

# International Phonetic Association

## Certificate Examination in English Phonetics

London, Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2011

2½ hours

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*Answer ALL questions. All four questions are equally weighted. Use diagrams and transcribed examples as appropriate.*

1. Using a standard set of symbols for Received Pronunciation (or, if you prefer, of some other accent that you specify), make a phonemic transcription of the following passage, in an informal colloquial style. Indicate rhythmically stressed syllables, but NOT intonation.

*It's accepted that the British are an eccentric bunch, but the Serpentine Swimming Club still manages to raise a few eyebrows. For over a century, members have braved the icy waters of the Serpentine on Christmas Day, for the annual Peter Pan Cup. This winter event's reserved for experienced swimmers, but ordinary souls can still indulge in an outdoor dip thanks to the Lido, which opens at the lake on 1 May every year. The average water temperature's a very reasonable 21°C in August. And after your swim, sitting with a drink on the waterside deck at the Gin Bar, you'll find the alfresco atmosphere feels more like Barcelona than London.*

2. Describe in detail, with appropriate diagrams, the movements made by the organs of speech in pronouncing the phrase *in case you...*
3. **EITHER** In her 2003 book *The Sound Patterns of Spoken English*, Shockey is careful to distinguish between *processes in conversational English* and *coarticulation*. Explain these concepts, taking care to clarify the difference.

**OR** Give a detailed account of the major allophones of Modern Received Pronunciation /r/. Mention briefly any significant regional differences in the pronunciation of this phoneme.

4. **EITHER** Illustrate and explain the following concepts in relation to English pronunciation: *stress shift, contrastive stress, stress timing, secondary stress, stress-imposing suffixes*.

**OR** English is known as an *intonation language*. What does this mean?

[END OF PAPER]

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**London, August 2011**

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There was no examination in August 2011.

Patricia Ashby,  
Examination Secretary