



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA
14-16 AHMADU BELLO WAY, VICTORIA ISLAND LAGOS
SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2015 EXAMINATION

COURSE CODE: ENG341

COURSE TITLE: THE PHONOLOGY OF ENGLISH

TIME ALLOWED: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTION: Answer Any 3 Questions

1. Phonetics provides the raw materials for phonology. Discuss (23 marks)

2.A. Identify the sound(s) represented by the underlined letter(s)

i. slapped (1/2 mark)

coughed (1/2 mark)

crashed (1/2 mark)

brushed (1/2 mark)

clapped (1/2 mark)

ii. whistle (1/2 mark)

listen (1/2 mark)

loose (1/2 mark)

ceiling (1/2 mark)

wrestle (1/2 mark)

B. Describe the sounds identified in (i) and (ii)

(10 marks)

C. Choose from the list the word that contains the sound within the slashed brackets. (8 marks: ½ mark each)

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|----|-----|-------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
| a. | /p/ | (i) receipt | (ii) Phoebe | (iii) people | (iv) phoenix |
| b. | /b/ | (i) bomb | (ii) thumb | (iii) womb | (iv) ball |
| c. | /k/ | (i) know | (ii) knife | (iii) cafe | (iv) ceiling |
| d. | /ʊ/ | (i) move | (ii) rude | (iii) wolf | (iv) soup |
| e. | /ʒ/ | (i) mission | (ii) expression | (iii) passion | (iv) vision |
| f. | /g/ | (i) gnat | (ii) figure | (iii) poignant | (iv) gnash |

g.	/i:/	(i) busy	(ii) advantage	(iii) eight	(iv) deep
h.	/e/	(i) bead	(ii) tea	(iii) heaven	(iv) mean
i.	/i/	(i) advantage	(ii) deep	(iii) fee	(iv) weapon
j.	/ei/	(i) gate	(ii) deep	(iii) die	(iv) goat
k.	/t/	(i) gristle	(ii) baked	(iii) think	(iv) smooth
l.	/l/	(i) calf	(ii) half	(iii) seal	(iv) balm
m.	/f/	(i) church	(ii) machine	(iii) chip	(iv) mute
n.	/h/	(i) honest	(ii) hour	(iii) vehicle	(iv) house
o.	/s/	(i) lose	(ii) rise	(iii) loose	(iv) bags
p.	/n/	(i) solemn	(ii) column	(iii) bring	(iv) gnash

3. Using copious examples, explain the following terms:

- a. Assimilation (4marks)
- b. Deletion (4marks)
- c. Elision (4marks)
- d. Insertion (4marks)
- e. Coalescence (4marks)
- f. Liaison(3marks)

4. A. What are distinctive features? (8marks)

B. What advantage does generative theory have over others in phonemic description? (15 marks)

5. A. Define phonotactics and give copious examples to illustrate the phonotactics of English. (12 marks)

B. What is stress and its relevance to English Language? (11 marks)