

Book Review

Pronunciation in Action

Rungpat Roengpitya
Faculty of Liberal Arts, Mahidol University, Thailand

When English-as-a-foreign-language (EFL) learners acquire English, they have to learn the English sounds and sound system, along with the word system (morphology) and the sentence structures (syntax). One of the books about the English phonetics and phonology is “Pronunciation in action,” written by Professor Budsaba Kanoksilapatham of Silpakorn University, Thailand.

In this book (Kanoksilapatham, 2016), there are a total of 11 chapters in 146 pages. Chapter 1 describes the fundamental concepts of phonetics and phonology, followed by the phonetic alphabets in Chapter 2. Chapter 3 introduces individual sounds of English with the characteristics of segments (consonants and vowels). Chapter 4 focuses on grammatical endings, and Chapter 5 explains the variation of sounds, based on different positions. Chapter 6 covers syllable structure, while Chapter 7 discusses word stress and vowel reduction. Chapter 8 extends the contents of the English stress to the sentence stress and information focus. Chapter 9 is about pause, thought group, and linking. Chapter 10 explains the English intonation. Finally, Chapter 11 includes prominence and intonation in discourse.

Unlike other books in the English phonetics and phonology, this book explicitly displays the comparison and contrast of the phonetic alphabets from various sources (See Chapter 2) such as Longman, Webster, and Collins Cobuild dictionaries, along with the phonetic alphabets which are used in this book. Besides, in this book, the author explains the English phonetics and phonology with the link to the English grammatical structure. In addition, interestingly, this book has various types of exercises with the answer key at the end.

In sum, this book will yield benefits to not only EFL learners but also individuals who are interested in pronouncing English sounds in action.

References

Kanoksilapatham, B. (2016). *Pronunciation in action*. Seventh Edition. Nakhon Pathom: The Textbook and Book Project, Silpakorn University.

Author

Rungpat Roengpitya
Faculty of Liberal Arts, Mahidol University, Thailand
Emails: rungpat@gmail.com, rungpat.roe@mahidol.ac.th