ASSIGNMENT 2 (40%)

DEADLINE: 25 APRIL 2014

Answer all questions.

1. Supposedly a Malaysian learner of English has difficulties distinguishing the vowel sound [t] and [θ] as in words such as tick and thick, respectively and seek your advice on how to correctly articulate the pair of sounds, what advice would you give the learner in order to be able to make the distinction for the pair of sounds.

Using your knowledge of articulatory phonetics, explain what the learner needs to do to help him/her to distinguish the respective pairs of sounds and improve his/her pronunciation of words with such sounds. Include other examples of pairs of English words that show contrast between the two sounds.

(15 marks)

2. Provide minimal pairs in English for the following sounds to show contrast in two different positions:
   i) word-initial position,
   ii) word-final position.

Example: for / p / & / b /,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word-initial</th>
<th>pat/bat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Word-final</td>
<td>rib/rip</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. / k / / g /
2. / m / / n /
3. / p / / f /
4. / s / / z /
5. / ð / / d /
6. / b / / p /
7. / tʃ / /ʒ /

(14 marks)
3. Examine the OE words below. For the word in column A, \(<s>\) represents the sounds [s]; for those in column B, it represents [z].

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sæđ</td>
<td>[sæd]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sticca</td>
<td>[stɪka]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wis</td>
<td>[wi:s]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mos</td>
<td>[mɔs]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sendan</td>
<td>[sɛndan]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>spell</td>
<td>[spɛl]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Are [s] and [z] allophones of one or two phonemes? (2 marks)

b. Do they occur in any minimal pairs? (1 mark)

c. Are they in complementary distribution? (2 marks)

d. State the environments of each sound.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>[s]</th>
<th>[z]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before [s]</td>
<td>After [s]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2 marks)
e. If you conclude that they are allophones of one phoneme, state the rule that can derive the phonetic allophonic forms in:

i) notation form (2 marks)

/___/ \[\boxed{[___]}\] /

ii) in written form (2 marks)

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Total: 40 marks (40%)
IMPORTANT REMINDER

1. Please send a copy of your assignment directly to me at the following address:

   Dr Sabariah Hj Md Rashid
   Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication
   43400 Universiti Putra Malaysia
   Serdang, Selangor Darul Ehsan.

2. Please also send a copy to UPMET for official record purposes.

Assignments submitted after the deadline will not be entertained unless permission for late submission is approved before the deadline. Any request for extension of the deadline must be made at least two (2) weeks before the deadline via e-mail or telephone at the following address or telephone number:

smrashid@upm.edu.my

OR

03-89468778