

Warm Up: Phonetics and Phonology Week 8

Task 1: Fix the yearbook photos! Something went wrong when they were printing the 2021 ULACIT yearbook and the names of students were left out. Use the IPA clues to match the correct name with each picture.

				
/i/ Eve	/ɪ/ Jill	/ɜ:/ Bert	/ʊ/ Brook	/u/ Ruth
				
/eɪ/ Jane	/ɛ/ Jeff	/ʌ/ Jon	/ɔɪ/ Joy	/oʊ/ Joe
				
/æ/ Max	/aɪ/ Mike	/ɑ/ Gus	/aʊ/ Howard	/ɔ/ Paul
Bert	Joe	Howard	Jeff	Ruth
Mike	Eve	Joy	Jill	Gus
Jon	Max	Brooke	Paul	Jane

Task 2: Read the TV show dialogues. Interpret the transcriptions into standard English.

IPA Transcription	Standard English
Ross: /heɪ ɛvrɪbɒdi, hæpi θæŋksgɪvɪŋ!/ 	Hey everybdy, happy thanksgiving
Everyone: /ʃ!/ 	Shhh!
Ross: /wət? ɑr wi kɪpɪŋ θæŋksgɪvɪŋ ə sɪkrət ðɪs jɪr?/ 	What? Are we keeping thanksgiving a secret this year?
Chandler: /nou, wɪr pleɪɪŋ ðɪs geɪm aɪ lænd æt wɜ:k. ju hæv tu neɪm ɔl ðə steɪts ɪn sɪks mɪnəts./ 	No, we're playing this game I learned at work. You have to name all the states in six minutes
Ross: /wət? ðæts laɪk ɪnseɪnli ɪzi.../ 	What? That's like insanely easy
Chandler: /nou, ɪts ə lɒt hɑrdə ðæn ɪt saʊndz. ju ɔlweɪz fərgət æt lɪst wən ɔr ɪn səm keɪsəz... fɔrtɪn./ 	No, it's a lot harder than it sounds. You always forget at least one or in some cases, fourteen
Monica: /ɪts ə stʊpɪd geɪm ænd aɪ wəzənt pleɪɪŋ əɡenst əðər pi:pəl sʊv teknɪkli aɪ dɪdnt lu:z./ 	It's a stupid a game and I wasnt playing against other people, so technically I didnt loose.

IPA Transcription	Standard English
Dwight: læst wɪk aɪ geɪv ə faɪər tɒk, ænd nəʊbədi peɪd ɛni ətənʃən. ɪts maɪ fɔlt fɔr ju:zɪŋ paʊər pɔɪnt, paʊər pɔɪnt ɪz bɔrɪŋ. pi:pəl læn ɪn lɒts əv dɪfərənt weɪz, bət ɛksprɪəns ɪz ðə best tɪtʃər. tədeɪ smʊkɪŋ ɪz ɡoʊɪŋ tu seɪv laɪvz. dæz ɛniwən smel ɛniθɪŋ smʊki? 	Last week I gave a fire talk, and nobody paid any attention. It's my fault for using power point, power point is boring. People learn in different ways, but experience is the best teacher. Today smoking is going to save lives. Does anyone smell anything smoking?
Angela: dɪd ju brɪŋ jʊr dʒɜrki əɡen? 	Did you bring your again?
Stan: faɪər! 	Fire!
Dwight: ʊs, faɪər, wɛts ðə prəsi:dʒər? wət du wɪ du pi:pəl? 	Oh, fire, what's the procedure? What do we do with the people?
Pam: ðə fəʊnz ɑr dɛd 	The phones are dead.
Dwight: ʊs haʊ dɪd ðæt hæpən 	Oh, how did that happen?
Kevin: ɪtz aʊt ɪn ðə hɒl. 	Its out in the hall
Dwight: nou, wɪ daʊnt nou ðæt. ðə smʊk kæn bi kəmiŋ θru æn ɛr dekt. 	No, we dont know that. The smoke can be coming through an air duct.
Michael: ʊs maɪ ɡɒd ɪtz hæpənɪŋ ɛvrɪbɒdi steɪ kalm 	Oh my God its happening, everybody stay calm

Dwight: wəts ðə prəsɪdʒər evriwən? wəts ðə prəsɪdʒər?	What's the procedure everyone? What's the procedure?
Michael: steɪ kalm	Stay calm
Dwight: weɪt, weɪt, weɪt, weɪt, weɪt.	Wait, wait, wait, wait, wait
Michael: evribadi kalm	Everybody calm
Dwight: nou, nou Maɪkəl nou. tətʃ ðə hændəl. ɪf ɪtʒ hɒt, ðer kʊd bi faɪər ɪn ðə hɒlweɪ.	No, no Michael no. Touch the handle if it's hot, there could be a fire in the hallway
Michael: wət dəz wɜːm mɪn?	What does warm mean?

Task 3: For this week you read an article that introduces the difference between the schwa /ə/ and the wedge /ʌ/ as well as the two versions of the so called “r-colored vowel” which are /ɜ:/ and /ə/. Discuss these questions with your partners.

- What is the difference between /ə/ and /ʌ/?
- Do they sound different?
- Why is it important to distinguish these two?
- Can you find examples from the dialogues above where you could use the following symbols:
 - /ʌ/ What
 - /ɜ:/ bird, third
 - /ə/
 - /ə-/ modern