**English Phonetics and Phonology Self-diagnostic Task** **15 points (25%)**

**EXERCISE 1:** **Recording one’s own speech to a file**

***Below is a short voice message left by Louise/Sebastian, a performing arts teacher, for a colleague named Penelope. A couple of days ago, they auditioned over thirty students applying to become members of their school’s amateur dramatics society. Your task is to make an audio recording of this message as connected speech as if you were Louise (if you’re a woman) or Sebastian (if you are a man). You can practise saying it, but you should not look up pronunciation of any words in advance. Try and speak naturally. Pronunciation mistakes themselves will not be subject of assessment by your teacher and its main purpose is self-diagnostic. Save the recording to an audio file for future reference. Here’s the voice message:***

Hello Penelope, this is Louise/Sebastian! (1)

Sorry for being so bad-tempered the other day (2). It’s a good job we didn’t have to audition all of them. (3) Anyway, the ones that passed are the people we need. (4) This year, it's hard to find anyone better. (5) Didn’t you lose your heart to the boy dressed in black? (6) Sure, singing was not their cup of tea. (7) They’re only sixteen years old, though. (8) Right away, we can get them to perfect their acting skills. (9) Next year, they can do singing, dancing and a bit of ballet. (10) What we get in return, are perfect amateur actors by the age of eighteen! (11)

See you tomorrow! (12)

**EXERCISE 2:** **Transcription from written text: words in isolation**

***Transcribe the message by Louise (or Sebastian) to Penelope as words in isolation (i.e. not as connected speech) in BBC English using IPA notation. Weak-form words should have their strong pronunciations. Note down differences in American English (GA) on the margin if that is your preferred English accent. The transcription must be hand-written, not typed.***

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**EXERCISE 3:** **Transcription of the message to Penelope as connected speech**

***Transcribe the message to Penelope as connected speech. Pay attention to suprasegmental features such as linking, elision and assimilation. Transcribe the text in BBC accent (RP) first as this is the model pronunciation for students on this course. If your preferred (model) accent is GA, note down the differences between two accents on the right. The transcription has to be hand-written, not typed.***

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**EXERCISE 4:** **Transcription of one’s own speech from the recording**

***Now, make a handwritten transcription of your audio recording from EXERCISE 1, paying due attention to all aspects of connected speech. Having done that, compare this transcription to the model pronunciation from EXERCISE 3. What mistakes did you make? Highlight them visually. If you want, you can record yourself again to see whether you have made any improvements in the pronunciation of the given text.***

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