

## Transcription Practice Exercise 8—Ibibio

Ibibio is a Nigerian language that is closely related to Efik. The speaker, Mr. Etim Eyo, was recorded by P. Keating in Port Harcourt, Nigeria, in May 1984.

This exercise is concerned with the tones of Ibibio. They are:

Low	˘
High	ˊ
Falling	ˆ

Falling tone is found only on final syllables.

You will also hear the consonants [ɣ], [kp̄], and [ɾ] and the vowels /a/ and /ɔ/. The phoneme /e/ varies between [e] and [ɛ], but this difference has been ignored here. So has the slight implosion of some voiced tokens. All transcriptions here are fairly broad.

I. A. Some minimal pairs with ˊˊ vs. ˘ˊ :

[bóbó]	become tied	[bòbó]	pawpaw
[bábá]	become in need of	[bàbá]	father
[béyé]	fall off (plural)	[bèyé]	become concerned
[béké]	fall off (singular)	[bèké]	belch
[bíré]	become black	[bìré]	play
[dónó]	become sick	[dònó]	wear clothes

B. Some minimal pairs involving ˘˘ :

[àkò]	a kind of play	[àkó]	fence
[ámì]	this	[àmì]	I

C. Some minimal pairs involving ˊ˘ :

[ákù]	priest	[akú]	circle formation for dance
[àkìkò]	animal in cat family	[akìkò]	rooster
[àkìkó]	plant whose leaves contain milky fluid		

D. Some minimal pairs involving ˆ :

[ábá]	(a town)	[àbá]	forty
[ìbá]	underpants	[ìbá]	two
[ákpán]	eldest son	[ákpân]	square woven basket
[ábón]	mosquito	[ábôn]	pimple
[àtù]	jar, jug	[àtú]	shield

II. Additional examples with some segments:

[ákpá]	expanse of ocean
[àkpá]	first
[àkpà]	a small ant
[àbù]	small shrimp
[ábù]	dust
[áfân]	a kind of hard leaf
[àfân]	path in bush
[ádá]	a kind of fish
[ádâ]	sleeping room
[ákpó]	bone; stalk, stem
[àkpô]	rubber-tree
[àkpò]	ball, mass
[átá]	sediment from palm fruit in pot
[átâ]	specialist
[àtá]	sixty

III. Transcription exercise: Transcribe the following 20 items, paying particular attention to the tones. The consonants /s/ and /j/ and a final [k<sup>1</sup>] are new in these words. There are also two instances of /o/, which sounds like [u]. Otherwise the segments have been illustrated already.

1. Become a coward \_\_\_\_\_
2. Become fierce, brave \_\_\_\_\_
3. Branch of tree \_\_\_\_\_
4. Corpse \_\_\_\_\_
5. Group, flock, herd \_\_\_\_\_
6. Beat down on \_\_\_\_\_
7. Oil \_\_\_\_\_
8. Meeting place \_\_\_\_\_
9. Vein, artery, tendon \_\_\_\_\_
10. Hide \_\_\_\_\_
11. Come \_\_\_\_\_
12. Yonder \_\_\_\_\_
13. Barren woman \_\_\_\_\_
14. Village green \_\_\_\_\_
15. Bush fowl \_\_\_\_\_
16. Reed sleeping mat \_\_\_\_\_
17. Bring up flame \_\_\_\_\_
18. Husband \_\_\_\_\_
19. Funeral \_\_\_\_\_
20. Penny \_\_\_\_\_