

Chung Ang University
Practical Pronunciation 2008/02



English Pronunciation

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Over time it has become apparent that most students have wanted to focus on individual sounds when addressing their concerns regarding pronunciation. However, the fact is, minimal pair practice alone sometimes seems to yield minimal results. Our focus in this course is based on the principle that rhythm and melody (and their effect on sentence emphasis and thought grouping) is the framework within which speech flows most directly from speaker to listener. Though we shall attend to the articulation of individual sounds, our emphasis will be on rhythm, intonation and thought grouping.

This course will present sounds in a way that require you to think about how certain qualities of sounds affect meaning. This approach not only makes possible an early and systematic introduction to rhythm and linking during the practice of sounds, but also encourages you to think about sounds in a larger context.

Pronunciation and listening comprehension are linked together. Furthermore, they are linked by a unified system within which the individual sounds are systematically related. It is imperative that you have a sense of this system in order to make sense of the separate pieces. A specific example of a pronunciation topic, which affects listening comprehension, is the common use of contractions in the spoken language. Contractions are not used simply to speed up communication, but also as part of the system of basic emphasis. The ability to understand this will further enhance your listening skills.

Classroom activity will consist of lectures, dictation, and pair work. Each unit of your text contains several exercises related to pair work, providing you time for essential speaking practice and immediate feedback for error correction. My minimal expectation for students in this class is that each and every student will make an earnest effort to actively participate to the best of his /her ability. Though there may well be significant variations in student skill sets, the focus will be upon individual effort, in other words, Talk, Talk, Talk!

Your syllabus is a rough guide and will be supplemented with materials suitable for your skills.

Attendance records will be kept, therefore, please advise me if you are unable to attend a class. Failure to provide the necessary documents regarding an absence will result in demerits.

Textbook

**Clear Speech: Pronunciation & Listening Comprehension
In North American English (3rd Edition)**

Judy B. Gilbert
Cambridge University Press
C 2005

☛ **Criteria for Grading**

Attendance and Participation	25%
Midterm	25%
Take Home Tests	10%
Oral Exam	15%
Final Exam	25%

Class #1

Introductions
Anecdotal Information

Class #2

Diagnostic Test & Review
Rhythm : Number of Syllables

Class #3

Stops & Continuants & Grammar
Rhythm : Stops & Syllable Length

Class #4

Voicing
Concentrating on Sibilants

Class #5

Rhythm : Voicing & Syllable Length
Stress Vowel Length
Stress Vowel Clarity

Class #6

Midterm

Class #7

Word Stress Patterns

Class #8

Sentences
-Content Words
- Structure Words

Class #9

Pitch Patterns used for Emphasis

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Class #10

Emphasizing Structure Words

Intonation : Pitch Direction of Questions

Class #11

Intonation: Thought Groups

Class #12

Review Post Diagnostic Test

Class #13

Final Exam.