

## Study questions on K&K chapters 1 and 2

To be turned in Tuesday, Sept. 29 in class

### Notes/tips

p. 12: Typo in first line—should say “The rounded variant of  $\epsilon$  is represented as  $\text{œ}$ ”.

p. 36: “apply in the lexicon” means apply some time before the form is sent off to the ‘phonological component’ box of p. 7 (this means that the drawing on p. 7 needs another box, perhaps inside the “lexicon” box).

p. 37 If you are curious, see Hayes & Stivers ms. (on Bruce Hayes’ web page) for a plausible phonetic explanation of postnasal voicing.

### Questions

1. Think about the difference discussed on p. 2 between accidental and inherent properties of language. Other than consulting our hunches as linguists, which shouldn’t carry any a priori weight, how can we tell which category a given generalization belongs in? Jot down any ideas you have so we can discuss this in class.

2. If you haven’t studied phonetics, you can hear examples of various speech sounds at [hctv.humnet.ucla.edu/departments/linguistics/VowelsandConsonants/course/chapter1/chapter1.html](http://hctv.humnet.ucla.edu/departments/linguistics/VowelsandConsonants/course/chapter1/chapter1.html)

For everyone: compare the IPA symbols to those used by K&K (e.g., charts on p. 12, p. 17) and list some differences you can find (I’ve gotten you started). The symbols used by K&K are often referred to as “American”. The reason for this exercise is to minimize confusion as you read K&K.

<u>K&amp;K</u> :	ü,	y					
<u>IPA</u> :	y,	ɯ					

3. List some types of evidence K&K propose, towards the beginning of ch. 2, in favor of a significant distinction between idiosyncratic and systematic properties of a pronunciation (not the individual examples, but the *types* of evidence)?

4. In the Zoque, Papago, and Chatino examples in ch. 2, K&K talk about how to choose one analysis over another (Zoque: voice obstruents after nasals vs. devoice them elsewhere; Papago: change dental stops to palatal affricates before high vowels vs. turn palatal affricates to dental stops elsewhere; Chatino: devoice vowels in a certain environment vs. voice them elsewhere ) and give their reasons.

Pick one reason given for one case (give the page number for my reference) and say what you think of it.

5. In Chatino, the devoicing rule applies only to stressless vowels, and thus must apply after the stress-placement rule (looking ahead to a term to be introduced later: this is a *bleeding* relationship). It would also be possible to write the rule so that only **non-final** vowels can be devoiced (i.e., with no reference to stress). First, try writing the rule:

Second, can you think of any criteria by which to pick one analysis over the other? Or additional data from this language or other languages that could help us decide?