Appendix A. Pronunciation Diagnostic Test

*Note: This is a sample instrument given to advanced level students. The instruments were tailored for each of the three levels based on the problems predicted by CAH. The words and sounds in* ***bold font*** *were areas that we predicted would be problematic, and which we used in our analysis at segmental and suprasegmental levels. However, the version we gave to students was a “clean” copy with no markings.*

**Part I: Reading**

Read the following passage out loud:

*The Fall of the House of Usher,* by Edgar Allan Poe

During the **whole** of a **dull**, dark, and **sound**less day in **th**e **au**tumn of the year, **w**hen the cl**ou**ds **hung** **oppressively** **low** in the h**ea**vens, I had been passing alone, on horseback, **th**rough a **singularly** **dreary** tract of country; and at leng**th** **found** myself, as the **shades** of the evening drew on, wi**th**in view of the **melancholy** House of Usher. I know not how it **w**as--but, **with** the first **glimpse** of the buildin**g**, a sense of **insufferable** **gloom** **pervaded** my **spirit**. I say insufferable; for the feeling was **unrelieved** by any of that half-**pleasurable**, because poetic, **sentiment**, with which the mind usually **receives** even the **s**ternest natural **images** of the **desolate** or terrible. I looked **upon** the scene before me--upon the **mere** house, and the simple land**s**cape **features** of the **domain**--upon the **bleak** **w**alls--upon the **vacant** eye-like windows--upon a few rank **sedges**--and upon a few **w**hite tr**u**nks of **decayed** trees--with an **utter** **depression** of soul which I can **compare** to no ear**th**ly **sensation** more **properly** than to the after-dream of the **reveler** upon **opium**--the **bitter** **lapse** into everyday life-the **hideous** **dropping** off of the reveler upon opium--the bitter lapse into everyday life--the hideous dropping off of the **veil.** There was an **iciness**, a **si**nkin**g**, a **sickening** of the heart--an **unredeemed dreariness** of **th**ought which no **goading** of the **imagination** could **torture** into **aught** of the **sublime**. **W**hat was it--I paused to think--what was it that so **unnerved** me in the **contemplation** of the House of Usher? It was a **mystery** all **insoluble**; nor could I **grapple** with the **shadowy fancies** that **crowded** upon me as I **pondered**. I was forced to fall back upon the **unsatisfactory conclusion**, that while, beyond **doubt**; **th**ere are **combinations** of very simple natural objects which have the **power** of **th**us **affecting** us, **s**till the **analysis** of this **power** lies among **considerations** beyond our **depth**. It was possible, I **reflected**, that a **mere** **different** **arrangement** of the **particulars** of the scene, of the **details** of the picture, would be **sufficient** to **modify**, or perhaps to **annihilate** its **capacity** for **sorrowful** **impression**; and, acting upon this **idea**, I **reined** my horse to the **precipitous** brink of a black and **lurid** **tarn** that lay in **unruffled luster** by the **dwelling**, and **gazed** **down**--but with a **shudder** even more **th**rilling than before--upon the **remodeled** and **inverted** **images** of the gray sedge, and the **ghastly** tree-**stems**, and the **vacant** and eye-like **w**indows.

Source: http://www.englishclub.com/reading/story-house-of-usher.htm

Read out loud the following dialogue:

**Police Officer**: Hello. 24th [Precinct](http://www.esl-lab.com/story1/storysc1.htm#key). Officer Jones **s**peaking.

**Man**: Help. Yeah, uh, it **w**as **w**ild, I mean **really** [**bizarre**](http://www.esl-lab.com/story1/storysc1.htm#key).

**Police Officer**: Calm **down** sir! Now, what do you want to report?

**Man**: Well, I'd like to report a UFO **sighting**.

**Police Officer**: A what?

**Man**: What do you mean "what?" An [**unidentified**](http://www.esl-lab.com/story1/storysc1.htm#key)flying object!

**Police Officer**: Wait, tell me exactly what you saw.

**Man**: **W**ell, I was **driving** home from a party about **th**ree hours ago, so it was about 2:00 AM, when I saw this bright light overhead.

**Police Officer**: Okay. And then what **happened**?

**Man**: Oh, man. Well, it was [out of this world](http://www.esl-lab.com/story1/storysc1.htm#key). I **stopped** to **w**atch the light when it **disappeared** behind a **hill** about a **kilometer** ahead of me.

**Police Officer**: Alright. Then what?

**Man**: Well, I got back in my car and I **s**tarted driving **toward** where the UFO landed.

**Police Officer**: Now, how do you know it was a UFO? Perhaps you only **saw** the lights of an **airplane** [*No*], or the **headlights** of an [**approaching**](http://www.esl-lab.com/story1/storysc1.htm#key) car [*No*]. **Things** like that happen, you know.

**Man**: Well if it was that, how do you explain "the **BEAST**"?

**Police Officer**: What do you mean, "the BEAST"?

**Man**: Okay. I kept driving for about five minutes when all of a sudden, this **giant**, hairy **creature** jumped out in front of my car.

**Police Officer**: Oh, yeah. Then what?

**Man**: Well, then, the beast picked up the front of my car and said, "Get out of the car. I'm taking you to my master!" Something like that.

**Police Officer**: Wow? A hairy **alien** who can **speak** English! Come on!

**Man**: I'm not making this up, if that's what you're **suggesting.** Then, when I didn't get out of the car, the beast opened the car door, carried me on his shoulders to this round-shaped flying **saucer**, and well, that's when I **woke up** alongside the road. The beast must have knocked me out and left me there.

**Police Officer**: Well, that's the best story I've heard all night, sir. Now, have you been taking any medication, drugs, or alcohol in the last 24 hours? You **mentioned** you went to a party.

**Man**: What? Well, I did have a few **beers**, but I'm telling the **truth**.

**Police Officer**: Okay, okay. We have a great **therapist** that deals with **THESE** kinds of cases.

**Man**: I'm not **crazy**.

**Police Officer**: **W**ell, we'll look into your story. **Th**ank you.

Source: <http://www.esl-lab.com/story1/storysc1.htm>

**Part II: Minimal Pairs**

Read each pair of words and sentences out loud:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | beat | bit, lead | lead |  |  | Please sit in this seat. |  |  |  |
| 2 | beat | bait, pay | pea |  |  | I hate this heat. |  |  |  |
| 3 | bet | bet, mean | men |  |  | The step is steep. |  |  |  |
| 4 | bit | bait, give | gave |  |  | The pill made her pale. |  |  |  |
| 5 | lid | led, left | lift |  |  | He hid his head. |  |  |  |
| 6 | bag | bag, dish | dash |  |  | Give the ham to him. |  |  |  |
| 7 | rib | rub, did | did |  |  | That bug is big. |  |  |  |
| 8 | lace | less, gate | get |  |  | Don't let them be late. |  |  |  |
| 9 | made | mad, past | past |  |  | I hate this hat. |  |  |  |
| 10 | but | but, sum | same |  |  | They run in the rain. |  |  |  |
| 11 | raid | road, cone | cane |  |  | Please taste the toast. |  |  |  |
| 12 | head | had, mass | mess |  |  | This bed is bad. |  |  |  |
| 13 | three | though, they | throw |  |  | They threw the ball. |  |  |  |
| 14 | leg | log, stop | step |  |  | The rod was red. |  |  |  |
| 15 | tug | tug, cup | cap |  |  | My hat is in that hut. |  |  |  |
| 16 | rack | rock, tap | top |  |  | She sang a song. |  |  |  |
| 17 | hide | had, I'm | am |  |  | Put back my bike. |  |  |  |
| 18 | done | done, suck | sock |  |  | I hope that's not a nut. |  |  |  |
| 19 | stud | stood, put | put |  |  | This book cost a buck. |  |  |  |
| 20 | rum | roam, nut | note |  |  | He must have the most. |  |  |  |
| 21 | sun | sawn, boss | bus |  |  | My gun is gone. |  |  |  |
| 22 | lock | look, would | would |  |  | He put down the pot. |  |  |  |
| 23 | cot | cot, want | won't |  |  | Who's got your goat? |  |  |  |
| 24 | cot | caught, are | are |  |  | He taught the tot. |  |  |  |
| 25 | swim | swings, rang | ram |  |  | He hangs the hams. |  |  |  |
| 26 | theme | theme, debt| death |  |  | Please sit in this seat. |  |  |  |

Source: <http://www.susancanthony.com/Resources/ESL/prondiag.html>

**Part III: Intonation**

Read out loud the following sentences with the correct intonation (rising/falling):

1. You already!
2. You shouldn't have!
3. It's unbelievable!
4. That's not very nice!
5. I don't think I will.
6. How could you?
7. Why should I tell you?
8. You must be joking!
9. So what?
10. Well, I never!
11. You know best, don't you?

Source: <http://www.tolearnenglish.com/exercises/exercise-english-1/exercise-english-674.php>

**Part IV: Linking**

Read the following phrases as if you were saying them to a friend:

1. Turn off the light.
2. Can I have some water?
3. Come over here!
4. Did you do all your homework?
5. I don’t see my friends too often.
6. Who is John?
7. Do you have any plans for tomorrow?

Source: <http://www.englishclub.com/pronunciation/linking-3.htm>

**Part V: Prominence and Rhythm**

Read the sentences as you would say them to a friend:

1. I **read** a lot of science magazines.
2. I **registered** for my biology class yesterday.
3. I **have to** study hard for my **final** exams.
4. My favorite sport is **basketball.**
5. I can’t read without **wearing** my glasses.
6. Is your **birth**day in **November**?
7. I **booked** my **ticket** on the twenty-**seventh**.

**Part VI: Describing a picture**



Source: Richards, J. C., Hull, J., & Proctor, S. (2005). *Interchange: Student’s book. (3rd ed.)* Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.