

Phonetics and Phonology  
Spring 2007

**Exercise I part 1**

Transcribe the following passage in the space provided below (you will find some words highlighted – they are grammatical words which are likely to be used in the weak form). Then check it with the key at the bottom of the page.

A group of people were sitting having a drink in a bar and one man was boasting about how tough he was. After a while, everyone else got fed up with listening to this, so someone said, 'All right. You say you're so tough, but I bet you can't spend the night alone on the top of the mountain without a coat or anything to keep you warm.' The man took on the bet and the next night he climbed the mountain alone. He found a sheltered spot and sat down. He had brought a book with him and he lit a candle so that he was able to read. He spent the coldest, most miserable night of his life.

| ə 'gru:p əv 'pi:pəl wə 'sɪtɪŋ hævɪŋ<sup>1</sup> ə 'drɪŋk ɪn ə 'bɑ: | ənd<sup>2</sup> 'wʌn mæn wəz  
'bəʊstɪŋ əbaʊt haʊ 'tʌf i<sup>3</sup> wəz<sup>4</sup> | 'ɑ:ftər<sup>5</sup> ə 'waɪl | 'evriwʌn 'els gɒt fed 'ʌp wɪð  
'lɪsənɪŋ tə 'ðɪs | səʊ 'slʌmwʌn 'sed | ɔ:l'rart | ju 'seɪ jɔ:⁶ səʊ 'tʌf | bət aɪ 'bet  
ju 'kɑ:nt<sup>7</sup> spend ðə 'naɪt ə'ləʊn ɒn ðə 'tɒp əv ðə 'maʊntən | wɪðaʊt ə 'kəʊt  
ɔ:r<sup>5</sup> 'eniθɪŋ tə 'ki:p ju 'wɔ:m | ðə 'mæn tuk 'ɒn ðə 'bet | ənd<sup>2</sup> ðə 'nekst 'naɪt i<sup>3</sup>  
'klaɪmɪd<sup>8</sup> ðə 'maʊntən ə'ləʊn | hi<sup>9</sup> 'faʊnd ə 'ʃeltəd<sup>8</sup> 'spɒt ənd<sup>2</sup> sæt 'daʊn | hi<sup>9</sup>  
əd<sup>3</sup> 'brɔ:t ə 'bʊk wɪð ɪm<sup>3</sup> | ənd<sup>2</sup> i<sup>3</sup> 'lɪt ə 'kændəl səʊ ðæt i<sup>3</sup> wəz eɪbəl tə 'rɪ:d |  
hi<sup>9</sup> 'spent ðə 'kəʊldɪst | məʊst 'mɪzərəbəl 'naɪt əv ɪz<sup>3</sup> 'laɪf |

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**Exercise I part 2**

Transcribe the following passage in the space provided below (you will find some words highlighted – they are grammatical words which are likely to be used in the weak form). Then check it with the key at the bottom of the page.

In the morning, he staggered down the mountain half dead and went to find his friends and to claim his winnings. 'Are you sure you didn't have a coat?' they asked him. 'I was dressed just as I am now,' he said. 'And you didn't light a fire? Not even a candle?' 'Oh, yes. I had a candle, but only in order to read my book.' 'The bet's off,' they said and went away laughing. The man was very annoyed, but he didn't say anything.

in ðə 'mɔ:niŋ i<sup>3</sup>

'stægəd<sup>8</sup> 'daun ðə 'mauntən ha:f 'ded | ənd<sup>2</sup> 'went tə 'faɪnd ɪz<sup>3</sup> 'frendz<sup>10</sup> |  
ənd<sup>2</sup> tə 'kleɪm ɪz<sup>3</sup> 'wɪnɪŋz<sup>10</sup> | ə ju 'ʃɔ: ju 'dɪdənt hæv<sup>11</sup> ə 'kəʊt ðeɪ 'ɑ:skt<sup>12</sup>  
ɪm<sup>3</sup> | aɪ wəz 'drest<sup>12</sup> 'dʒʌst<sup>13</sup> əz aɪ 'æm<sup>4</sup> 'naʊ i<sup>3</sup> 'sed | ənd<sup>2</sup> ju 'dɪdənt laɪt ə  
'faɪə<sup>14</sup> | nɒt 'i:vən ə 'kændəl | əv 'jes | aɪ 'hæd<sup>11</sup> ə 'kændəl | bət 'əʊnli ɪn 'ɔ:də  
tə 'ri:d maɪ 'bʊk | ðə 'betz<sup>15</sup> 'ɒf ðeɪ 'sed | ənd<sup>2</sup> 'went əweɪ 'la:fɪŋ | ðə 'mæn  
wəz 'veri ə'nɔɪd<sup>8</sup> | bət i<sup>3</sup> 'dɪdənt seɪ 'eniθɪŋ |



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**Exercise I part 3**

Transcribe the following passage in the space provided below (you will find some words highlighted – they are grammatical words which are likely to be used in the weak form). Then check it with the key at the bottom of the page.

A few weeks later, he invited them all to dinner at his house. They all arrived on time and sat waiting for the meal to be served. An hour went by, two hours, but still no food appeared. Finally, they began to lose patience and asked the man what he was playing at. 'All right,' he said. 'Let's go into the kitchen and see if the food's ready.' They all followed him into the other room where they saw a huge pot of water on a stand and underneath was a single lighted candle. The man put his finger into the water. 'No. It's not ready yet. I can't understand it. The candle's been there since yesterday.' His friends laughed and took him out for an expensive meal at the nearest restaurant.

ə 'fju: wi:ks<sup>15</sup> 'leɪtə | hi<sup>9</sup> in'vaɪtɪd<sup>16</sup>

ðəm 'ɔ:l tə 'dɪnər<sup>5</sup> ət ɪz<sup>3</sup> 'haʊs | ðeɪ 'ɔ:l ə'raɪvd<sup>8</sup> ɒn 'taɪm | ənd<sup>2</sup> sæt 'wertɪŋ fə ðə  
'mi:l tə bi 'sɜ:vɪd<sup>8</sup> | ən 'æ<sup>14</sup> went 'bɑ: | 'tu: 'æz<sup>10-14</sup> | bət 'stɪl nəʊ 'fu:d ə'prɪəd<sup>8</sup> |  
'faɪnəli ðeɪ bi'gæn tə 'lu:z 'peɪʃəns | ənd<sup>2</sup> 'ɑ:skt<sup>12</sup> ðə 'mæn wɒt i<sup>3</sup> wəz 'pleɪŋ  
æt<sup>4</sup> | ɔ:l 'raɪt i<sup>3</sup> 'sed | 'lets gəʊ ɪntə ðə 'kɪtʃən ənd<sup>2</sup> 'si: ɪf ðə 'fu:dz<sup>10</sup> 'redi | ðeɪ  
'ɔ:l 'fɒləʊd<sup>8</sup> ɪm<sup>3</sup> ɪntə ðɪ<sup>17</sup> 'lɒðə 'ru:m | weə ðeɪ 'sɔ: ə 'hju:dʒ pɒt əv 'wɔ:tər<sup>5</sup> ɒn  
ə 'stænd | ənd<sup>2</sup> 'ʌndəni:θ ðə wəz ə 'sɪŋɡəl 'laɪtɪd<sup>16</sup> 'kændəl | ðə 'mæn put ɪz<sup>3</sup>  
'fɪŋɡər<sup>5</sup> ɪntə ðə 'wɔ:tə | 'nəʊ | ɪts<sup>15</sup> 'nɒt redi 'jet | aɪ 'kɑ:nt<sup>7</sup> ʌndə'stænd ɪt |  
ðə 'kændəlz<sup>10</sup> bi:n 'ðeə<sup>18</sup> sɪns 'jestədeɪ<sup>19</sup> | hɪz<sup>9</sup> 'frendz<sup>10</sup> 'lɑ:ft<sup>12</sup> | ənd<sup>2</sup> 'tʊk  
ɪm<sup>3</sup> 'aʊt fər<sup>5</sup> ən ɪk'spensɪv 'mi:l ət ðə 'nɪərɪst 'restərɒnt<sup>20</sup> |