



**NAMIBIA UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

FACULTY OF COMMERCE, HUMAN SCIENCES AND EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGES

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| QUALIFICATION: BACHELOR OF ENGLISH AND LINGUISTICS | |
| QUALIFICATION CODE: (07BENL) | LEVEL: 5 |
| COURSE CODE: IPP521S | COURSE NAME: Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology |
| SESSION: DECEMBER 2025 | PAPER: THEORY |
| TIME: 3 HOURS | MARKS: 100 |

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| SECOND OPPORTUNITY EXAMINATION PAPER | |
| EXAMINER(S) | Dr Sylvia N Ithindi Dr Hambeleleni Hamunyela |
| MODERATOR: | Dr Anneli Nghikembua |

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| INSTRUCTIONS |
| 1. Answer ALL the questions. 2. Read all the questions carefully before answering. 3. Number the answers clearly |

THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF 4 PAGES, INCLUDING THE COVER PAGE

QUESTION 1**[20]**

1.1 Study the following statements and decide whether they are true or false. (10)

- (a) Phonology focuses only on how speech sounds are produced by the vocal organs.
- (b) The term "suprasegmentals" refers to features like stress, tone, and intonation that can extend over more than a single consonant or vowel.
- (c) In a pulmonic egressive airstream mechanism, air is pushed out of the lungs by the diaphragm.
- (d) A phonemic transcription is placed between slashes / / and only includes contrastive sounds, while a phonetic transcription is placed between square brackets [] and includes more phonetic detail.
- (e) The manner of articulation describes where in the vocal tract a sound's obstruction occurs, such as at the lips or the alveolar ridge.
- (f) Studying phonetics and phonology is of little practical value for improving spelling in a language like English.
- (g) Click consonants, common in some African languages, are produced using the pulmonic airstream mechanism.
- (h) Studying phonetics and phonology helps improve pronunciation and reduces mother-tongue interference.
- (i) Using technology such as speech analysis software can assist students in practicing pronunciation and identifying errors.
- (j) The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) is used only in English and not in other languages.

1.2 Minimal pairs help identify which sound differences are phonemic (contrastive) in a language.

- (a) Define the term minimal pair in phonology. (2)
- (b) Provide four examples of minimal pairs in English. For each pair, underline the phoneme that makes the difference in meaning. (4)

1.3 The English letter "g" can represent different phonemes depending on its spelling environment.

Provide the actual pronunciation of "g" in each of the following words. Write the correct phonetic symbol for each case. (4)

- (a) Go
- (b) Giant
- (c) Bag
- (d) Giraffe

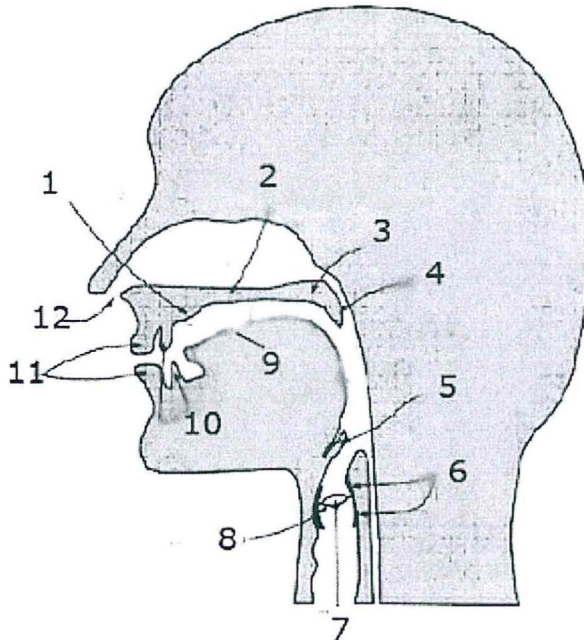
QUESTION 2

[20]

2.1 The fields of Phonetics and Phonology are very significant both to the study and acquisition of various languages. Discuss how phonetics and phonology can be used by people as discussed in this course. (10)

2.2 Study the picture of the human vocal tract below. Identify the parts labelled 1-10. (10)

PARTS OF HUMAN VOCAL TRACT



Linguistics

by. syafii_smk3komat@yahoo.com

QUESTION 3

[20]

3.1 Provide the phonetic for each of the following consonant sounds: (9)

- (a) /p/
- (b) /v/
- (c) /ŋ/

3.2 Copy the table into your answer book and categorise the vowel sound in each of the following words as a monophthong, diphthong, or triphthong. (11)

| Monophthong | Diphthong | Triphthong |
|-------------|-----------|------------|
| | | |

Words: Player, Cat, seat, boy, now, fire, coat, car, play, near, player

QUESTION 4**[20]**

4.1 Identify and write the number of phonemes in each of the following words: (10)

- (a) Through
- (b) Psychology
- (c) Strength
- (d) Nature
- (e) Enough

4.2 Name and explain parameters to describe consonants. (10)

QUESTION 5**[20]**

5.1 Phonetics plays a significant role in the identification of homophones in English. By using two different examples, discuss what homophones are. (5)

5.2 In a paragraph, give a fully detailed description of the different positions of the velum during the Oro-nasal process. Illustrate with examples of sounds produced by this process. (15)

Total: 100 Marks