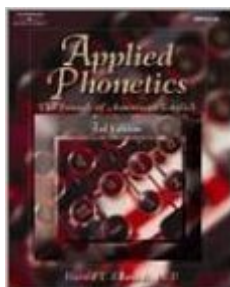


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Applied Phonetics: The Sounds Of American English, 3rd Edition



Synopsis

Applied Phonetics is the only comprehensive, systematic, and classroom tested approach to understanding phonetics and phonetic transcription currently available. Applied Phonetics is divided into two distinct learning units to aid in student comprehension. The first section provides an introduction to the field of phonetics and the second provides a complete overview of each of the sounds of American English making this textbook a reference users will use in their practice well after the course is completed. The final chapter covers the prosodic elements of speech, a topic frequently omitted from standard phonetic textbooks. A companion workbook, which contains additional practice for transcribing dialect differences, also contains audio CDs with additional transcription exercises recorded by four speakers of American English.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a reference book rather than a textbook. Theoretical questions are covered very scarcely, definitions of major phonetic and phonological concepts are inadequate for the students of linguistics. Suprasegmental phonetics is not dealt with at all (a brief chapter at the end of the book is not counted as a coverage of suprasegmentals). The book does not explain things. I do not recommend it as a major textbook for the students. Because of the fact that this book is featured as a textbook, I give it three stars. It is not very good to be used as a major textbook, but still the book is worth having as a guide into phonemic inventory of American English. As a general reference guide to phonemic inventory of American English this book is unraveled. I have never come across

a book containing that much info on each phoneme, including allophonic variations, acoustic parameters and some auditory peculiarities of main allophones, spelling-pronunciations conversions, frequency data, etc. A workbook with CDs can be used as a nice tool to practice American English transcription on basic level, with some rare exercises on transcribing disordered and accented speech. There are loads of exercises, but they are not very advanced. The author follows the principle by going from easy tasks to more difficult ones, but he does not go very far into details. Transcription exercises in Roach's Phonetics and Phonology (one of the best PRACTICAL phonetics books for beginners, British English) are better, although there are much fewer of them. This workbook can provide additional exercises (please watch the differences between British and American English if you combine) and for some practice in disordered and accented speech.

This is a great book but I would recommend getting the second edition (this edition has the subtitle "the sound of American English"). I compared the second and third editions and found that the contents do not differ between the two editions. However, spectrograms and diagrams are sharper and easier to see in the second edition.

This was the only one of my textbooks that was shipped to me very quickly, and actually arrived before my classes. That made me extremely happy. This version was good and no outright noticeable damages. Would have been nice a bit cheaper since I have to get the handbook to go with the textbook anyway, but that's really my only complaint. Should be fine not having CD with it.

had this book for my phonetics class. has chapters on all set of sounds. very easy to understand. very helpful with glossary and appendixes. workbook goes along with the book.

Product arrived on time considering it was ordered over the MLK weekend and was the correct item!! Two thumbs up !!

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