

Universidad de Los Andes
Facultad de Humanidades y Educación
Escuela de Idiomas Modernos

Plosives – Additional Exercises

I. Read aloud each of the following sentences.

1. John studied English in Canada for three years.
2. He wanted to dance with Patricia last night.
3. The teacher pronounced each word very slowly.
4. We practiced the plosive consonants a lot yesterday.
5. You've confused Austria with Australia.
6. The student reported the loss to Pat immediately.
7. The teacher hasn't presented Lesson 15 yet.
8. Bruce entered the restaurant and ordered a beer.
9. Arthur's parents arrived in England an hour ago.
10. The class waited for Thomas until a quarter to ten.
11. We enjoyed the picnic to the lake very much.
12. All my pupils passed their subject with high grades.
13. We liked all the tourists that were here last year.
14. Mr. Steele has asked Arthur to telephone Mary.
15. The thief robbed us in broad daylight.

II. Transcribe **allophonically** each of the words below, just as your teacher pronounces them.

Please mark the primary and secondary stress(es).

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. participation _____ | 9. education _____ |
| 2. difficulty _____ | 10. courageous _____ |
| 3. supported _____ | 11. abolition _____ |
| 4. credibility _____ | 12. particle _____ |
| 5. eighteenth _____ | 13. attentively _____ |
| 6. cupboard _____ | 14. exactly _____ |
| 7. autumn _____ | 15. equipment _____ |
| 8. instructions _____ | 16. gardening _____ |

III. Read aloud the following pairs of words, paying special attention to the consonantal contrasts.

- | /p/ vs. /b/ | /t/ vs. /d/ | /k/ vs. /g/ |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. cap/cab | bent/bend | ankle/angle |
| 2. dapple/dabble | fated/faded | back/bag |
| 3. mopped/mobbed | kilt/killed | bicker/bigger |
| 4. pan/ban | latter/ladder | cap/gap |
| 5. peach/beach | metal/medal | clue/glue |
| 6. pen/Ben | sat/sad | coat/goat |
| 7. pin/bin | time/dime | crate/grate |
| 8. plead/bleed | tine/dine | decree/degree |
| 9. post/boast | tome/dome | duck/dug |

IV. Change the words transcribed below to their corresponding English spelling.

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. [r'si:t] _____ | 7. ['hænsəm] _____ |
| 2. [dɛt] _____ | 8. ['nɑlɪdʒ] _____ |
| 3. [p]ʌmər] _____ | 9. [kʰʌbərɪd] _____ |
| 4. [mʌsɪt] _____ | 10. ['wɔ:kɪŋ] _____ |
| 5. [kʰæsɪ] _____ | 11. ['wɜ:rkiŋ] _____ |
| 6. [dɪ'zɑm] _____ | 12. [pʰi:s,kʰɔ:r] _____ |

V. Read the following dialogue aloud. Pay special attention to the intonation of the sentences and to the pronunciation of the plosive consonants.

Bill: Hello, Arthur! I haven't seen you for ages. How are you?

Arthur: All right, I suppose. One double ticket, please, Bill.

Bill: Here you are, Arthur. That'll be two pounds. You know the way, don't you?

Arthur: No, I don't.

Bill: It's right to your left.

Arthur: Thanks.

Jennifer: Who was that? Why didn't you introduce me?

Arthur: Oh, that's Bill Skeffington. He used to be captain of the first fifteen in my last year. He would make fun of me, actually.

Jennifer: Well, in any case you should have introduced me to him.

Arthur: Are you coming in then?

Jennifer: Hang on a minute. I'm just going to the ladies' room. My hair's a bit of a mess.

VI. Identify the **syllable-position** in which the following English sounds occur. Follow the example given.

Example: /s/ in the syllable hos- of the word *hospital* is... IN SYLLABLE-FINAL POSITION

1. /v/ in the syllable hos- of the word *hospital* is...
2. /t/ in the syllable -tal of the word *hospital* is...
3. /p/ in the syllable -pi of the word *hospital* is...
4. /r/ in the syllable re- of the word *review* is ...
5. /m/ in the syllable main- of the word *maintain* is.
6. /n/ in the syllable main- of the word *maintain* is...
7. /v/ in the syllable -lieve of the word *believe* is...
8. /e/ in the syllable end- of the word *ending* is...

Exercise 1.2. Identify the **word-position** in which the following English sounds occur. Follow the example.

Example: /d/ in the word *adore* is IN WORD-INTERNAL POSITION

1. /f/ in the word life is
2. /θ/ in the word method is
3. /θ/ in the word thinker is
4. /ŋ/ in the word thing is
5. /f/ in the word phone is
6. /k/ in the word skate is
7. /v/ in the word dogs is
8. /r/ in the word marry is