

HOME ASSIGNMENT 2

I. Phonology of English vowels

1. Free-checked vowel alternations (Lesson 5)

The following pairs of words should exemplify the regular alternations of free and checked vowels. In each case provide a different form of the given word accordingly. Also, write after the word the vowel it contains.

FREE	CHECKED
<i>gr<u>a</u>de</i> /ɛj/	<i>gr<u>a</u>dual</i> /a/
<i>nat<u>i</u>on</i> /ɛj/	
<i>cr<u>i</u>me</i> /ɑj/	
	<i>revis<u>i</u>on</i> /ɪ/
	<i>interv<u>e</u>ntion</i> /ɛ/
	<i>alloph<u>o</u>nic</i> /ɔ/
<i>prod<u>u</u>ce</i> /ʌw/	

2. Further classification of vowels (Lesson 4)

Categorize the vowel phonemes by putting them in the right column of the table and write the words exemplifying their occurrence next to them. Make sure each free and checked vowel is in the same row as its pre-R counterpart (e.g. /ɛj/-/ɛ:/ or /a/-/ɑ:/).

ɔ	ɪj	əw	ʌw	ə:	ɪ	ɑ:	ɑj
ʌ	ʌ	o:	o:	aw	ɛ:	a	ɛ
ɛj	ɑj.ə (ɑ:)	aw.ə (ɑ:)		o: (ʌw.ə)		ɪ: (ɪj.ə)	

feed, fit, fire, fur, cute, loud, repair, boat, fox, head, fun, purse, hour, feared,
put, cure, bat, boar, bar, fine, contain, form, fir, confer

VOWELS							
FREE vowel		Pre-R counterpart of the FREE vowel		CHECKED vowel		Pre-R counterpart of the CHECKED vowel	
Phoneme	Example	Phoneme	Example	Phoneme	Example	Phoneme	Example
	<i>contain</i>	ɛ:					
	<i>boat</i>	o:	<i>boar</i>				<i>form</i>
					<i>head</i>		
				ɪ			<i>fir</i>
				ʌ			<i>fur</i>

II. Letter-to-sound rules (Lesson 5–6)

Identify the graphic position as well as the free/checked value of the underlined (stressed) vowel-letters of the following words. Then decide whether they conform to either of the basic rules: “checked vowels are represented by a vowel-letter in covered graphic position” or “free vowels are represented by a vowel-letter in free graphic position”. If so, write “covered – checked” or “free – free” in the last field of the table. If not, decide what the reason is. Can it be accounted for by some shortening rule? If so, write “Trisyllabic Shortening”, “Shortening by ending”, “Shortening by free U” or “CiV Shortening” into the table. Otherwise, if the free/checked value of the vowel cannot be explained, write “irregular exception”.

	Graphic position	Free or checked?	Free/checked choice
<u>b</u> e	free	free	free – free
<u>a</u> nimal	free	checked	Trisyllabic Shortening
to <u>e</u>			
<u>a</u> ble			
T <u>e</u> xas			
<u>g</u> ive			
<u>a</u> ctor			
<u>h</u> id			
<u>l</u> egal			
<u>a</u> ngel			
<u>s</u> anity			
<u>s</u> tate			
<u>s</u> tatic			
<u>s</u> tatue			
Vir <u>g</u> inia			
<u>v</u> anish			

III. Vowel contrasts

/ʌ, /ɔ/ or /ɑ:/? (Lesson 4)

Decide in each group of words which is the odd one out. Explain your choice briefly.

- hunt, butter, publish, touch, number, pronunciation, up, gun, come, love, dot, country, one, hundred, thunder, stunning
- hot, dog, bottle, lot, non-stop, shop, quantity, want, body, what, on, off, long, fox, nothing, hobby, Holland, popular, socks
- car, card, start, dance, palm, party, path, pass, bra, calm, watch, answer, father, hearth, after, task, hard, spa

IV. Transcription

Read the following passages and retranscribe them into ordinary English spelling. (Note that it is usually the weak forms of function words that are used in continuous speech, e.g. /ən/ or /n/ instead of /and/. 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.)

|| ən ɪlévn jɪ:r əwld bój ɔn hólədeɪ ɪn swítsələnd réwt ðə fóləwɪŋ tʊw ɪz málðər
ɪn lándən || jéstədeɪ ðɪj ɪnstráktə tʊk éjt əv əs tə ðə sləwps tə tíjtʃ əs skíjɪŋ ||
əj wəz nót véɪtʃ gúd ət ɪt || n səw əj bréwk ə léɡ || θáŋk gúdnəs ɪt wɔznt wán
əv májn ||

|| wót ə jʊw gəwɪŋ tə dúw || dʒéjn á:skt || wén jʊw grəw líp || || əj hávnt θó:t ||
á:nsəd káθrɪn || əj héwp əj fl géw tə júwnɪvé:sətɪj || || wót dəz jo: fá:ðə wónt
jʊw tə dúw || || əw híj dlznt májnd || séd káθrɪn lá:fɪŋ || əj déwnt θɪŋk hɪz
évnə θó:t əv ðə kwéstʃən ||

|| ə wéɪlsmən ó:dəd ə píjtsə(r) ɪn ə réstərɔnt wəɪl ɪn réwm || hɪj wəz ɑ:skt ɪf ɪj
wóntɪd ɪt kát ɪntə fó:r o:r éjt pɑ:ts || ən hɪj á:nsəd || kát ɪt ɪntə fó: || ɪts túw
máltʃ fə mɪj tʊw ɪjt éjt píjsɪz ||