

Home assignment

5. Letter-to-sound rules; graphic positions

1. Transcribe the following words and show which regular free-checked alternation each pair exemplifies.

grave /...../	A /.../~/.../	gravity /...../
metre /...../	E /.../~/.../	metric /...../
revise /...../	I/Y /.../~/.../	revision /...../
tone /...../	O /.../~/.../	tonic /...../
produce /...../	U /.../~/.../	production /...../

2. a) Categorize the following words based on the graphic position of their underlined (stressed) vowel-letters.
 b) Then decide whether the realization of each vowel-letter conforms to the basic rules: “free vowels are represented by a vowel-letter in free graphic position”; “checked vowels are represented by a vowel-letter in covered graphic position”. Underline the word if its vowel goes against these rules.

Free graphic position				Covered graphic position	
<u>V</u> #	<u>V</u> V	<u>V</u> CV	<u>V</u> SLV	<u>V</u> CC	<u>V</u> C#

stable, ago, white, maple, apple, basin, pen, April, metre, fun, sample, hyphen, toe, doctor, later, latter, taxi, by, bye, bathe, anthem, chaos, angel, have, sanity, static, statue, vision

3. The following words exemplify cases when you can correctly predict the free-checked value of the stressed vowel based on its graphic position. Pronounce the following words and transcribe their stressed vowel. (Note that in part b these vowels are followed by an r – see the slides of lesson 4 too).
- ogre /.../, gopher /.../, ether /.../, scruple /.../, flagrant /.../, cobra /.../, migrant /.../, dispatcher /.../, lethal /.../, colon /.../, senior /.../, Danish /.../, Polish /.../, velar /.../, duplicate /.../
 - internal /.../, virtual /.../, Harlem /.../, gyre /.../, merely /.../, era /.../, parents /.../, Mary /.../, marry /.../, Hurricane /.../ Irma /.../
4. Read the following passage about a shortcoming of using the IPA when teaching English. Then retranscribe it into ordinary English spelling. (If you don't recognize a word from its transcribed form, you can type its transcription into the SOUND window of the CUBE dictionary (<http://seas3.elte.hu/cube/>) to get its normal spelling. Instead of the IPA symbols, you have to use the corresponding ASCII characters listed at <http://seas3.elte.hu/cube/symbols.html>. For a more detailed explanation watch the short tutorial at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Tcrv8lgLbk.)

/ðɪj ájprɪjɛj ʌnfó:tʃənətɪj ɪz nót éjbl tə dró: ðə ɪʌŋgɛ:ɾɪjən lé:nəz əténʃn tə ðə méjn dífrənsɪz bɪtwɪjn ðə prənʌnsɪjɛjʃnz ən ðə túw lánɡwɪdʒɪz || ɪt réprɪzéntɪs səm pé:fɪktɪj íjzɪj ən fəmíɪljə sáwndz wɪð á:təfíʃɪj krɪjɛjtɪd símbɪz ən vájɪj vé:sə || ɪt məjt bɪj mó:r əprəwprɪjət ət bɪgínɪŋ lévl tə júwz trɑ:nskrípʃn sɪstəmz wɪtʃ ə bɛjst ɔn ðɪj ó:θəgráfɪk kənvénʃnz ən ðə stjéwdnts málðə tɪŋ || bət ðát wəd ɪndéjndʒər íntənáfɪl kənvé:təbɪlɪtɪj/