

AmE Pronunciation Varieties CREDIT TEST December 17, 2021 Name:

A/2pts each

1a J.C. Wells's major work of 1982 in 3 volumes:

1b Paul Meier's work of 2010 published by Kansas University:

1c W. Labov's pioneering sociolinguistic work using phonetic tools of 1966:

2 Match phonetic terms with their definitions and provide an example for each:

A continuant, B liaison, C fricative, D pitch, E schwa, F velum.

..... A consonant in which the vocal tract is narrowed sufficiently to cause turbulent air flow.

..... The central vowel /ə/, found in great abundance in casual English.

..... The soft palate.

..... A consonant that may be prolonged indefinitely rather than having the finite duration of a stop.

..... Linking, or, the strategy of using the final sound of one word to initiate the following.

..... The relative musical tone of an utterance.

3 Transcribe the American pronunciations of the terms

laboratory:

missile:

chaos:

duty:

4 List the 5 characteristics of GenAm as opposed to RP.

5 Robert White found a suitable solution to the problems of the past

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Transcribe the pronunciations of the underlined letters in Standard AmE.

6 If someone says "The bahses in Wiscansin rahn late", they show the NCVS. What does the abbreviation stand for and which U.S. region does this tendency affect?

7 What are well-educated upper-class Boston speakers called?

8 Transcribe the Canadian pronunciation of *out and about*. The phenomenon's name?

9 Who is AAVE spoken by?

Where is the *Patwa* spoken?

10 What expression is used in the U.S. for a guided loss of a foreign/substandard accent?

B/ 2pts each Match the origins of speakers reading "Please call Stella" prompted on the right with the numbers of their recordings.

- 1 Westmoreland, Jamaica
- 2 Fresno, California
- 3 Pine Bluff, Arkansas
- 4 Fairfax, Virginia
- 5 Brooklyn, NYC

C/ 20pts

1 Listen to one of the past 10 U.S. Presidents speaking for 3 minutes (played just once). His name: Is his accent rhotic or non-rhotic (circle)? Circle the state he comes from: Texas Georgia Arkansas. Characterize his accent:

2 You'll hear a Delta airlines commercial. Explain the discrepancy between the voice and the content. Which two AmE accents are being featured here? (1 minute, played just once.)

3 You'll hear a well-known American actress speaking at a 2012 Democratic Convention (4:10). Her name:

- a) Family background:
- b) What is she encouraging young democrats to do?
- c) Transcribe her pronunciation of **button** and **lever**:
- d) How does she pronounce **commit** and **democrat**?

ATTNDNCE	CONTRIB.	CREDIT	TOTAL	GRADE
		TEST		

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