
UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

First Semester Examination
Academic Session 2007/2008

October/November 2007

HET 222 - PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY

Duration: 3 hours

Please check that this examination paper consists of THREE pages of printed material before you begin the examination.

Answer FOUR questions. Answer TWO questions from Section A and TWO questions from Section B.

Section A

Answer any TWO questions.

1. Explain the term airstream mechanism. Give an account of the various mechanisms used in human speech. Illustrate your answer with diagrams and examples.

[25 marks]

2. Explain the criteria used by the International Phonetic association (IPA) in classifying consonant segments. Illustrate your answer with diagrams.

[25 marks]

3. Explain the different stages involved in the production of plosive consonants. With the help of diagrams briefly describe how voiced plosive consonants are articulated.

[25 marks]

4. Describe the criteria used by Ladefoged (2006) in classifying vowel segments. Illustrate your answer with diagrams and examples.

[25 marks]

Section B

Answer any TWO questions.

5. Syllables have internal structure: they can be divided into parts or units. Using appropriate examples discuss what these units are. Then draw a tree diagram for each of the following words.

[a] sprint

[b] flap

[c] read

[d] window

[e] drowned

[25 marks]

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6. Discuss, with examples, the notions of stress and intonation in phonology.

[25 marks]

7. Discuss, with examples, the phonological processes of assimilation, palatalisation, labialization, nasalization and velarisation.

[25 marks]