General assessment guidelines for

ENG1103 English Phonetics and Intonation, an Introduction

Reading

Two textbooks (one in-house, the other commercially available), plus a short supplement:

Textbooks:

Bird, B. (1997). *A Course in English Intonation*. Oslo: Universitetsforlaget.

Bird, B. & Stenbrenden, G. (2017*) Sounds Interesting! A course in English segmental phonology.* Revised edition. UiO in-house materials

Supplement:

Bird, B. (2010*) Sounds Different! A brief outline of accent variation in English*. UiO in-house materials

Learning outcomes and examination

The exam tests the following learning outcomes as specified in the course description:

ENG1103
After completing this course you will:

- possess knowledge and awareness of English phonetics
- know how to apply technical terms to describe and analyse English pronunciation, so that you can read and produce phonemic transcriptions and intonation transcriptions
- be familiar with basic English intonation patterns and how they carry meaning

The syllabus content is the content of the textbooks.
Topics covered include:

- phonemes and minimal pairs
- the phonemes of English including distinctive features and classification, as set out in *Sounds Interesting!*
- description of articulation
- allophonic variation (of the kinds detailed in *SI!*)
- comparison between RP and GA
- comparison between English (GA and RP) and (SE) Norwegian
- sonority and phonotactics
- weak and strong forms (and suffix rules)
- assimilation

- elision
- the nuclei and heads of the English intonation system and their meanings (AM and CF) as set out in *A Course in English Intonation*
- the effects on meaning of pitch accent placement
- the major differences between different accents of English beyond RP and GA (from *Sounds Different!*)

The grade depends only on the final exam which is a 4-hour written exam, taken at the exam schools, without access to the textbooks and other reference materials.

The exam consists of a series of questions which may require the students to define, explain and exemplify key concepts, to analyse simple data and to suggest intonation patterns.

Grade descriptors

Grades are awarded according to the national qualitative descriptions of letter grades (https://www.uio.no/english/studies/examinations/grading-system/index.html):

Symbol	**Description**	**General, qualitative description of evaluation criteria**
A	Excellent	An excellent performance, clearly outstanding. The candidate demonstrates excellent judgement and a high degree of independent thinking.
B	Very good	A very good performance. The candidate demonstrates sound judgement and a very good degree of independent thinking.
C	Good	A good performance in most areas. The candidate demonstrates a reasonable degree of judgement and independent thinking in the most important areas.
D	Satisfactory	A satisfactory performance, but with significant shortcomings. The candidate demonstrates a limited degree of judgement and independent thinking.
E	Sufficient	A performance that meets the minimum criteria, but no more. The candidate demonstrates a very limited degree of judgement and independent thinking.
F	Fail	A performance that does not meet the minimum academic criteria. The candidate demonstrates an absence of both judgement and independent thinking.