# **PHONOLOGY**

## Second set of exercises answer:

# **Exercise 1: Identify Distinctive Features**

- 1. /p/
  - [+consonantal]
  - [-vocalic]
  - [-nasal]
  - [-lateral]
  - [-sonorant]
  - [-syllabic]
  - [-high]
  - [-back]
  - [-rounded]
  - [-continuant]
  - [-strident]
  - [-voiced]
- 2. /m/
  - [+consonantal]
  - [-vocalic]
  - [+nasal]
  - [-lateral]
  - [+sonorant]
  - [-syllabic]
  - [-high]
  - [-back]
  - [-rounded]
  - [-continuant]
  - [-strident]
  - [+voiced]
- 3. /i/
  - [-consonantal]
  - [+vocalic]
  - [-nasal]
  - [-lateral]

- [+sonorant]
- [+syllabic]
- [+high]
- [-back]
- [-rounded]
- [+continuant]
- [-strident]
- [+voiced]

# **4.** /ʃ/

- [+consonantal]
- [-vocalic]
- [-nasal]
- [-lateral]
- [-sonorant]
- [-syllabic]
- [-high]
- [-back]
- [-rounded]
- [+continuant]
- [+strident]
- [-voiced]

# 5. /l/

- [+consonantal]
- [-vocalic]
- [-nasal]
- [+lateral]
- [+sonorant]
- [-syllabic]
- [-high]
- [-back]
- [-rounded]
- [+continuant]
- [-strident]
- [+voiced]

## **Exercise 2: Feature Sorting**

• Feature: [+nasal]

• /m/, /n/, /ŋ/

• Feature: [+voiced]

• /b/, /z/, /d/

• Feature: [+continuant]

• /f/, /v/,  $/\theta/$ , /s/, /z/

#### **Exercise 3: Feature Modification**

6.  $/p/\rightarrow/b/$ 

• Change: [+voiced]

• New Phoneme: /b/ (Voiced bilabial stop)

7.  $/t/\rightarrow/d/$ 

• Change: [+voiced]

• New Phoneme: /d/ (Voiced alveolar stop)

8.  $/s/ \rightarrow /z/$ 

• Change: [+voiced]

• New Phoneme: /z/ (Voiced alveolar fricative)

9.  $/i/\rightarrow/I/$ 

• Change: [-high]

• New Phoneme: /ɪ/ (High, but slightly less than /i/, as in "bit")

**10./u/** → /σ/

• Change: [-high]

• New Phoneme: /u/ (High, but slightly less than /u/, as in "foot")

# **Exercise 4: Phonological processes**

## The best thing - Elision

• Elision may occur with the dropping of the /t/ sound in "best" in rapid speech, leading to [bes  $\theta$ iŋ].

#### **Rainbow - Assimilation**

Assimilation occurs where the /n/ and /b/ are adjacent; the /n/ is likely to
assimilate to the bilabial place of articulation of /b/, sounding as a bilabial nasal [m],
resulting in ['reimbou].

#### Was she there - Elision and Assimilation

- Elision can occur with the dropping of the /h/ in "she" and possibly the final /s/ in "was" in casual speech, resulting in [wə ʃi ðɛər].
- Assimilation may occur as the /s/ in "was" becomes [ʃ] influenced by the following /ʃ/ in "she".

#### The right person-Assimilation

An assimilation on the level of place of articulation, so we change /t/that is a
voiceless alveolar stop to /p/ which a voiceless bilabial stop. And in our
pronunciation, we will geminate the sound /p/

#### **Suspicion - Assimilation**

 We have three syllables, one weak and two strong.in the weak syllable the vowel / ə/ is between two voiceless sounds /s/. Therefore, that vowel will become devoiced too which is an assimilation

### By and by-Assimilation

• The /d/ in "and" might assimilate to the following bilabial /b/ sound, resulting in something closer to [barm bar].

#### **Postman-Assimilation**

• Similar to "rainbow," the /t/ and /m/ can lead to a bilabial nasal [m] sounding between, ['pousmən] or ['poustmən].

#### **Those shoes-Assimilation:**

• The /z/ sound in "those" can assimilate to match the place of articulation of the following /ʃ/ in "shoes," potentially sounding as [ðouʒ ʃuz].

## **Seven kings-Assimilation**

• We have /n/a voiced alveolar stop, and /k/a voiceless velar stop. We change the place of articulation of /n/ from alveolar to velar, in order to make less effort with the tongue and we will obtain /n/ which closer to /k/.

#### Steak and kidney pie

- **Elision**: The /d/ in "and" and possibly the /k/ in "kidney" might be elided when spoken quickly, sounding like [sterk ən 'kıdni par].
- **Assimilation**: The /n/ in "and" could assimilate to the following /k/ place of articulation.