

Name, ID: _____ Conference TA, time: _____
Collaborators: _____

Introduction to the Study of Language

LING 200 — Winter 2016

Due: Monday January 25th 11:59pm in PDF format on *MyCourses*.

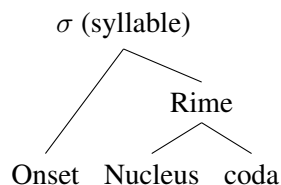
Please make sure to include at the top your full name and student number (to be safe), the date, your conference TA and time. Please include the names of people you worked with in preparing this assignment (maximum three students per group, all with the same TA).

1 Part 1

1. Do the following consonants form a natural class? If so, define it. If not, define the generalization and its exception(s).

- (1) a. [ʃ, ʒ, tʃ, dʒ]
- b. [r, l, ŋ]
- c. [p, b, m, w]
- d. [v, ð, z, ʒ]
- e. [d, n, s, z, r, l]

2. Analyze the syllable structure of all syllables in the words: *address*, *tough*, *reclaim*. (Use the appropriate IPA symbols for the consonants, but don't worry about the vowels, any approximation will be accepted.)



3. Which of the following words would be treated as minimal pairs?

nip, ride, fit, knee, deep, tip, frog, ripe, throat, lit, son, dig, light, threat, frock, bee, tap, cot, knit, sing, flea, leap, sea, weep

a. Your task is to account for the distribution of voiced and voiceless consonants. In order to do this, you must decide what kinds of consonants appear in the lexical entries for the various morphemes seen in the words above — and posit corresponding rules. There are two possible hypotheses. State both hypotheses explicitly, and illustrate how each one might work. At this point you should not argue for one hypothesis over the other.

b. Now consider the following forms (some of these forms also appeared above, they are repeated here for your convenience):

[ha:p]	[ha:bən]	‘to have’	imperative/infinitive
[hu:p]	[hu:pən]	‘to sound the horn’	imperative/infinitive
[ve:ʔt]	[ve:ʔdən]	‘to become’	imperative/infinitive
[ve:ʔt]	[ve:ʔtən]	‘to value’	imperative/infinitive
[za:k]	[za:gən]	‘to say’	imperative/infinitive
[zak]	[zakən]	‘to sink’	imperative/infinitive
[kʊʔf]	[kʊʔvən]	‘to curve’	imperative/infinitive
[fla:f]	[fla:fən]	‘to sleep’	imperative/infinitive
[ʔajs]	[ʔajzən]	‘to travel’	imperative/infinitive
[ʔajs]	[ʔajsən]	‘to tear’	imperative/infinitive

Argue for one of the hypotheses in (a) over the other based on the data provided in part (b).

Illustrate how the correct hypothesis accounts for all of the data with a few representative examples.

Argue against the alternative hypothesis by showing how it would have to be complicated in order to account for the data in (b).

c. Based on the data and your analysis, what can you tell about the “phoneme inventory” of German with respect to voiced and voiceless consonants?