Phonetics teaching and learning tools in Marburg

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– poster –

ABSTRACT

We will present a number of teaching tools, which are currently being developed to assist teaching staff and students interested in phonetics. The first tools should provide a virtual teaching environment especially focusing on media and techniques used by students nowadays: these can be used on portable devices like smartphones, tablet computers and laptops. They were developed in order to provide the students in our transcription courses and those with an interest in forensic phonetics or clinical linguistics with learning materials outside of the normal classroom. The third tool concerns posters to introduce the IPA consonant and vowel chart in an easy-to-read and understandable way to students for use in the classroom.

1. Phonetics App (Beta version)

This app was programmed in Java and can be used on Android devices (Braun 2015). Users can look at and listen to all IPA sounds, including the non-pulmonic consonants. A zoom function enables the user to enlarge the charts. In the training mode users can test their knowledge.

Fig. 1: Phonetics App screenshot
2. Phonetics Web portal

This interactive bilingual (German-English) website will offer the following options:

a) Transcription exercises (and solutions) for beginner/medium/advanced students
b) Clickable IPA sound chart
c) Quizzes on different phonetic topics
d) Forensic tools including
   a. Dialectal stimuli (primarily German dialects)
   b. Exotic challenges involving other languages, manipulated samples or voice disguise/imitation)
e) Information: e.g. upcoming conferences/workshops in phonetics
f) Listings of useful literature/weblinks
g) Glossary

Fig. 2: Screenshot of the Phonetics Web Portal: Beginner/Transcription Exercises

3. Adapted IPA posters

Color-coded IPA classroom posters with sagittal plane images of the vocal tract.

We welcome your feedback and suggestions!

References:
