**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 sociolingistic 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***

 [ ][ ][ ] [ ][ ] [ ] [ ]

 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:

1. Family background:
2. What is she encouraging young democrats to do?
3. Transcribe her pronunciation of ***button*** and ***lever:***
4. How does she pronounce ***commit*** and ***democrat***?

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| **ATTNDNCE** | **CONTRIB.** | **CREDIT TEST** | **TOTAL** | **GRADE** |
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