

THE UNIVERSITY OF YAOUNDE 1

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

COURSE TITLE: Series:

ENG 1012: Scientific English for Biosciences (Bioscience)

ENG 1022: Scientific English for Physical Sciences (Physics/Chemistry)

ENG 1032: Scientific English for Computer Sciences (Mathematics/Computer Science)

ENG 1042: Scientific English for Earth Sciences (Earth Science)

SECTION ONE

- 1.1) Sounds of English – (consonants and vowels)
- 1.2) Word formation and pronunciation, English Orthography (phonetics)
- 1.3) Parts of speech
- 1.4) Types of Nouns
- 1.5) Different morphemes of nouns ending (ch, s, sh, x, z, y, f, fe, s, etc)
- 1.6) Hyphenated nouns: Singular and Plural
- 1.7) Gender Variables and invariables
- 1.8) Phonetics

SECTION TWO

- 2.1) Determiners
- 2.2) Articles/ Zero articles/ Punctuation
- 2.3) Verbs: Regular/irregular verbs/ Auxiliary verbs/ phrasal verbs/ Lexical and main verbs
- 2.4) Structure SV/ SVO/SVC
- 2.5) Pronoun agreement
- 2.6) Adjective agreement/ practical Exercises

SECTION THREE

- 3.1) Sentence Types (Affirmative, Negative, Interrogative sentences)
- 3.2) Question Tag Exclamation or interjection sign practical exercises
- 4.1) Vocabulary skills
- 4.2) Vocabulary in the context of science studies
- 4.3) Semantics of suffix and prefix
- 4.4) Lexical relationship connected to the field of study: (Synonyms, Homonyms, Antonyms)
- 4.5) Adjectives and Adverbs
- 4.6) Positive, Comparative, Superlative degrees
- 5.1) Writing Skills
- 5.2) Formal/ Informal correspondences

- 5.3) Form and structure of formal/ informal correspondences
- 5.4) Paragraphing and continuity
- 5.5) Conjunctions, linkers to build up unity and coherence
- 5.6) Prepositions
- 5.7)

6.1) Comprehension Reading and Listening Comprehension

6.2) presentations

6.3) Selection of comprehension passages from scientific books that may help in teaching grammar structures relevant vocabulary items and some sound devices.

LESSON ONE

SOUNDS OF ENGLISH

SYNOPSIS OF THE LESSON

The sounds of English are produced from vocal and nasal cavities. The different articulation include

- 1) The upper lip
- 2) Upper teeth
- 3) Alveola ridge
- 4) Palate
- 5) Velum
- 6) Uvular
- 7) Pharynx
- 8) Lower lip
- 9) Lower teeth
- 10) Tip of the tongue
- 11) Blade of the tongue
- 12) Front of the tongue
- 13) Middle of the tongue
- 14) Back of the tongue
- 15) Root of the tongue
- 16) Vocal cord

Consonants sounds

Here the focus is on manner and places of articulation

- 1) Bilibial sounds / b/ voiced
 /p/ voiceless
- 2) Libio-dental sounds /f/ voiceless
 /v/ voiced

- 3) Interdental sounds /th/
- 4) Alveola sounds /t/ voiceless / s / voiceless
 / d/ voiced /z / voiced
- 5) Retroflex sounds /dr/
 /tr/
- 6) Palatal Alveola sounds / ʃ/ voiced
 / j/ voiced
 / S/ voiceless
- 7) Velar sounds / g/ voiced
 / k / voiced
- 8) Pharyngeal sound /h / voiceless

(TASK) *Students provide words that are associated to each of the sounds above.*

VOWEL SOUNDS

Vowel sounds are classified into three categories namely:

- 1) Monophthongs – Single vowel sounds
- 2) Diphthongs – double vowel sounds
- 3) Triphthongs – Triple vowel sounds

Monophthongs

Monophthongs are single vowel sounds. They are produced through a chest pulse sound. They are classified into two main categories

- a) The long or tensed vowels
- b) The short of lax vowels

There are twelve monophthong sounds in number. They include:

- 1) / I: / eat, feet, lead, seen, sheep, neat, beat, seat, read, see, sea, key, etc
- 2) / I / it, fit, lid, sin, ship, knit, bit, sit, rid,
- 3) / / port, court, lord, fork, board, walk, ball, tall,
- 4) / / pot, cot, lot, fog, stop, stock, dot, rot, got,
- 5) /U:/ pull, cool, wool, stool, two, rule, fool, etc
- 6) / u / put, took, good, sugar, cook, full, etc
- 7) /a:/ calm, far, car, chart, father, arm, starch, etc
- 8) / / man, stand, cat, pad, sad, sad, fat, pan, can, rat, etc
- 9) /e / set, pet, head, red, men, said, read, etc
- 10)/ / but, cut, such, fun, run, come,
- 11)/ 3:/ skirt, flirt, bird, church, girl, term, turn, etc
- 12)/ / again, away, father, sister, surgeon, etc

(TASK) *Students learn how to pronounce the different sounds correctly and then add more words to each set. They also learn the vocabulary meaning of each word in each set.*

Diphthongs or Vowel glide

These are two monophthong vowel sounds brought together. They are nine in number and include:

- 1) /ei / day, say, play, late, name, etc
- 2) / / no, so, grow, phone, bone, low, know,
- 3) /ai/ eye, I, buy, sigh, try, fight, tie, light, kind,
- 4) /au/ how, cow, sound, owl, house, loud, count,
- 5) / / oil, toy, soil, boy, coil, loin, coin, etc
- 6) / / deer, dear, beer, near, ear, fear, etc
- 7) / / air, fair, fare, bear, there, more, core, etc
- 8) / /door, store, bore, more, core, etc
- 9) / / poor, tour, cure, sure, pure, etc

(TASK) *Students learn how to pronounce the different sounds correctly and then add more words to each set. They also learn the vocabulary meaning of each word in each set.*

LESSON TWO

English Orthography

In English words are not necessarily written the way they are pronounced, or pronounced the way they are written. More over in pronunciation, there are often a good number of letters that are silent for specific words. Examples of such letters are listed below in different words.

- 1) Letter **b** is silent in these words
 - 1.1) Debt, tomb, subtle, lamb, comb, plumb, thumb, succumb etc
- 2) Letter **d** is silent in these words
 - 2.1) Handkerchief, handsome, sandwich, grandfather, handcuff etc
- 3) Letter **g** is silent in these words
 - 3.1) Campaign, sign, sigh, high, paradigm etc
- 4) Letter **h** is silent in these words
 - 4.1) Hour, honest, heir, vehicle, vehement
- 5) Letter **k** is silent in these words
 - 5.1) Knock, knee, knife, asked
- 6) Letter **L** is silent in these words
 - 6.1) Calf, half, alms, chalk, stalk, walk, talk, colonel, etc

7) Letter **n** is silent in these words

7.1) Condemn, hymn, column, solemn, etc

8) Letter **p** is silent in these words

8.1) Cupboard, photo, psalm, psychology, coup, pseudo

9) Letter **r** is silent in these words

9.1) Far, car, star, bar, arms, etc

10) Letter **t** is silent in these words

10.1) Listen, often, hasten, castle, restle, apostle

(TASK) Students learn how pronounce the words correctly. They add more words to each set (WRITING) They construct sentences with some of the words for vocabulary study.

Other irregularities in English orthography from the position and manner of articulation where letters are not pronounced the way they are written are also very glaring. Here letters flirt as their pronunciations are quite different from the way they are written. Place of articulation can also be at the initial, middle and ending position. Take these letters:

1) /t/ time, cat, rotten, stopp

2) /k/ cat, king, back, account, character, queen, accquaint, antique, league

3) /g/ figure, plague

4) /f/ fish, enough, phone

5) /S/ so, cement, science, face

6) /sh/ should, wash, reception, tension, mission, conscience, ocean, sure

(TASK) Students pronounce the words and identify where the letter corresponds to the sound. They add more words to each set.

(WRITING) Students use each of the words in making sentences to show that they understand the vocabulary word

