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Hi there! I'm Professor Rick. I'm a phonetician at *Moriarty Language Lab*. Nowadays, there are more and more people in China start learning English. But some of them may have some troubles with their pronunciation. Let's watch a video about the "Chinglish" first.

Just watch the first two minutes of the <u>video</u>.





In order to help Chinese learners of English with their pronunciation problems, I'm currently building a website and I may need an intern to help. Would you like to be a member of our lab?

Please get prepared!



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Distinguish between /e/ and /æ/ phoneme





Distinguish between /e/ and /æ/ phoneme

Well, I'm doing comparisons between English and Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese) vowels and I found that /æ/ and /e/ phoneme confuse a lot of Chinese learners of English. I'm gonna set a page to remind the learners. Could you help this part?





Distinguish between /e/ and /æ/ phoneme

First, you are suggested to watch a <u>video</u> to ensure you understand how to distinguish between /e/ and /æ/ phoneme. While you are watching the video, you may be asked to answer some questions.



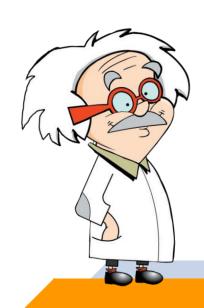
3

Analysis of the recordings



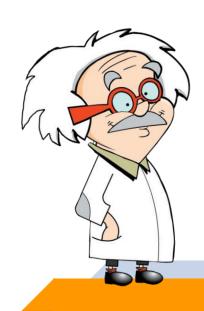


I collected some recordings from few Chinese learners and developed a corpus. Could you help me to analyze the materials?





First, I would like to introduce you the Online English Pronunciation Learning Corpus. You can access to abundant recordings in this corpus by searching targeted features.





We will analyse two recordings of the passage *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*. Before we starting, please identify all the /e/ and /æ/ phonemes in the passage.

The worksheet





Listen to two recordings of the passage recorded by ML1 and HK1 and spot all the mispronunciations of /e/ and /æ/ phonemes. When you finish, check with other interns.

The worksheet



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*Here's a <u>video</u> for your reference.

Before the task, let's try tongue twisters of /e/ and /e/!

- Set a mat on the sand and get a tan.
- Mend ten black pairs of pants for seven men in a trance.
- Cashed his check, rented a tent he could mend and camped on a patch of grass all weekend.





I believe you have a deep understanding of /e/ and /æ/ phoneme now. In my website, I would like to have some listening materials for the learners' practice. Could you record the following materials for learners' reference?





1. Minimal Pairs:

bed & bad, men & man, end & and, beg & bag, head & had, hem & ham, pen & pan, said & sad, set & sat, bend & band, dead & dad, lend & land.





2. The Boy Who Cried Wolf

Please refer to the previous passage.





Please use **Audacity** to do the recording, name the recording as "Recording task_Student name" (for example: Recording task_Chan Tai Man) and upload it to our <u>shared folder</u>.



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Thank you for being our intern! How's that feeling? Let's do an **evaluation** to see how well you have done!

Your work will be checked in 2 ways:

- 1. Self-evaluation
- 2. Professor's evaluation





Self-evaluation

Please evaluate yourself in a <u>google form</u> and come up how many score you have.





Professor's evaluation

Teacher will give you a grade as according to the following areas:

Analysis the recordings (3 points each, 9 points total)	Recording task (3 points each, 9 points total)	
Completetition		
Accuracy		
Overall quality		

You will get 3 points for Excellent; 2 points for Satisfactory; and 1 Point for Needs Improvement. Find your grade in our class blog.



Grading Scale

(Your grade will be the combination of points from the **self-evaluation** and the **professor's evaluation**)

16-18 Points	A Super Job
13-15 Points	Good Work
9-12 Points	Could Use Some Improvement
less than 9	Try working the WebQuest again or ask the teacher for suggestions

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Conclusion

Now that you have completed this WebQuest and **you should be able to**:

- Distinguish between /e/ and /æ/ phoneme
- List the difference between these two phonemes
- Pronounce these two phones correctly

I hope you have enjoyed this learning process!



Conclusion



Here are some questions for you to think about:

- 1. What was something you didn't know about /e/ and /æ/ phoneme before?
- 2. What's the reason behind the mispronunciation?
- 3. How to avoid the mispronunciation between /e/ and /æ/ phoneme? Any tips?

Here's the end of the WebQuest. Thanks for all of your hard work!