



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES
2019_1 EXAMINATIONS

COURSE CODE: ENG341
COURSE TITLE: THE PHONOLOGY OF ENGLISH
CREDIT UNITS: 3
TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTION: Answer **ALL** the Questions.

1. (a) Draw the English CONSONANT chart (10 marks)
(b) Indicate the positions of all the voiceless consonants in the chart (10 marks)
(20 marks/50 minutes)
2. (a) Underline the first consonant sound in each of the following words:
 - (i) above
 - (ii) sing
 - (iii) fricative
 - (iv) predator
 - (v) thoughtful

(5 marks)
- (b) Indicate the stressed syllable in the words below by properly placing stress on them:
 - (i) manly
 - (ii) doctor
 - (iii) daddy
 - (iv) psalm
 - (v) when

(5 marks)
- (c) Indicate vocalic sounds in the words below by underlining them:
 - (i) girl
 - (ii) come
 - (iii) gnat
 - (iv) pale
 - (v) shoot

(5 marks)
- (d) Underline the fricative sounds in the following words:
 - (i) touch
 - (ii) manner
 - (iii) however
 - (iv) thoughtful
 - (v) herbal

(5 marks)

(e) Homophones could be defined as words that sound like their counterparts. Give the homophones of the following words.

- (i) assent
- (ii) pick
- (iii) caught
- (iv) time
- (v) key

(5 marks)

(25 marks/50 minutes)

3. (a) Use the table below to show the distinctive features of the sounds indicated in the first column:

Sounds	Vocalic	Sonorant	Anterior	Coronal	Nasal	Voice	High	Consonantal	Rounded
/ə:/									
/æ/									
/u:/									
/ɔ/									
/a:/									
/w/									
/dʒ/									
/g/									
/d/									
/v/									
/z/									
/ɪ/									
/t/									
/p/									
/m/									

(15 marks)

(b) Give the possible allophonic variants of the present tense element in English by using the examples below. Transcribe the affected words to show the present tense allophonic variant.

- (i) Sharon shoots very well; she is a good marksman.
- (ii) Sule runs the sprint dash at the Olympics.
- (iii) Dr Onwubere goes to the gym everyday.
- (iv) Prof Nwabueze likes telling moonlight stories to their grandchildren every evening.
- (v) Prof Abdalla Uba Adamu goes with us to Germany every year.

(5 marks)

(c) Use the sentences below to show the morphophonemic realisation of the English past tense. Transcribe the affected words to show the past tense allophonic variant.

- (i) The politician was praised for their great performance in office.
- (ii) The just deposed king loved his throne too much to leave the matter alone.

- (iii) The Presidency yesterday indicated its readiness to increase the allocation to the education sector in Nigeria.
- (iv) Ebola infection was stopped in Nigeria due to the concerted efforts of all the tiers of Nigeria government.
- (v) The director cast her for the role because of her professionalism in handling intricate roles in films.

(5 marks)

(25 marks/1 hour, 20 minutes)