Home assignment

9. Phonotactics; allophonic rules and alternations

1. Phonotactics

a) The following word exemplifies a systematic gap in English, i.e. it not only does not exist but is also impossible in the language as it violates a number of phonotactic constraints. Can you find all the problems with this word?

*/páttmtəmb/

b) Transcribe the following words containing nasal+plosive clusters.

understand, temptation, limbo, climb, climber, sink, sing, singing, singer, finger, Hungarian, esteemed

2. Clear-L and dark-L

Cross all the l’s that are pronounced dark with a tilde (tensorflow).

a. Tell Bill and Helen that we’ll not call them unless all problems are solved.
b. Real eyes realize real lies.
c. The yellow lemon quickly rolled off the table and fell on the floor.
d. Please list all of the details in your letter.

3. Aspiration

Which fortis stops are aspirated and which ones are not? Mark aspiration (e.g. ph or pr) and underline the unaspirated fortis stops in the following words.

accúse *akjúwz, páper *pépə, pórt *pɔːt, potáto *pætʃtəw,
price *prɔjəs, státe *stɛjt, cártər *kætə, cartóon *kætewn,
cápitəl *kæpɪtal, cóol *kwɔl, schóol *skwɔl, applý *aplɔj,
twénty *twɛntɪ, trícked *trɪkt, clóck *klɔk, crítɪkal,
típɪkal, Cóckney *kɔknɪ, plátypus *plætɪpəs,
establísh *æstæblɪʃ, tákíng *tɛkɪŋ, Kíngton *kɪntən