

Phonetics Exercises

1. Write the symbol that corresponds to each of the following phonetic descriptions, and then write a word in English that begins with this sound.

Example: voiced alveolar stop [d] *dough*

- | | | |
|--|-------|-------|
| a. voiceless bilabial unaspirated stop | [] | _____ |
| b. low front vowel | [] | _____ |
| c. lateral liquid | [] | _____ |
| d. velar nasal | [] | _____ |
| e. voiced interdental fricative | [] | _____ |
| f. voiceless affricate | [] | _____ |
| g. palatal glide | [] | _____ |
| h. mid lax front vowel | [] | _____ |
| i. high back tense vowel | [] | _____ |
| j. voiceless aspirated alveolar stop | [] | _____ |

2. For each group of sound listed below, state the phonetic feature(s) they all share.

Example: [p] [b] [m] Features: bilabial, stop, consonant

- a. [g] [p] [t] [d] [k] [b]
- b. [u] [ʊ] [o] [ɔ]
- c. [i] [ɪ] [e] [ɛ] [æ]
- d. [t] [s] [ʃ] [p] [k] [tʃ] [f] [h]
- e. [v] [z] [ʒ] [dʒ] [n] [g] [d] [b] [l] [r] [w] [j]
- f. [t] [d] [s] [ʃ] [n] [tʃ] [dʒ]

3. What phonetic property or feature distinguishes the sets of sounds in column A from those in column B?

A	B	Feature
a. [i] [ɪ]	[u] [ʊ]	_____
b. [p] [t] [k] [s] [f]	[b] [d] [g] [z] [v]	_____
c. [p] [b] [m]	[t] [d] [n] [k] [g] [ŋ]	_____
d. [i] [ɪ] [u] [ʊ]	[e] [ɛ] [o] [ɔ] [æ] [a]	_____
e. [f] [v] [s] [z] [ʃ] [ʒ]	[tʃ] [dʒ]	_____
f. [i] [ɪ] [e] [ɛ] [æ]	[u] [ʊ] [o] [ɔ]	_____

4. Which of the following sound pairs have the same manner of articulation, and what is that manner of articulation?

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| a. [h] [ʔ] | f. [f] [ʃ] |
| b. [r] [w] | g. [k] [θ] |
| c. [m] [ŋ] | h. [s] [g] |
| d. [ð] [v] | i. [j] [w] |
| e. [r] [t] | j. [j] [dʒ] |

5. Write the phonetic symbol for the **first** sound in each of the following words.

Examples: ooze [u] psycho [s]

- | | | | |
|--------------|-----|------------|-----|
| a. judge | [] | f. thought | [] |
| b. Thomas | [] | g. contact | [] |
| c. thought | [] | h. phone | [] |
| d. easy | [] | i. civic | [] |
| e. pneumonia | [] | j. usual | [] |

6. Write the phonetic symbol for the **last** sound in each of the following words.

Examples: boy [ɔi] good [d]

- | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-------------|-----|
| a. fleece | [] | f. cow | [] |
| b. neigh | [] | g. rough | [] |
| c. long | [] | h. cheese | [] |
| d. health | [] | i. bleached | [] |
| e. watch | [] | j. rags | [] |

7. The English words below are written in a broad phonetic transcription using the IPA. Transcribe each word using the regular English orthography.

- | | |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| a. [hit] | k. [θæŋks] |
| b. [strok] | l. [wɛnzde] |
| c. [fez] | m. [krɔld] |
| d. [ton] | n. [kantʃiɛntʃəs] |
| e. [boni] | o. [parləmɛntəriən] |
| f. [skrim] | p. [kwɒbɛk] |
| g. [frut] | q. [pitsə] |
| h. [prɪtʃər] | r. [bərək obamə] |
| i. [krak] | s. [mɪt rəmni] |
| j. [baks] | t. [tu θaʊzənd ænd fɪftɪn] |

8. Write the following words in a broad phonetic transcription, i.e. omit phonetic details such as vowel length and nasalization, and consonant aspiration.

Examples: knot [nat] delightful [dɪlaɪtʃəl] or [dɒlaɪtʃəl]

- | | | |
|------------|------------------|--------------|
| a. physics | g. yellow | m. tease |
| b. merry | h. sticky | n. weather |
| c. mar | i. transcription | o. coat |
| d. myrrh | j. larynx | p. honest |
| e. heath | k. cough | q. beautiful |
| f. touch | l. through | r. president |