Worksheet 1

Task A

Please fill in the blanks to complete IPA transcription of the English words.

No.	English	IPA	No.	English	IPA
1	even	_ vn	2	feast	f _ st
3	fist	f _ st	4	convinced	k _ nv _ ns_
5	pleasure	pl _ _ə	6	successful	s _ ks _ sf _ _
7	exactly	ɪ _ _ _ ktli	8	actually	_ k _ u _ li
9	company	k _ mp _ ni	10	fun	f _ n
11	duck	d _ k	12	dark	d _ k
13	cousins	k_ _ ən _	14	flocks	fl _ k _
15	thought	_ _ t	16	unfortunately	_ _ f _ tʃən _ tli
17	foot	f _ t	18	fool	f _ _
19	concern	k _ ns _ n	20	bother	b _ _ ə

Task B

Please read the following paragraph, predict 4 words that you think Hong Kong learners may easily make errors *in absence of contrasts between long and short vowels* in pronunciation, underline the letter or letter combination and write down the error respectively (two for long vowel→short vowel, two for short vowel→long vowel), then scan the QR code to get access to and fill out the Google form (https://forms.gle/oA79UCeYh5PXRQv8A).
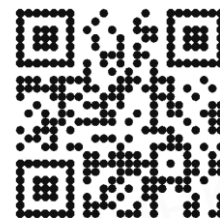
e.g.   There was once a p<u>oo</u>r shepherd boy who used to watch his flocks in the fields...
/ɔː/→/ɒ/

The Boy Who Cried Wolf
Segment 1
There was once a poor shepherd boy who used to watch his flocks in the fields next to

a dark forest near the foot of a mountain. One hot afternoon, he thought up a good plan

to get some company for himself and also have a little fun.

Task C

1. Predict the consonants which would be substituted for /θ/ by Hong Kong learners and fill in the blanks. (Hint: *think*, *catholic*, *breath*)

   /θ/→

   /θ/→

   /θ/→

2. Check the feature list provided on the web page 'For learners' and fill in the blanks.

   /θ/→

   /θ/→

   /θ/→

3. Visit the corpus http://phonetics2.eduhk.hk/#/home, and fill in the table below using 'search' function noting down the types of substitution for consonant /θ/, the numbers of HK, ML, SA speakers who have each type of these features and calculate percentage of occurrences for each group of speakers who make each type of features.

Type of substitution for /θ/	Group of speakers	Number of occurrences	Percentage of occurrences
/θ/→/ /	HK	/20	%
	ML	/96	%
	SA	/20	%
/θ/→/ /	HK	/20	%
	ML	/96	%
	SA	/20	%
/θ/→/ /	HK	/20	%
	ML	/96	%
	SA	/20	%

4. Discuss with your partner(s)

   According to the results shown in the table above,

   a) which feature occurs with the highest frequency for the speakers overall?

   b) for each type, which group of speakers have the higher frequency of occurrence?

   c) what are the possible causes for such phenomenon?

Suggested Answer

Task A

No.	English	IPA	No.	English	IPA
1	even	/ˈiː.vən/	2	feast	/fiːst/
3	fist	/fɪst/	4	convinced	/kən'vɪnst/
5	pleasure	/ˈpleʒ.ər/	6	successful	/sək'ses.fəl/
7	exactly	/ɪɡˈzækt.li/	8	actually	/ˈæk.tʃu.ə.li/
9	company	/ˈkʌm.pə.ni/	10	fun	/fʌn/
11	duck	/dʌk/	12	dark	/dɑːk/
13	cousins	/ˈkʌz.ənz/	14	flocks	/flɒks/
15	thought	/θɔːt/	16	unfortunately	/ʌnˈfɔː.tʃən.ət.li/
17	foot	/fʊt/	18	fool	/fuːl/
19	concern	/kən'sɜːn/	20	bother	/ˈbɒð.əʳ/

Task B

There w**a**s **o**nce a p**oor** sh**e**ph**er**d boy who used to w**a**tch h**i**s fl**o**cks in the f**ie**lds next to a d**a**rk f**ore**st near the f**oo**t of a mount**ai**n. **O**ne h**o**t **a**ftern**oo**n, h**e** th**ou**ght **u**p a g**oo**d plan to get s**o**me c**o**mp**a**ny for h**i**mself and **a**lso have a little f**u**n.

Predicted words
a. long vowel → short vowel
No.1 dark
No.2 thought
No.3 field
No.4 also

b. short vowel → long vowel
No.1 foot
No.2 good
No.3 forest

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Task C

Type of substitution for /θ/	Group of speakers	Number of occurrences	Percentage of occurrences
/θ/→/f/	HK	17/20	85%
	ML	5/96	5.21%
	SA	0/20	0%
/θ/→/s/	HK	0/20	0%
	ML	68/96	70.83%
	SA	1/20	5%
/θ/→/t/	HK	1/20	5%
	ML	3/96	3.125%
	SA	8/20	40%

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