

Ružica Ivanović, *English Pronunciation: A Workbook: A Collection of Exercises in Phonemic Transcription*. Beograd: Philologia, 2017 (Beograd: Svelto), 102 str.

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English Pronunciation: A Workbook, by Ružica Ivanović, is a meticulously designed handbook of exercises which saw the light of the day in September 2017. Focusing on vowels, consonants and stress position, it covers the core elements of English pronunciation – Southern British Standard English, thus helping L2 learners of English master their skills in this area. As the author herself states in the preface, this handbook is primarily intended for the first year undergraduate students taking a course in English pronunciation as a part of the course in Contemporary English 1. However, its quality reflects in its multi applicability, so the appropriate choice of exercises combined with other sources can enhance the quality of pronunciation even among advanced learners who are not enrolled in English language studies.

The structure of the handbook is such that each part – Introduction, Vowels, Consonants, Stress placement and Syllabification – contains a brief theoretical part followed by extensive practice. Ivanović's years of experience in teaching students reflect in types of exercises and their distribution in each of the abovementioned parts. In Introduction the author provides an overview of transcription symbols organizing them in a chart and mentioning examples of some words in which these sounds occur. In terms of vowels, Ivanović distinguishes between monophthongs, diphthongs and triphthongs, taking a glance at happY and thank yoU vowels. Consonants are revised in a similar manner, being divided on the basis of their place of articulation and the theoretical aspect of this part is wrapped up by stating basic rules of transcription.

Practical components of this chapter start with a warm-up exercise on phoneme identification with a clear aim to help learners differentiate between sounds and letters. Since the target audience for this handbook are students whose mother tongue is Serbian, where the rule of equality in the quantity of sounds and letters applies – “write as it is spoken and read as it is written”, this exercise perfectly fits to raise awareness of certain peculiarities pertaining to the English sound system. Further exercises in this chapter are related to the recognition of consonants and vowels, paying attention to allophones, homographs and homonyms, thus showing the connection between phonology, morphology and pronunciation.

Vowels practice in *Part 1* is carefully planned so that students first become acquainted with the quality of these sounds, including the ones that are not distinctive features of the Serbian vowel system, therefore frequently causing mispronunciation. The elaboration on characteristics continues in *Part 2*, dedicated to consonants. Ivanović chose the most confusable words and packed them in the context of frequently used words, either in isolation or in a sentence, that L2 learners are often insecure how to

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pronounce. The emphasis is put on /h/ as an example of a silent letter, which is usually not omitted in speech by Serbian speakers of English.

Another section of this part worth highlighting shows that grammar is woven into some aspects of morphology, inflectional morphology, thus imposing rules in the domain of word formation, which results in changes in pronunciation. Therefore, the author considers it necessary to explain the processes leading to creation of allophones under certain circumstances. These encompass the realization of -s inflectional suffix, as well as -ed found in adjectives derivation and past forms of verbs.

The penultimate, *Part 3* of the handbook is related to the proper stress placement, which students are supposed to practice through transcription, error correction and choosing the right transcription. However, what makes this section stand out is the manner in which words are categorized. Namely, one task contains food words, other abbreviations, followed by colours, personal names, English place names, words referring to human body and those connected to computers and the Internet. If we take into account all topics covered in other parts of the Contemporary English 1 course – integrated skills and speaking, it is noticeable that the content of the handbook fully responds to the 1st year undergraduates' needs by strengthening their speaking skills from the aspect of pronunciation. Besides, it can also be used outside the course, and as Professor Čubrović states in her review, "...it will be welcomed by advanced learners of English, striving to improve their pronunciation of English".

On a final note, this handbook is a perfect tool if combined with other resources recommended by Ivanović in the section *For Further Reading* for students facing a deeper analysis of English phonology and pronunciation for the first time, who seek to develop native-like proficiency in English pronunciation.