

Some Practice in English Transcription

These words are for practice in transcribing English—in particular, English as spoken by me, using the transcription style taught in class. This transcription style is essentially the one in Ladefoged, leaving out the redundant colons. The sound files are posted on the Web at <http://www.linguistics.ucla.edu/people/hayes/103/EnglishTranscriptionPractice/>.

Print out a copy of this script, if you just downloaded it. Cover up the right side of the script with another piece of paper, transcribe on your own, then compare with the answer given here. Some of the forms given are real words, some are real phrases, and some are nonsense words.

Some of the transcriptions are meant to be somewhat difficult, probably more difficult than I would put on a test ...

In transcriptions, it is generally acceptable to

- Use “barred i” [i̯] instead of [ə]
- In the ending spelled *-ic*, use [ə], [i̯], or [ɪ]
- Leave out the stress mark on monosyllables
- Omit marks for secondary stress ([,]).
- Transcribe diphthongs in the more accurate “two vowel” style: [eɪ, ou, aɪ, ɔɪ, aʊ] instead of [ej, ow, aj, ɔj, aw].

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1. crookedness | [ˈkɹʊkəd nə s] (<i>not</i> [...nəs]!) |
| 2. Leslie (first way) | [ˈlesli] |
| 3. Leslie (second way) | [ˈlezli] |
| 4. macular | [ˈmækjələ] |
| 5. Seattle | [siˈærl] or [siˈærəl] |
| 6. Idaho | [ˈajdəˌhoʊ] or [ˈajrəˌhoʊ] |
| 7. clairvoyant | [kɫerˈvɔjənt] or [kɫeɪˈvɔjənt] |
| 8. strengths | [ˈstɹɛŋθs] |
| 9. indentation | [ˌɪndənˈteɪʃən] |
| 10. compensation | [ˌkæmpənˈseɪʃən] |
| 11. enemy | [ˈenəmi] |
| 12. rot | [ˈɹɒt] |
| 13. wrought | [ˈɹɔt] |
| 14. terrific (1st version) | [təˈɹɪfɪk] or [təˈɹɪfɪk] |
| 15. terrific (2nd version) | [təˈɹɪfɪk] |
| 16. texture | [ˈtɛkstʃə] |
| 17. annual | [ˈænjul]. For u: əw ok; for ɪ: əl ok. |

| | |
|--|---------------|
| 18. neuron (1st version) | [ˈnəʊn] |
| 19. neuron (2nd version) | [ˈnjəʊn] |
| 20. bother | [ˈbʌðə] |
| 21. idolatry | [ajˈdɒlətɹɪ] |
| 22. delivery (1st version) | [dɐˈlɪv.ɪ] |
| 23. delivery (2nd version) | [dɐˈlɪvəɪ] |
| 24. pally (“acting like a pal”) | [ˈpæli] |
| 25. Pali (ancient language of India) | [ˈpali] |
| 26. Pauley (athletic pavilion) | [ˈpɒli] |
| 27. plasticity (1st version) | [plæsˈtɪsəri] |
| 28. plasticity (2nd version) | [pləˈstɪsəri] |
| 29. uranium (1st version) | [jəˈeɪniəm] |
| 30. uranium (2nd version) | [juˈreɪniəm] |
| 31. ye | [ji] |
| 32. E | [i] |
| 33. woo | [wu] |
| 34. ooh | [u] |
| 35. quarter (1st version) | [ˈkɔːrə] |
| 36. quarter (2nd version) | [ˈkwɔːrə] |
| 37. (nonsense word) | [plowˈtɒlk] |
| 38. (nonsense word) | [ˈmowkjələpə] |
| 39. (nonsense word) | [ˈmowkjələpʌ] |
| 40. (nonsense word) | [əsəfəˈθɪpə] |
| 41. (nonsense word) | [ˈkmakp] |
| 42. (nonsense word) | [vɪowˈlumiəm] |
| 43. (nonsense word) | [ˈskɛskɪ] |
| 44. (nonsense word) | [ˌuajˈɔjow] |
| 45. (nonsense word; compare with <i>macular</i> above) | [ˈmækjələ] |