Updates on the 601 Midterm!!

There are a couple of points that have come up that need some clarification:

- Please mark stress in problem 1. That’s more for your benefit than for mine, really: you’ll have a lot more control over how the vowels should be handled if you bear in mind at least primary stress. And even if you don’t record secondary stress in your transcriptions, do keep track of it in your mind: English pure vowels don’t reduce under either primary or secondary stress, so that’s an important clue about what your transcription should look like.

- Problem 6 has a repetition of the symbols [g] and [b]. Ignore this repetition; the sequence is supposed to be just [p, n, g, b, ʰ, s, m].

- The phasing in Problem 4, ‘determine if [t]/[ʰ] and [d]/[j] form a single phoneme or not’, isn’t clear enough. It should have been phrased, determine if [t]/[ʰ] and [d]/[j] each forms a single phoneme or not’. I’m asking if [t]/[ʰ] correspond to two different phonemes, or a single phoneme with two different phonetic forms, and likewise for [d]/[j].

- ADDED Sunday night, 14 February: Please, please take the instructions for question 9 literally. They ask you to modify the ordering of the rules given in the handout discussion of Mohawk, if necessary, to handle the new data given in the problem, and then to apply this modified rule set to get from the phonemic to the phonetic form associated with the translation ‘I will push it’. You are not told to write any new rules, so you can’t account for anything with the new rules which the original rules given in the handout can’t account for. There were no rules dealing with the deletion phenomena involving /hr/, or voicing, or various other aspects of Mohawk phenomena. All you can account for with the rule system you’ve come up with is what those rules themselves can account for. And you’re not responsible for anything beyond that original rule set, plus any ordering revisions which you can argue need to be made.

- ADDED Tuesday afternoon, 16 February: Don’t worry about getting me your exams if you weren’t already planning to send them to me electronically. Turn them in on Thursday and that will be fine. Enjoy the snow day!

Please keep your eye on this file; there may be other information I need to get to you about the exam before Tuesday, and this is the best way to do it, I think. So check in every so often and see if anything more has been added.