

PRACTICE QUIZ
Linguistics 110
(Answers are posted on the course web site)

I. Types of phonological change. Write the type of phonological change (*assimilation, metathesis, etc.*) exemplified by the underlined portions in the following examples.

1. _____ English *glamor* comes from the word *grammar*, an obvious connection to us linguistics, though the original connection was the association of learning with magic.
2. _____ You might get rich if you are a good *athalete*.
3. _____ If you *lose* something you become *forlorn*, because ‘forlorn’ was the past participle of ‘lose’ in Old English.
4. _____ The bubble gum addict was very disappointed when he was assigned to a *gum boat* and all they did was blast away at other ships with their guns.
5. _____ A [*terist*] usually commits more violent acts than just ‘tearing’ things.
6. _____ I was surprised with the theater usher said, “I’ll *sew* you to your *sheets.”*
7. _____ I’m not *familiar* with your *famly*.
8. _____ Do you usually spend vacations with your *fambly*?
9. _____ That would *piss me off*. Does it *pishu off* too?

II. Strength hierarchies. Below are some word sets where, in comparable environments, certain segments have undergone changes that other segments have not undergone. Explain these different results in terms of phonological strength hierarchies.

1. English has singular/plural pairs of the following types. Account for the differences in the ROOTS between Group 1 and Group 2. **NOTE:** IN MIDDLE ENGLISH, THE NOUN WITH A PLURAL SUFFIX WOULD HAVE ENDED IN [əs] in all nouns.

Group 1: cap [kæp] caps [kæp-s]
 doubt [daʊt] doubts [daʊt-s]
 clock [klak] clocks [klak-s]

Group 2: calf [hæf] calves [hæv-z]
 house [haws] houses [hawz-əz]
 cloth [klaθ] cloths [klað-z]

2. Here are some words in Old English with their Modern English counterparts. Account for the differences in outcome of the segment following the initial *s*- between OE and MnE.

spillan [spilan]	spill	stician [stikian]	stick	scip [skip]	ship
spura [spura]	spur	stubb [stub]	stub	scufan [skufan]	shove

3. Explain the difference in the development of NASALS in Old English vs. other West Germanic languages (represented by German).

Old English	nēowe ‘new’ nægl ‘nail’	winnan ‘fight’ sunne ‘sun’	fif ‘five’ gōs ‘goose’ oer ‘other’
German	neu Nagel	gewinnen ‘win’ Sonne	fünf Gans andere

III. Indo-European sound changes. In the box put the letter of the most appropriate explanation for the underlined correspondences. In each case, the first word cited is from a Germanic language and the second word is from a language belonging to some other Indo-European group.

- (a) Grimm's Law
- (b) Grassmann's Law accounts for an apparent exception to Grimm's Law.
- (c) Verner's Law accounts for an apparent exception to Grimm's Law.
- (d) A particular sequence of consonants accounts for an apparent exception to Grimm's Law.
- (e) Borrowing from one language to the other accounts for an apparent exception to Grimm's Law.
- (f) The correspondence cannot be explained by any of the above.

1. English *nightin-gale*; Greek *kikhlē* 'thrush' (from an IE word meaning 'sing')
2. English *nightin-gale*; Greek *kikhlē* 'thrush' (from an IE word meaning 'sing')
3. English *cichlid* [*siklid*] type of tropical fish; Greek *kikhlē* type of colorful fish (same word as 'thrush' above, maybe because of reference to colors or shape of fins)
4. English *cichlid* [*siklid*] type of tropical fish; Greek *kikhlē* type of colorful fish (same word as 'thrush' above, maybe because of reference to colors or shape of fins)
5. English *tug*; Latin *ducere* 'to lead'
6. English *tug*; Latin *ducere* 'to lead'
7. English *spade*; Greek *spathe* 'broad blade'
8. English *spade*; Greek *spathe* 'broad blade'