

### Transcription Practice Exercise 3—Tone drills

The drills below, recorded by W. Welmers, are designed to help you learn to hear differences in tone. This can be quite difficult, especially for those whose first language(s) do not use lexical tone. In these drills, the main task is to determine whether the members of each pair are the same or different; more specific instructions are provided with each drill.

Click on the number in the left-most column to hear first, the number read in English, and then, the two items in the pair. Listen to each pair as many times as you feel necessary.

#### Drill 1—Kpelle

In this practice set, segmental and tonal transcriptions are given as an aid in hearing tonal pairs as Same or Different. The segments are identical in each pair, so if there is a difference it is only in the tones. ´ = high, ` = low, ^ = falling, unmarked = mid.

<a href="#">1.</a>	kóli	a leopard	kɔli	iron	D
<a href="#">2.</a>	kápà	you (pl.) came	kapá	come!	D
<a href="#">3.</a>	ɲápà	I came	ɲápà	I came	S
<a href="#">4.</a>	kala	grass	kála	a low wall	D
<a href="#">5.</a>	pálà	bring it	pálà	bring it	S
<a href="#">6.</a>	díli	they went	díli	have them go	D
<a href="#">7.</a>	kpawɔ	a fishhook	kpáwɔ	a bridge	D
<a href="#">8.</a>	àlí	he's gone	àli	when he goes	D
<a href="#">9.</a>	séle	an elephant	séle	an elephant	S
<a href="#">10.</a>	káli	a hoe	káli	a hoe	S
<a href="#">11.</a>	kpólo	soap	kpólo	rice meal	D
<a href="#">12.</a>	ɲádʒi	I planted it	ɲazi	I plant it	D
<a href="#">13.</a>	lóma	a harnessed antelope	lóma	a harnessed antelope	S
<a href="#">14.</a>	nagè	I do it	nàgè	when I do it	D
<a href="#">15.</a>	kúlí	let's go	kúlí	let's go	S
<a href="#">16.</a>	sûa	a garden	sua	an animal	D
<a href="#">17.</a>	dípá	have them come	dípà	they came	D
<a href="#">18.</a>	nádʒoŋ	let me catch it	nádzòŋ	I caught it	D
<a href="#">19.</a>	káloŋ	a chief	káloŋ	a chief	S
<a href="#">20.</a>	kúlí	let's go	kúli	we want	D

For the five drills that follow, you will hear pairs of the sort that you heard in Drill 1—the segments of the two items in the pair will be the same; only the tones will differ.

Drill 2—Jukun (Takum dialect)    Drill 3—Kpelle

1.    \_\_\_\_\_
2.    \_\_\_\_\_
3.    \_\_\_\_\_
4.    \_\_\_\_\_
5.    \_\_\_\_\_
6.    \_\_\_\_\_
7.    \_\_\_\_\_
8.    \_\_\_\_\_
9.    \_\_\_\_\_
10.    \_\_\_\_\_
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12.    \_\_\_\_\_
13.    \_\_\_\_\_
14.    \_\_\_\_\_
15.    \_\_\_\_\_
16.    \_\_\_\_\_
17.    \_\_\_\_\_
18.    \_\_\_\_\_
19.    \_\_\_\_\_
20.    \_\_\_\_\_

1.    \_\_\_\_\_
2.    \_\_\_\_\_
3.    \_\_\_\_\_
4.    \_\_\_\_\_
5.    \_\_\_\_\_
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11.    \_\_\_\_\_
12.    \_\_\_\_\_
13.    \_\_\_\_\_
14.    \_\_\_\_\_
15.    \_\_\_\_\_
16.    \_\_\_\_\_
17.    \_\_\_\_\_
18.    \_\_\_\_\_
19.    \_\_\_\_\_
20.    \_\_\_\_\_

Drill 4—Vietnamese

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
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11. \_\_\_\_\_
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14. \_\_\_\_\_
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16. \_\_\_\_\_
17. \_\_\_\_\_
18. \_\_\_\_\_
19. \_\_\_\_\_
20. \_\_\_\_\_

Drill 5—Mandarin

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_
14. \_\_\_\_\_
15. \_\_\_\_\_
16. \_\_\_\_\_
17. \_\_\_\_\_
18. \_\_\_\_\_
19. \_\_\_\_\_
20. \_\_\_\_\_

Drill 6—Mandarin

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_
14. \_\_\_\_\_
15. \_\_\_\_\_
16. \_\_\_\_\_
17. \_\_\_\_\_
18. \_\_\_\_\_
19. \_\_\_\_\_
20. \_\_\_\_\_

Drill 7—Kpelle

In this drill, the pitch distinctions, if any, accompany an initial syllabic nasal. Such distinctions are particularly hard to hear. To help you, the first two items are transcribed and their answers are provided. Answers for the other 18 items are in the answer key.

- |            |       |          |      |           |          |
|------------|-------|----------|------|-----------|----------|
| <u>1.</u>  | ̀nǎ́  | my name  | ̀nǎ́ | my name   | <u>S</u> |
| <u>2.</u>  | ̀níi  | my liver | ̀níi | his liver | <u>D</u> |
| <u>3.</u>  | _____ |          |      |           |          |
| <u>4.</u>  | _____ |          |      |           |          |
| <u>5.</u>  | _____ |          |      |           |          |
| <u>6.</u>  | _____ |          |      |           |          |
| <u>7.</u>  | _____ |          |      |           |          |
| <u>8.</u>  | _____ |          |      |           |          |
| <u>9.</u>  | _____ |          |      |           |          |
| <u>10.</u> | _____ |          |      |           |          |
| <u>11.</u> | _____ |          |      |           |          |
| <u>12.</u> | _____ |          |      |           |          |
| <u>13.</u> | _____ |          |      |           |          |
| <u>14.</u> | _____ |          |      |           |          |
| <u>15.</u> | _____ |          |      |           |          |
| <u>16.</u> | _____ |          |      |           |          |
| <u>17.</u> | _____ |          |      |           |          |
| <u>18.</u> | _____ |          |      |           |          |
| <u>19.</u> | _____ |          |      |           |          |
| <u>20.</u> | _____ |          |      |           |          |

Drill 8—Jukun (Wukari dialect)

This drill has 10, not 20, items. Each item is a pair of sentences with four, five, or six syllables. The tone contrast, if any, is confined to one syllable, but it may be anywhere in the utterance. Try to listen to the entire overall tone pattern. As a hint, here is the answer to number ten. (The other answers are in the exercise key.)

Different.

m té bé à I pushed his leg

m te bé à I pressed his leg

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. D \_\_\_\_\_

Drill 9—Kpelle

This drill is like the last one, but contrasts in tone may extend over more than one syllable, or may be confined to a nasal sound.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

Drill 10—Kpelle

In this drill and the two that follow, the utterances differ segmentally, but you are still to judge them only on the basis of *tonal* similarity. The first three items are given in transcription. Note that these exercises are quite a bit more difficult than the ones you have already done. You may wish to listen to the pairs for drill 10 with the answer key in front of you to give you a better feel for what the task is like.

<u>1.</u>	ɓoli	goat	ɓála	sheep	<u>D</u>
<u>2.</u>	manaŋ	cassava	ḱpenêŋ	palm cabbage	<u>D</u>
<u>3.</u>	ḡbêya	cutlass	ya̋la	God	<u>S</u>
<u>4.</u>	_____				
<u>5.</u>	_____				
<u>6.</u>	_____				
<u>7.</u>	_____				
<u>8.</u>	_____				
<u>9.</u>	_____				
<u>10.</u>	_____				
<u>11.</u>	_____				
<u>12.</u>	_____				
<u>13.</u>	_____				
<u>14.</u>	_____				
<u>15.</u>	_____				
<u>16.</u>	_____				
<u>17.</u>	_____				
<u>18.</u>	_____				
<u>19.</u>	_____				
<u>20.</u>	_____				

Drill 11—Mandarin

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_
14. \_\_\_\_\_
15. \_\_\_\_\_
16. \_\_\_\_\_
17. \_\_\_\_\_
18. \_\_\_\_\_
19. \_\_\_\_\_
20. \_\_\_\_\_

Drill 12—Jukun (Takum dialect)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_
14. \_\_\_\_\_
15. \_\_\_\_\_
16. \_\_\_\_\_
17. \_\_\_\_\_
18. \_\_\_\_\_
19. \_\_\_\_\_
20. \_\_\_\_\_