Final Examination
Semester 1 / Year 2010

COURSE : PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY
COURSE CODE : ENGL 1063
TIME : 2 HOURS 30 MINUTES
DEPARTMENT : ENGLISH
LECTURER : SO LING CHUENG

Student’s ID :
Batch No. :

09 MAR 2010

Notes to candidate:

1. This question paper consists of 4 pages excluding this page.
2. You will find six questions.
3. Read the instructions carefully before answering the questions.
4. You are given 2 hours and 30 minutes to answer the questions.
5. You are to answer ALL questions.
6. You are to answer all the questions in the question paper itself.
A. Write the correct symbols for the sounds of the underlined letter or letters.

1. ______ experiment
2. ______ plan
3. ______ teach
4. ______ possession
5. ______ country
6. ______ brush
7. ______ strange
8. ______ mile
9. ______ measure
10. ______ cool

(10m)

B. Mark the stressed words in the sentences below using ‘O’.

For example: John is going to the library now.

After the first moments of strangeness, Lucy was glad to be alone. No one
breathing down her neck. She looked round the office with pleasure. Hers. Sunlight
streamed through the window. The curtains shifted a little in the spring breeze. There was
a small blue and green rug on the floor. I’ll have daffodils in a blue vase, Lucy thought. I
can afford flowers now. Or I will be able to, on Friday.

(13m)

C. Transcribe the following sentences.

1. The entrance examination to the prestigious university is quite tough.

2. I inherited the love of gardening from both my parents.
D. What is the difference between voiceless aspirated and voiceless unaspirated sounds? Give examples.

E. There are three different pronunciations to the present tense verbs ending with -s.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cab</td>
<td>cap</td>
<td>bush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bag</td>
<td>cat</td>
<td>match</td>
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<tr>
<td>can</td>
<td>back</td>
<td>buzz</td>
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<td>spa</td>
<td>faith</td>
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(a) What are the three pronunciations of the -s ending?
PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY

(b) What is the phonological rule that affects the three different pronunciations? (3m)

(c) Describe the two rules relevant to the pronunciation of the -s ending. (12m)

(d) Draw a table showing how these rules are applied to these words: butt, bug and bus. (12m)
F. This is a phonological analysis problem. Look at the following data from Italian. Answer the questions that follow. (30m)

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<td>1</td>
<td>[tinta]</td>
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<td>[tingo]</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>[nero]</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>[jente]</td>
<td>people</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>[anke]</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>[sapone]</td>
<td>soap</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>[fango]</td>
</tr>
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</table>

1. Are there any minimal pairs? If so, what are they?

2. State the phonetic environments in which the sounds [n] and [ŋ] appear. Identify any natural classes of sounds that appear in the environments you have provided.

3. Given what you know about the distribution of sounds and the environments you listed in (2), tell whether [n] and [ŋ] are in complementary or overlapping distribution? Please explain your answer.