

English 443/543 -- Guy Carden -- Fall 2016

Assignment 8 and 9 - revised: Phonological features and underlying forms

(Counts as two problem sets for grading.)

Both written assignments due Thursday 17 November.

Quiz alert!

We will have a quiz on applying the feature system Thursday 17 November. The quiz will be substantially like Chap 3 exercises 1-5 and the sample solutions in the handout “Partial Solution for Odden Ch 3 Exercises”.

Reading:

Odden Chap 3 – One last complete pass for review. Then work carefully through section 3.3 “Features and Classes of Segments” as a model for exercises 3.1-3.3 and sections 3.4.2 and 3.5 as a model for exercises 4 and 5.

Odden Chap 4 – first pass on the whole chapter. Then work carefully through sections 4.1-4.4, p80-95, studying the examples Odden analyzes.

Both written assignments are crucial practice for the feature quiz on Thursday.

Written Assignment = PS8:

Odden Chap 3 exercises 1-4. This is mechanical, but not easy. You’ll need to work back through the chapter to do it. Allow enough time.

Study the handout “Partial Solution for Odden Ch 3 Exercises”, and then turn in solutions to the sub-exercises listed below. For each sub-exercise, chart the relevant part of the inventory and indicate the class of sounds you are describing, and then find the minimal set of features needed to specify the given class. Write your answers on the blank spaces p2-5 of this assignment, following the model in the Partial Solution handout.

Note: My answers sometimes include explanatory notes; your answers may include that sort of information, but don’t need to. The notes may be useful in modeling how to work back and forth in the textbook to dig out the information you need. At other points, you may find that my notes are giving you more detail than you want. If you’re getting to the first-approximation solutions at the beginning of my answers, feel free to move on without bothering about questions like “Where exactly in the model do we handle the distinction between bilabial and labio-dental articulation?”

3.1. (iii) and (iv) The partial solution includes charts for exercises 1 and 2. Feel free to copy these.

3.2. (ii), (iii), (iv), and (vi)

3.3. (ii), (iii), and (iv). You will need to draw your own charts for exercise 3.

3.4. (ii), (iv), (v), and (vi)

Written Assignment = PS9:

Study the handout “Partial Solution for Odden Ch 3 Exercises”, and then turn in solutions to Odden Chap 3 exercises 5.ii, iv, vi, viii. (Hint for vi: What features must you assume for [r] to make this work smoothly?) Like 1-4, this is mechanical, but not easy. You’ll need to work back through the chapter to do it. Allow enough time.

Advance information:

PS 10 will include these exercises from the original version of PS9:

Odden Chap 4 exercises 2 Xavante and 5 Zoque. Each of these requires some tricky analysis, and then formalizing a rule using features.