



**NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA,
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES
2021_1 SEMESTER EXAMINATION**

COURSE CODE: ENG341 (3 CREDITS)

COURSE TITLE: THE PHONOLOGY OF ENGLISH

TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTION: Answer Any 4 Questions

1. Fill the blank space with the correct answer
 - i. The study of all the possible combinations of the phonemes of a language in order to write an acceptable unit larger than the phoneme is called _____. (1½marks)
 - ii. 'The meeting starts right away' is made with Tune _____. (1½marks)
 - iii. _____ is concerned with the study of how speech sounds are produced. (1½marks)
 - iv. The smallest meaningful, contrastive and distinctive sound unit of a language is called _____. (1½marks)
 - v. Pure vowels are also called _____. (1½marks)
 - vi. When the vocal cords vibrate, _____ sounds are produced. (1½marks)
 - vii. Another name for plosive sounds is _____. (1½marks)
 - viii. /m, n, ŋ/ are _____ sounds. (1½marks)
 - ix. _____ is the process whereby a phoneme changes from its normal pronunciation in isolation or in a word to another phoneme that is close to it in manner or place of articulation in a continuous utterance. (1½marks)
 - x. _____ is a phonological process involving the omission of a vowel sound in a sequence of sounds at the boundary juncture of an utterance. (1½marks)
 - xi. /g/ is _____. (1marks)
 - xii. /ʌ/ is vowel number _____. (1mark)
2. Discuss briefly the process involved in the production and articulation of these sounds and give five examples of words containing such sounds.
 - i) /p/ (3marks)
 - ii) /n/ (3marks)
 - iii) /b/ (3marks)
 - iv) /d/ (3marks)
 - v) /v/ (3marks)

- vi) /ŋ/ (2marks)
3. Choose from the list the word that contains the sound within the slashed brackets. (17 marks: 1½ marks each for a – j. Questions k and l should be score 1 mark each)

- | | | | | | |
|----|------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
| a. | /t/ | (i) listen | (ii) gristle | (iii) castle | (iv) coughed |
| b. | /z/ | (i) bags | (ii) loss | (iii) lice | (iv) ceiling |
| c. | /b/ | (i) plumber | (ii) receipt | (iii) tomb | (iv) baby |
| d. | /h/ | (i) hour | (ii) whore | (iii) honest | (iv) behave |
| e. | /ʒ/ | (i) mission | (ii) television | (iii) passion | (iv) lesson |
| f. | /g/ | (i) gnat | (ii) plague | (iii) poignant | (iv) gnash |
| g. | /i/ | (i) busy | (ii) people | (iii) tea | (iv) deep |
| h. | /e/ | (i) bury | (ii) tea | (iii) gate | (iv) mean |
| i. | /i:/ | (i) advantage | (ii) dip | (iii) fee | (iv) weapon |
| j. | /ɔ:/ | (i) pot | (ii) soar | (iii) dog | (iv) what |
| k. | /ʌ/ | (i) country | (ii) floor | (iii) mock | (iv) lord |
| l. | /ɜ:/ | (i) lecture | (ii) labour | (iii) colour | (iv) journey |

4. Identify and describe the sounds of the underlined letter(s) of the following words:

- | | | |
|-------|----------------------|----------|
| i) | <u>o</u> ar | (2marks) |
| ii) | a <u>b</u> ove | (2marks) |
| iii) | aw <u>a</u> re | (2marks) |
| iv) | rese <u>a</u> rch | (2marks) |
| v) | bo <u>y</u> s | (2marks) |
| vi) | le <u>o</u> pard | (2marks) |
| vii) | l <u>a</u> w | (2marks) |
| viii) | l <u>o</u> ad | (1mark) |
| ix) | g <u>a</u> te | (1mark) |
| x) | agric <u>u</u> lture | (1mark) |

5. a) Use the notation + (positive or present in) and – (negative or absent in) to complete the table below. (15marks)

S/N	Sound	Coronary	High	Back	Obstruent	Sonorant
1	I:					
2	ʊ					
3	ɔ					
4	ɔ:					
5	d					

- b) Write short notes on the Triphthongs of English. (2 marks).