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UNIVERSITY OF GHANA

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DEPARTMENT OF TEACHER EDUCATION
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP
COLLEGES OF EDUCATION

END OF SEMESTER TWO EXAMINATIONS, 2024/2025

TIME: 2 HOURS

COURSE CODE: TEIS 312

COURSE TITLE: PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY OF ENGLISH

INSTRUCTIONS: This paper consists of Sections A and B. Answer all the questions in Section A and three from Section B.

SECTION A

[25 marks]

Answer all the questions in this section.

1. Which of the following organs of speech primarily modifies airflow to produce nasal sounds like /m/ and /n/?
 - A. Alveolar ridge
 - B. Hard palate
 - C. Soft palate
 - D. Teeth
2. Which of the following transcriptions best represents the word "school"?
 - A. /skʊl/
 - B. /skɒl/
 - C. /kɒl/
 - D. /skɔl/
3. If a speaker has difficulty producing bilabial sounds, which of the following organs is most likely impaired?
 - A. Lips
 - B. Soft palate
 - C. Tongue
 - D. Uvula

4. Which of the following processes is involved when producing fricatives like /f/ and /s/?
A. Complete closure of articulators
B. Intermittent vibration of vocal folds
C. Narrow constriction causing turbulent airflow
D. Sudden and gradual release of built-up air pressure
5. Which of the following sounds is a voiced alveolar lateral approximant?
A. /v/
B. /z/
C. /d/
D. /t/
6. What happens to the velum during the production of oral sounds?
A. It lowers to allow nasal airflow.
B. It remains neutral.
C. It raises to block nasal passage.
D. It vibrates with the vocal folds.
7. What is the role of the vocal cords in producing voiceless sounds?
A. They vibrate continuously.
B. They remain apart and inactive.
C. They close tightly.
D. They resonate the sound.
8. How many syllables are in the word "elephant"?
A. One
B. Three
C. Two
D. Four
9. The sound _____ is classified as a voiceless bilabial plosive.
A. /b/
B. /m/
C. /p/
D. /w/
10. Which of the following scenarios best illustrates phonology rather than phonetics?
A. Analyzing tongue placement for /t/
B. Comparing pitch variations across dialects
C. Studying sound patterns in plural formation
D. Transcribing vowel sounds phonetically
11. Which of the following sounds is a high front unrounded vowel?
A. /æ/
B. /e/
C. /i/
D. /u/

12. Which of the following words contains a CCVCC syllable structure?
- A. String
 - B. Bring
 - C. Clap
 - D. Stand
13. A primary feature of broad transcription is that it _____.
- A. Includes diacritics
 - B. Omits phonetic detail
 - C. Shows allophonic variation
 - D. Uses square brackets
14. A linguist examining how stress affects meaning in English operates within the domain of
- A. Morphology
 - B. Phonetics
 - C. Phonology
 - D. Syntax
15. Which of the underlined sounds is best described as a voiced postalveolar fricative?
- A. /ʃ̬/
 - B. /ʒ̬/
 - C. /tʃ̬/
 - D. /z̬/
16. Which of the following types of initiation is used in producing most English sounds?
- A. Glottalic
 - B. Nasal
 - C. Pulmonic
 - D. Velaric
17. Which of the following sentences shows contrastive stress on the word "he"?
- A. He bought a car.
 - B. He bought a car yesterday.
 - C. He bought a car, not she.
 - D. He bought a car and a bike.
18. Which of the following sounds is the correct transcription of the vowel sound in "cat"?
- A. /ɑ̬/
 - B. /æ̬/
 - C. /e̬/
 - D. /ɛ̬/

19. Which of the following organs is supraglottal and primarily responsible for shaping vowel sounds?
- A. Epiglottis
 - B. Pharynx
 - C. Soft palate
 - D. Tongue
20. Which of the following phases determines whether a sound is voiced or voiceless?
- A. Articulation
 - B. Initiation
 - C. Phonation
 - D. Resonance
21. Which of the underlined transcriptions corresponds to the word "phone"?
- A. /fən/
 - B. /fəʊn/
 - C. /fən/
 - D. /fən/
22. Which of the following statements describes the articulation of /ʃ/?
- A. Complete closure at alveolar ridge
 - B. Narrow constriction at postalveolar region
 - C. Tongue tip touching teeth
 - D. Vocal fold vibration only
23. Which of the following statements best describes stress in English compared to tonal languages?
- A. English uses pitch to distinguish word meaning
 - B. English relies on stress rather than tone
 - C. English has no stress patterns
 - D. English uses tone and stress interchangeably
24. Which of the following options is an example of regressive assimilation?
- A. "good girl" pronounced as /god grɪl/
 - B. "have to" pronounced as /haʊt tə/
 - C. "input" pronounced as /ɪnpʊt/
 - D. "dogs" pronounced as /dɒgz/
25. The intonation form typically used in listing items is the _____ intonation.
- A. Falling
 - B. Level
 - C. Rising
 - D. Rising-falling

SECTION B

[75 marks]

Answer three questions from this section.

[5 Marks]

1. a. What is Phonetics and Phonology? [5 Marks]
b. With four (4) examples, discuss the importance of phonetics and phonology in English language teaching and learning. [20 Marks]

2. a. What is intonation? [5 Marks]
b. With appropriate examples, Discuss the four (4) functions of intonation and their relevance in English language teaching and learning. [20 Marks]

3. a. What is assimilation in English communication? [5 Marks]
b. Discuss three (3) types of assimilation and identify two (2) of its importance in English language teaching and learning. [20 Marks]

4. a. What is a syllable? [5 Marks]
b. With copious examples, discuss four (4) importance of understanding the nature of the English syllable structure in Ghanaian JHS classrooms. [20 Marks]

5. a. What is stress in language communication? [5 Marks]
b. Discuss three (3) types of stress and their importance in English language teaching and learning. [20 Marks]