

PROBLEM SET #1: PHONETICS

There are 4 parts to this assignment. Parts 1 through 3 are each worth 20% of the total assignment grade, and part 4 is worth 40%. Note that you may omit brackets in your answers to parts 2 and 4.

1. Describe each of the following sounds according to their phonetic features, using the features given in class. (I have left off brackets for legibility, but all of the characters are in IPA script.)

(a) p	(e) a	(i) fʃ
(b) e	(f) i	(j) y
(c) ɳ	(g) r	(k) ɠ
(d) w	(h) ʔ	(l) l

2. Give all of the sounds on the IPA chart that fit each of the following feature descriptions. (Hint: Nearly all of the IPA characters, save those that are identical to the ordinary letters *a* through *z*, are bunched together in the same section of Unicode fonts like Gentium, making your search for the items you will need for your answers a bit easier.)

(a) bilabial trill	(d) stop	(g) mid front tense
(b) high	(e) high back tense rounded	(h) voiceless nasal
(c) front rounded	(f) coronal	(i) glottal

3. The following words are given in phonetic transcription (with brackets left off for ease of reading). Write them in standard English orthography. (In cases in which there are multiple possible correct answers, you need only provide one answer.)

(a) ʌɑt	(g) tɔɪl	(m) kəɪl
(b) tɪi	(h) dʒɪɪg	(n) pɪpl
(c) kɑnfəs	(i) tɪm	(o) θɪɪŋ
(d) ɪið	(j) lɪvɪ	(p) vɪzɪn
(e) jɪɪ	(k) ʃu	(q) sɒp
(f) spɑt	(l) ɪɑɪs	(r) nemd

4. A segment of a famous speech by John F. Kennedy is available on the course homepage. Perform a narrow phonetic transcription of it.