

International Phonetic Association Certificate Examination in English Phonetics

London, May 2013

There was no examination in May 2013.

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Examination Secretary

International Phonetic Association Certificate Examination in English Phonetics

London, Tuesday 27th August, 2013

2½ hours

Answer ALL questions. All four questions are equally weighted. Use diagrams and transcribed examples as appropriate. Answer Question 1 on a separate sheet.

1. Using a standard set of symbols for Modern Received Pronunciation (or, if you prefer, some other accent that you specify), make a phonemic transcription of the following passage, in an informal colloquial style. Indicate rhythmically stressed syllables, but NOT intonation.

We bought them a contraption called "Tent City". Set it up in the garden for Mia. I thought she'd be afraid of the tunnel that joins the two tents. But none of it! She sized it up for a moment. Then she was in like a flash, crawling and giggling. Then she tried to stand up. That was hilarious. She was too tall. She couldn't figure this out. Very confusing. In the end, she sat in the wigwam with her plastic picnic basket and pretended to eat biscuits and drink out of the cups. I'm just a tad worried that André will spoil it. He's so much bigger and rougher. I'm afraid he'll tear something, snap one of the frames. We shall see! He's coming at the weekend.

2. Describe in detail, with appropriate diagrams, the movements made by the organs of speech in pronouncing the phrase *hot kilns*.
3. **EITHER** Explain the concepts of *nasalization*, *t-glottalling*, *obstruent devoicing* and *aspiration*. Illustrate your answer using data taken from the text in Question 1 above.

OR Describe in detail the vowel allophones found in the words *minuet* /mɪnju'et/, *forcemeat* /'fɔ:s mi:t/ and *polders* /'pəʊldəz/. (Identify any processes affecting these vowels.)

4. **EITHER** Questions are produced in English using a variety of different intonation tunes. Describe this variation in detail, illustrating your answer with properly marked-up examples.

OR The utterance *He's coming to see us at the weekend* might be spoken with the following intonation: He's ¹coming to ⁰see us at the weekend ||. Using this utterance as your data, describe and illustrate the ways in which speakers of English can change meaning by altering the tonality, tonicity and tone.

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