouse, lass – louse;

**[o:] – [au]**

nor – now, hall – howl, fall – foul, dawn – down, drawn – drown, crawl – crown, cord – crowd,

short – shout; port – pout, sport – spout;

**[o:] – [ou]**

saw – so, law – low, raw – row, lawn – lone, drawn – drone, clause – close, pause – pose, cause – cozy, caught – coat, ought – oat;

hall – whole, mall – mole, bald – bold, called – cold, call – comb, walk – woke, falcon – folk;

more – mow, bore – bow, door – doe, sore – sew, tore – tow, lord – load, born – bone

[o:] – [ou]: more roads, call Flo, lawn mower; [ou] – [o:]: cold sore, old Ford, no laws

**[o] – [ou]**

nod – node, odd – owed, model – modal, modern – motel, mob – mobile, monument – moment, column – colon, doll – roll;

option – open, pot – potent, hot – hotel, lost – ghost, monster – most, positive – post

[o] – [ou]: hot rolls, pot roast, hostile host; [ou] – [o]: role model, don't bother, most hospitals;

**[ə] – [ou]**

mud – mode, nut – note, but – boat, must – most, bust – boast, bus – both, Russ – gross;

done – donor, done – don't, won – won't, one – only, mother – motor, does – dose

[ə] – [ou]: a boat, a donor, the host, some notes; [ou] – [ə]: only one, both mothers, won't trust, most buses, no money;

**Contrasting diphthongs in pairs**

**[ai] – [au]**

high – how, nine – noun, bright – brow, find – found, hind – hound, signed – sound;

[ai] – [au]: nice town, try now, light-brown, night owl, five rounds; [au] – [ai]: how nice;

**[ai] – [oi]**

rye – Roy, tie – toy, buy – boy, file – foil, bile – boil, pint – point, lied – Lloyd;

**[au] – [ou]**

now – no, how – owe, pow – mow, allow – low, cow – crow, thou – though;

owl – own, brown – bowl, cowl – coal, drown – drone, town – tone, noun – known

**[ai] – [ou]**

die – doe, tie – toe, lie – low, my – Moe, sigh – so, guy – go;

ride – road, lied – load, tile – toll, pile – poll, cries – crows, flies – flows, night – note;

**[ai] – [ei]**

buy – bay, pie – pay, die – day, lie – lay, sty – stay, high – hey, rye – ray;

file – fail, mile – mail, pile – pale, tile – tail, time – tame, line – lane, pine – pain, sign – sane,

rice – race, fight – fate, light – late, right – rate, height – hate;

[ai] – [ei]: my day, white paint, why wait, crime rate; [ei] – [ai]: take time, eight miles

**Diphthongs**

[ei], [ai], [au], [oi], [ou]

bay – buy – bough – boy – bone;

bait – bite – bout – boil – boat;

Dane – dine – down – Doyle – dough;

tame – time – town – toy – tone;

ale – I'll – owl – oil – old;

great – grind – ground – groin – grow;

paint – pint – pound – point – poll;

maize – mice – mouse – moist – most.

***Exercise 3:*** Rewrite the following transcribed sentences into the ordinary graphic form.

**/ wts jɔ: neɪm/?**

**/haʊ menɪ egz ɑ: ðεər ɪn ðə frɪdʒ/?**

**/nt menɪ pi:pl nəʊ əbaʊt dʒɔ:dʒz pɑ:st/**

**/ ɪz ʃi: enɪ betə θɪs mɔ:nɪŋ /?**

**/ aɪ æm mɔ: ðæn pli:zd wɪð maɪ peɪ raɪz ætkʃʊlɪ/**

**/ ɪn ðɪ end ðeɪ mænɪdʒəd tʊ rɪskju: ðə kæt n ðə ru:f /**

**Exercise 4:** Transcribe phonetically the following.

1. Administrationa, additional, almost, blame, below, bright, best, boom, abroad
2. Giant, flower, lawer, location, tower, ampower

**Exercises on Consonants** by Dr MEDJEDOUB

**Exercise 1**

Read the following poem from *The Return of the King* by J.R.R. Tolkien. **Focus on the initial sounds only. How many fricatives do you find?**

**Roads go ever on and on**

Roads go ever ever on,
Over rock and under tree,
By caves where never sun has shone,
By streams that never find the sea;
Over snow by winter sown.

**How many nasals do you find in this poem?**

Roads go ever ever on
Under cloud and under star,
Yet feet that wandering have gone
Turn at last to home afar.
Eyes that fire and sword have seen
And horror in the halls of stone
Look at last on meadows green
And trees and hills they long have known.

**How many approximants do you find in this poem? How many plosives?**

**The Road Goes Ever On**

Still round the corner there may wait
A new road or a secret gate,
And though I oft have passed them by,
A day will come at last when I
Shall take the hidden paths that run
West of the Moon, East of the Sun.

**Exercise 2**: Complete the following table.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Plosive | … | Affricate | … | Lateral | … |
| … | / … , … / |  |  | /m/ |  |  |
| Labio-dental |  | / … , … / |  |  |  |  |
| … |  | / … , … / |  |  |  |  |
| … | / t , … / | / … , … / |  |  |  |  |
| … |  | / … , … / | / … , … /  |  |  |  |
| … |  |  |  |  |  | /j/ |
| … | / … , … / |  |  | / … / |  |  |
| Glottal |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Exercise 3:** Identify the sound produced in each picture.



**Exercise 4**: **a.** Transcribe phonetically the following words.

Death , purchase , practise , exchange , glottal , interdental , utterance , functionalism , relatively , knowledge , circumstantial , earth , reform , afford , thus , vehicle , sinking , produce , focus , situatedness , aspiration , primary , excellent.

**b.** Transcribe phonetically the poem above.

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| **Exercise 5: W**hat is the feature(s) which distinguishe(s) each of the following sets of sounds from each other?

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| (i) | /p/, /b/ |  …………………. (ii) | /w/, /j/ ………………….. |

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| **Exercise 6 :** Give the phonetic symbol representing the consonant sound described and then supply an English word containing the sound.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (a) | voiced alveolopalatal affricate |
| (b) | aspirated voiceless bilabial stop |
| (c) | alveolar lateral |
| (d) | dentalized alveolar nasal |
| (e) | voiceless labiovelar fricative |
| (f) | voiceless labiodental fricative |

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| **Exercise 7:** Give the phonetic symbol for the final consonant sound(s) in each of the following words.

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| --- | --- |
| (a)   | Froth (d) indict |
| (b)   | Miss (e) ledge |
| (c)   | Stomach (f) leash |

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**Exercise 8: Try to find mistakes, if any, in the following figure.**



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| 1.  What distinctive feature(s) do the sounds in each set have in common?

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (a) | /k/, /u/, /ɑ/, /ŋ/ | (d) | /l/, /ʒ/, /t/, /n/ |
| (b) | /b/, /ŋ/, /ɛ/, /ʊ/ | (e) | /j/, /k/, /i/, /w/ |
| (c) | /f/, /ʃ/, /ə/, /j/ | (f) | /r/, /ŋ/, /ɔ/, /æ/ |

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| 2.  What feature or features distinguish each of the following sets of sounds?

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (a) | /v/, /ə/ | (f) | /i/, /j/ |
| (b) | /f/, /v/ | (g) | /u/, /ʊ/ |
| (c) | /r/, /j/ | (h) | /z/, /ð/ |
| (d) | /f/, /θ/ | (i) | /g/, /ŋ/ |
| (e) | /e/, /o/ | (j) | /t/, /s/ |

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| 3.  Give a list of distinctive features for each of the following sounds. Which are necessary to distinguish the sound from all other sounds?

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| (a) |  /w/ |  (c) |  /l/ |
| (b) |  /dʒ/ |  (d) |  /ɑ/ |

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5.  It could be argued that [±NASAL] is a redundant feature since it is not required to distinguish /m, n, ŋ/ from other sounds. Explain.

**Exercise 9:** Classify consonants into back and anterior ones.

**Exercise 10 :**

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| 1.  Give the phonetic symbol representing the consonant sound described and then supply an English word containing the sound.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (a) | voiced alveolopalatal affricate |
| (b) | aspirated voiceless bilabial stop |
| (c) | alveolar flap |
| (d) | dentalized alveolar nasal |
| (e) | voiceless labiovelar fricative |
| (f) | voiceless labiodental fricative |
| (g) | voiceless glottal fricative or voiceless vowel |

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| 2.  Of the sounds in questions (1) and (2)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (a) | Which never occur word initially in English? |
| (b) | Which sound is replaced by a labiovelar glide by many speakers? |
| (c) | Which occurs only word or syllable initially before a stressed vowel? |
| (d) | Which sound replaces /t/ or /d/ between vowels for most North American speakers? |
| (e) | Which occurs only before dental sounds? |
| (f) | Which involves labialization? |
| (g) | Which sound can also be analyzed as a complex sound? |
| (h) | Which sound is produced only following vowels? |
| (i) | Which are sibilants? |
| (j) | Which never occur word finally in English? |

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| 4.  Give the phonetic symbol for the initial consonant sound(s) in each of the following words.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (a)   | rhetoric |   (f)   | cereal |   (k)   | psalm |   (p)   | gnat |
| (b)   | one |   (g)   | jaguar |   (l)   | chorus |   (q)   | wrong |
| (c)   | know |   (h)   | unity |   (m)   | chaste |   (r)   | zero |
| (d)   | Thomas |   (i)   | pheasant |   (n)   | charade |   (s)   | ghost |
| (e)   | sure |   (j)   | theme |   (o)   | shave |   (t)   | science |

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| 5.  Give the phonetic symbol for the medial consonant sound(s) in each of the following words.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (a)   | toughen |   (f)   | away |   (k)   | listen |   (p)   | author |
| (b)   | visage |   (g)   | errand |   (l)   | plumber |   (q)   | lather |
| (c)   | alloy |   (h)   | ocean |   (m)   | cupboard |   (r)   | psyche |
| (d)   | descent |   (i)   | adjourn |   (n)   | soften |   (s)   | future |
| (e)   | azure |   (j)   | aghast |   (o)   | measure |   (t)   | lawyer |

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| 6.  Give the phonetic symbol for the final consonant sound(s) in each of the following words.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (a)   | froth |   (f)   | itch |   (k)   | phase |   (p)   | mall |
| (b)   | miss |   (g)   | sign |   (l)   | lathe |   (q)   | rough |
| (c)   | stomach |   (h)   | niche |   (m)   | tongue |   (r)   | beige |
| (d)   | indict |   (i)   | hiccough |   (n)   | comb |   (s)   | hopped |
| (e)   | ledge |   (j)   | ooze |   (o)   | brogue |   (t)   | solemn |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 7.  For the words – *anger, finger, wringer*, as opposed to *hanger, ringer, singer* – can you see a rule at work which determines whether the -*g* is pronounced or not? (Hint: Are the –*er*'s the same in all of the words?)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 8. | (a)   | In which of the following words is one of the stops likely to be unreleased? |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|      |      | right |   leap |   accent |   carry |   scepter |   backpack |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|    | (b)   | In which of the following words is the /t/ or /d/ likely to be flapped in North American English? |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|    |      |   plotter |   filter |   muddy |   hidden |   middle |   middle pattern |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|    | (c)   | In which of the following words is nasal or lateral release likely to occur? |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|      |      | madness |   maudlin |   sideline |   ignore |   tippler |   madly |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|    | (d)   | In which of the following words is the /l/ likely to be "dark" (velarized)? |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|      |      | alive |   Carl |   pal |   kill |   play |   loom |

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