

Answers to Exercises in Chapter 2

Exercise 2.1 Getting a Grip on Noun Phrases with the Pronoun Substitution Test

Note: There may be other pronouns that can be substituted for the NPs. Below are examples.

6. (do all of the past-tense endings have the same pronunciation)
 them it
7. (Your tongue position influences your speech sounds.)
 it them
8. (English language learners often first pronounce English words with an accent.)
 they them it
9. (Many languages have clicks in their sound systems.)
 Many them them
10. (One click is similar to the sound that a rider makes to get a horse to move forward.)
 one it she it

Exercise 2.2 Getting a Grip on Appositives

6. A great tool for learning a language, the IPA gives the learner the ability to transcribe words as they sound.
7. Do you think “ng,” a common ending in English words such as “sang” and “thing,” is pronounced as one or two sounds?
8. The IPA, the system mentioned above, represents “ng” as one sound/one symbol. The IPA symbol is /ŋ/.
9. Men have larger voice boxes, larynxes, than women.
10. Phoneticians can compare the sound systems of many languages because they use the same phonetic symbols, the IPA, when analyzing the sound structures.

Exercise 2.3 Getting a Grip on Prepositional Phrases

6. Some languages have a consonant-vowel (CV) structure. For example, Japanese change the pronunciation of some English words to reflect the CV structure of Japanese: “bay su bo ru” (baseball).
7. Not all languages have the same contrasts between sounds. For example, in English, the sounds /p/ and /b/ are in contrast, that is, they change meaning (pat/bat).
8. In Arabic, /p/ and /b/ do not signal a change in word meaning, so they can sound the same to those speakers.
9. Speakers of Arabic may have trouble hearing the difference between the words “pat” and “bat.”
10. My friend, who is an Arabic speaker, says “bebzi” for “Pepsi.”

Exercise 2.4 Getting a Grip on Adjectival Prepositional Phrases

6. (Y) N The vowels of English are categorized as tense or lax.
PST: They are categorized as tense or lax.
7. (Y) N In Chicago, the pronunciation of vowels can differ within a couple of miles.
PST: In Chicago, it can differ within a couple of miles.
8. (Y) N Discriminatory practices have harmed people with accents.
PST: Discriminatory practices have harmed them.
9. Y (N) Sometimes an accent is considered a speech impediment by others.
PST: Sometimes an accent is considered it by others.
10. (Y) N Some students with accents are sent to “speech” classes.
PST: They are sent to “speech” classes.

Exercise 2.5 Getting a Grip on Prepositional Phrases Used as Adjectives and Adverbs

6. ADV Put your hand on your Adam's apple and produce the sounds /s/ ("hisssssss") and /z/ ("buzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzz").
7. ADJ Can you feel the vibration of your vocal cords?
8. ADJ The difference between /s/ and /z/ is vibrating vocal cords.
9. ADJ Can you pinch the nostrils of your nose and produce /m/? ("mmmmmmmmmmmm")
10. ADV No, you can't. The sound /m/ is a nasal sound that exits from your nose.

Exercise 2.6 Getting a Grip on Prepositional Phrases Used as Adjectives and Adverbs

6. The English spelling system is not a good reflection of our sound system.
ADJ
7. The "th" sound is produced with your tongue between your teeth.
ADV ADV
8. The consonant sound /t/ is usually pronounced /d/ between vowels.
ADV
9. Word stress changes the meaning of "record."
ADJ
10. Your lips and your tongue are important in the production of speech sounds.
ADV ADJ

Exercise 2.7 Getting a Grip on Prepositional Phrases Used as Adjectives and Adverbs

Answers provided in the book.

Exercise 2.8 Getting a Grip on Prepositions and Particles

6. PV The participants dropped off their voice recordings.
7. PV Two of the participants got out quickly.
8. PP The sounds came from the back of the throat.
9. PP Nasal vowels are produced through the nose.
10. PV She turned off the recorder.

Exercise 2.9 Getting a Grip on Active and Passive Voice

6. Passive: The pronunciation of vowels in some words is being changed by Americans.
7. Passive: Different dialects of English are spoken by Australians and Americans.
8. Passive: Australian English might not be completely understood by Americans.
9. Passive: For thousands of years, clicks as speech sounds have been used (by people).
10. Passive: To produce a click sound, air from the roof of your mouth must be sucked by your tongue.

Exercise 2.10 Getting a Grip on Active and Passive Voice

6. P Lemerig is spoken only by two adults.
7. A Many languages are in danger of dying.
8. A Language death means the loss of a wealth of cultural knowledge.
9. P Many nonstandard dialects in the United States are stigmatized.
10. A His West Virginian parents pronounce “storm” as “starm.”

Exercise 2.11 Getting a Grip on Conjunctive Adverbs and Coordinating Conjunctions

6. Some dialects of English have unique characteristics that mark them as different from Standard English; consequently, these characteristics are sometimes ridiculed by others.
7. Forty years ago, children learned to spell through memorization; in contrast, children more recently have been taught through phonics.
8. Some languages do not use an alphabet for writing; instead, they use symbols to represent meanings.
9. Our first language influences the pronunciation of our second language; for example, Spanish speakers may say “eschool” for the English word “school.”
10. Many linguists are interested in articulatory phonetics; therefore, they may focus on how speech sounds are produced.

Exercise 2.12 Getting a Grip—Review of Noun Phrases

6. OP The first sound in “dog” is called a “stop” because air is stopped and then released.

7. A Spanish, a commonly spoken language, is generally written the way it is pronounced.
8. S The English alphabet has twenty-six letters, but English has more than twenty-six sounds.
9. OP Do you pronounce “Don” and “Dawn” with the same vowel sound?
10. S My friend from East Texas often feels self-conscious about her accent.

Exercise 2.13 Getting a Grip—Review of Prepositional Phrases

6. ADJ ADJ
The size of your larynx influences the sound of your voice.
7. ADJ
Languages with few speakers will most likely disappear.
8. ADV
Lemerig is spoken only by two adults.
9. ADJ
The speech sounds from our first language can influence our second language.
10. ADV
The speech study was conducted by the graduate students.

Exercise 2.14 Getting a Grip—Review of Active and Passive Voice

6. P
7. P
8. A
9. A
10. A

Exercise 2.15 Getting a Grip—Review of Active and Passive Voice

Answers provided in the book.

Exercise 2.16 Getting a Grip—Review of Active and Passive Voice

Answers provided in the book.

Exercise 2.17 Getting a Grip—Review

6. ☒ T F A phrasal verb consists of a verb plus a particle.
7. ☒ T F The object of preposition must follow a preposition.
8. ☒ T F An active-voice sentence has fewer words than its passive version.
9. ☒ T F The conjunctive adverb in the second sentence sets up the relationship to the first sentence; for example, “therefore” indicates a cause and effect.
10. ☒ T F A sentence with a conjunctive adverb must be separated from the preceding sentence with a period or a semicolon.