

Phonetics English I. Sample Oral Exam Questions

Q. What does IPA stand for?

Q. Is there any difference between the terms “spelling” and “phonetic transcription”?

Q. What does the : symbol represent? Can it be used to describe a consonant sound?

Q. What is a vowel chart?

Q. How can a vowel be described?

Q. What is a phoneme?

Q. What is a minimal pair? Can you find an example?

Q. How many vowels are there in British English? And in American English?

Q. What are the rules for the pronunciation of /r/ in postvocalic position?

Q. What does ‘voiceless’ mean? Can this term be used to describe a vowel sound?

Q. What does ‘voiced’ mean? Can this term be used to describe a vowel sound?

Q. What is stress?

Q. Is phonetic stress always found on the same syllable? For example, always on the second or last syllable of a word?

Q. What are the pronunciation rules for the –s ending?

Q. What are the pronunciation rules for the –ed ending?

Q. Can you map the following vowel sound on the vowel chart? Can you describe it?

Q. Can you pronounce the following sound from the IPA chart? Can you tell me a word that contains it?