

Study questions on K&K chapter 2

To be turned in Tuesday, Oct. 1 in class

Notes/tips

- Ch. 1 is not required reading. But, if you haven't studied phonetics, you may want to take a look at it. You can hear examples of various speech sounds at hctv.humnet.ucla.edu/departments/linguistics/VowelsandConsonants/course/chapter1/chapter1.html
- K&K don't use exactly the phonetic symbols of the IPA. The symbols they use are often called "Americanist". There are charts on p. 12 and 17 you can consult any time to see what an unfamiliar symbol means. See also en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Americanist_phonetic_notation
- 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. 7 is not part of your assigned reading, but it's probably helpful to look at the figure).
- 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. 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)?

2. 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.

(see next page too)

3. 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?