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978-0-521-85036-0 - The Sound Structure of English: An Introduction

Chris McCully

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The Sound Structure of English

The Sound Structure of English provides a clear introduction to English phonetics and phonology. Tailored to suit the needs of individual, one-term course modules, it assumes no prior knowledge of the subject, and presents the basic facts in a straightforward manner, making it the ideal text for beginners. Students are guided step-by-step through the main concepts and techniques of phonetic and phonological analysis, aided by concise chapter summaries, suggestions for further reading and a comprehensive glossary of all the terms introduced. Each chapter is accompanied by an engaging set of exercises and discussion questions, encouraging students to consolidate and develop their learning, and providing essential self-study material. The book is accompanied by a companion website, which helps readers to work through specified in-chapter problems, suggests answers to end-of-chapter exercises, and contains links to other sites of interest to those working on English sound-structure. Providing the essential knowledge and skills for those embarking on the study of English sounds, it is set to become the leading introduction to the field.

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CBMcC
Usquert
October 2008

A note on using this book

In what follows you'll find a book of eleven chapters, whose contents are detailed above. Throughout each chapter I've set what are intended to be thought-provoking questions. Each question appears in **bold** font and in boxed text. Sometimes I've begun to answer such questions in the text that follows them, but more usually I've not answered them within the covers of this book. You will, however, find that such questions are useful to discuss in seminars, or even outside classes. You'll also find a fuller set of answers in the web pages that accompany the book. You will need to open the following URL: <http://www.cambridge.org/9780521615495>.

Similarly, at the end of each chapter you'll find a set of more formal exercises. These are labelled e.g. **exercise 1a**, **exercise 3d** and so on. These also appear in bold font, and in text boxes. Again, I have sometimes offered commentary, but more often I've placed a discussion of them in the relevant web pages.

Although the book can be used as a stand-alone textbook *you won't get the best out of it unless and until you access the web pages that complement it.*

You'll also find a glossary in the apparatus which concludes the book. The glossary contains all those terms which, on their first appearance in the text, are set in **bold** font. In the glossary I've given brief (and, I hope, uncontroversial) definitions to these terms, and have also, where relevant, included a page or section reference detailing where those terms appear in this book. There's also a full index, again in the concluding apparatus, so you shouldn't get lost.