

ENGLISH PHONETIC EXERCISES

BOOK THREE

BY

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CHUNG HWA BOOK CO., LTD, SHANGHAI, CHINA

民 民 國 华 十十 月 即 行 刷

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ENGLISH PHONETIC EXERCISES BOOK THREE

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ENGLISH PHONETIC EXERCISES BOOK III

Phonetic Transcript

1.

ðe 'feðə(r) in ðə 'haus əv 'mɔ:(ə)niŋ [ðə 'feðə(r) iz sə'pouzd tə 'spi:k]

ai wəz in ə 'haus əv 'mɔː(ə)niŋ. 'ðæt 'iz, ðə
'ʃʌtəz w(ε)ə 'pɑːtli 'klouzd; ðə 'kəːtnz w(ε)ə
'drɔːn; ðə 'dresmeikə(r) əd¹ teikn 'ɔːdəz fə 'blæk;
ən(d) 'veri diə 'frendz w(ε)ə(r) in'vaitid tu ə
'fju:n(ə)rəl. 'beki, ðə 'meid,—ai 'ɔnəd (h)ə rezə'l(j)uːʃ(ə)n²—strʌgld 'hɑːd tə 'luk lu(ː)'g(j)uːbriəs³,
'nɔt ət 'ɔːl 'kʌmfətid bai ðə 'prɔspekt əv ə 'njuː
'gaun; '(h)wailst ðə 'fɔːtitjuːd əv ðə bi'riːvd⁴
'misiz 'kræmp wəz ən ig'zɑːmpl tu 'ɔːl 'njuːli
di'livəd 'wido(u)z. ai prə'test⁵ ai 'lʌvd ðə 'wumən
fə hə(r)⁶ 'ɔnisti, ðə 'breθ 'biː(i)ŋ 'fsəli aut əv (h)ə'hʌzbənd, ðæt 'iz, (h)ə- 'hʌzbənd bai 'kɔndʒug(ə)l²
'lɔː, ʃi- 'naiðə 'wept, nɔː '(h)waind, 'nevə 'kɔːt

^{&#}x27;i'/dresmeikə (hə)d. 2 rezo l(j)uıʃ(ə)n. 3 lə/g(j)uɪbriəs. 4 bə-riɪvd. 5 pro/test. 6 fə(r) ə·(r), fə·(r) ə·(r), fr ə·(r). 7 /kəndʒəg(ə)L

ENGLISH PHONETIC EXERCISES BOOK III

Orthographic Text

1.

The Feather in the House of Mourning [The feather is supposed to speak.]

I was in a house of mourning. That is, the shutters were partly closed; the curtains were drawn; the dressmaker had taken orders for black; and very dear friends were invited to a funeral. Becky, the maid—I honoured her resolution—struggled hard to look lugubrious, not at all comforted by the prospect of a new gown; whilst the fortitude of the bereaved Mrs. Cramp was an example to all newly delivered widows. I protest I loved the woman for her honesty. The breath being fairly out of her husband, that is, her husband by conjugal law, she neither wept, nor whined, never caught

(h)ə'self in ə 'strængjuleitin 'sai; bət 'waipt 'ɔːl di'failin 'griːf frəm (h)ə' 'feis əz ʃi' (wu)d (h)əv 'waipt 'flai-spots frəm ðə 'tʃainə. ʃi' lukt 'mɔː(ə) ð(ə)n ri'zaind. ə ə 'kræmp wəz 'skruːd 'daun, ai 'həːd (h)ə' 'laːf 'lastili; ɔːl'biːit ðə 'præktist 'beki 'begd (h)ə' 'mistris "'nɔt tə gou'ɔn sou''stirik(ə)li''; əz ''stiriks²' 'wud nt brin (h)im 'bæk; (ə)n(d) (h)wai 'fud ðei—'wɔz nt (h)i' in 'hevn?'' 'misiz kræmp di'kləəd ʃi' 'kud nt 'help it; ən(d) frəm mai 'haːt ai bi'liːv ðə 'wumən.

"ai wəz ə 'gud 'waif tə him³, 'beki,' sed ðə 'wido(u), 'smailiŋ in ðə 'veri 'swi:tnis əv' 'kən∫(ə)ns.

"(h)wen (h)i wəz ə'laiv, m(əm), ai 'ɔːlw(e)iz 'səd jə wəz⁴ 'tuː 'gud fə(r) im⁵; bət 'nau (h)i' z 'dʒʌst 'gɔːn (i)t iz nt⁶ 'rait tə 'sei sou. 'stil (h)i wəz 'ould, m(əm); 'ðæt s ɔn (h)iz 'kɔfin, sou¹ ð(ɛ)əz 'nou 'hɑːm in 'sei(i)ŋ 'ðæt. 'nʌθiŋ z 'wikidə ð(ə)n tu ə'bjuːz ðə 'diə 'ded, m(əm). 'stil (h)i 'wəz 'ould."

 $^{^1}$ /stirik(e)li, an'edjukeitid fo' his/terikeli. 2 /stiriks—his/terikel 3 tu im. 4 an'edjukeitid fo w(E)e. 5 fr im, fe him, for im. 6 (i)t s /not. 7 se.

herself in a strangulating sigh; but wiped all defiling grief from her face as she would have wiped fly-spots from the china. She looked more than resigned. Ere Cramp was screwed down, I heard her laugh lustily; albeit the practised Becky begged her mistress "not to go on so 'stirically' as 'stirics2' would not bring him back; and why should they—was n't he in heaven?" Mrs. Cramp declared she could not help it; and from my heart I believe the woman.

"I was a good wife to him, Becky," said the widow, smiling in the very sweetness of conscience.

"When he was alive, mum, I always said you was too good for him; but now he has just gone it is n't right to say so. Still he was old, mum; that's on his coffin, so there's no harm in saying that. Nothing is wickeder than to abuse the dear dead, mum. Still he was old."

¹ Uneducated for hysterically. ² Uneducated for hysterics. ³ Uneducated for were.

"hi' 'wɔz," sed ðə 'wido(u), wið¹ 'slait 'emfəsis.
"'nevə kəd² (h)əv bi·n 'gud'lukiŋ; 'bʌt, 'bles
(h)im, 'diə 'soul! 'hu: d 'bleim (h)im fə 'ðæt? 'stil,
hi' 'nevə kəd² (h)əv bi·n 'hæn(d)səm," sed 'beki.

"ai 'nevə hə'd ' enibədi³ (h)u· 'sed əz 'mʌtʃ.
bət '(h)wət s 'bju'ti in ə 'mæn, 'beki? 'nʌθiŋ.
'nevəðə'les, (h)i· 'wəz nt⁴ 'hæn(d)səm, 'gəd 'nouz!'
kraid ðə 'wido(u).

"an(d) 'den wi' 'a:l (h)əv auə 'tempəz, m(əm), tə bi' 'fuə. fə(r)6 'a:l dæt, m(əm), 'ma:stə wəz ə 'litl8 'sauə. 'samtaimz, əz wən9 me(i)10 'sei, hi' d 'bail11 'ouvə wid 'vinigə."

"hi 'ment 'nλθiŋ, 'beki; 'nλθiŋ ət 'ɔːl," sed 'misiz 'kræmp. "(i)t wəz 'ounli in auə 'hʌnimuːn, ai ri'membə—'hːɑː, 'beki!"—'hiə ðə 'wido(u)'slaitli 'ʃʌdəd—"ai ʃ(ə)l 'nevə fə'get mai 'hʌnimuːn!"

"'jes, m(əm)—bət¹² jə w(ɛ)ə 'go(u)iŋ¹³ tə 'sei —'(h)wət did ðə 'ma:stə 'du: 'ðen, m(əm)?"

¹ wiθ. 2 'neve 'kud. 3 'enibedi. 4 wez 'net. 5 'soe,' foe
'foe. 6 fo'(r). fr. 7 'woz. 8 'li:tl. 9 wan. 10 me. 11 'bail;
'valge fe 'boil. 12 bat. 13 'goin.

"He was," said the widow, with slight emphasis.

"Never could have been good-looking; but, bless him, dear soul! who would blame him for that? Still, he never could have been handsome," said Becky.

"I never heard anybody who said as much. But what's beauty in a man, Becky? Nothing. Nevertheless, he was not handsome, God knows!" cried the widow.

"And then we all have our tempers, mum, to be sure. For all that, mum, master was a little sour. Sometimes, as one may say, he would bile¹ over with vinegar."

"He meant nothing, Becky; nothing at all," said Mrs. Cramp. "It was only in our honeymoon, I remember—ha, Becky!"—Here the widow slightly shuddered—"I shall never forget my honeymoon!"

"Yes, mum—but you were going to say—what did the master do then, mum."

¹ Vulgar for boil.

"'swo:(ə) laik 'eni 'tru:pə, 'beki. bət 'siknis did (h)im ə 'di:l əv 'gud," sed 'misiz 'kræmp.

"'kwait 'kjuəd (h)im ət 'la:st, m(əm). ən(d)
'ðen—bət it s ə 'kəmən fə'lt—(h)i 'did lav 'mani
ə 'li(!)tl, m(əm)?" ən(d) 'beki 'pə:zd.

ðə 'wido(u) meid nou 'aːnsə, bʌt, 'glaːnsiŋ ət (h)ə 'meidsəːv(ə)nt, 'druː ə 'lɔŋ 'sai.

"ən(d) '(h)wət wəz ðə 'juːs, m(əm)? jə nou (h)i 'kud nt teik it 'wið (h)im¹."

'hiə(r) ə 'bə:st əv 'lait 'ænimeitid ðə 'wido(u)z 'feis, ən(d) ʃir 'kraid—ðə 'mɔnəsiləbl² 'bæbliŋ frəm (h)ər 'ha:t—'''nou!''

"ai 'wud nt ə'bju:z ðə 'ded fə ðə 'wɔ:ld, m(əm); bət 'pi:pl 'kɔ:ld (h)im ən 'ould 'dʒu:," sed 'beki.

"hi' 'woz nt 'ðæt, 'beki," 'a:nsəd ðə 'wido(u), in ðə 'maildist, 'swi:tist toun əv ri'pru:f.

"bət (h)i, 'did laik tə 'draiv ə 'ba:gin. hi, 'did lav 'mɔ:(ə) ð(ə)n (h)iz 'penəθ,'' kraid 'beki.

"hi wəz ə 'mæn ə(v) ðə 'wə:ld, 'beki,'' sed 'misiz 'kræmp.

^{1 /}wiθ him. /2 /monosiləbl.

"Swore like any trooper, Becky. But sickness did him a deal of good," said Mrs. Cramp.

"Quite cured him at last, mum. And then—but it is a common fault—he did love money a little, mum?" And here Becky paused.

The widow made no answer, but, glancing at her maid-servant, drew a long sigh.

"And what was the use, mum? You know he could n't take it with him."

Here a burst of light animated the widow's face, and she cried—the monosyllable babbling from her heart—"No!"

"I would not abuse the dead for the world, mum; but people called him an old Jew," said Becky.

"He was n't that, Becky," answered the widow, in the mildest, sweetest tone of reproof.

"But he did like to drive a bargain. He did love more than his pennyworth¹," cried Becky.

"He was a man of the world, Becky," said Mrs. Cramp.

 $^{^1}$ The spelling penn'orth is sometimes seen. Pedants and very careful speakers pronounce 'peniwe0.

"m:m:m! məm," sed 'beki, 'ha:dli 'nouin ðə 'tru:0 ʃi' 'Atəd; "if so(u) 'meni¹ fouks 'wɔz nt² (h)wɔt ðei 'kɔ:l ðəm'selvz, "men ə(v) ðə 'wə:ld," ðə 'wə:ld, m(əm), 'wud nt bi so(u)³ 'bæd əz it 'iz."

"ai 'dount 'θiŋk ðə puə' 'mæn 'left it 'wəɪs ð(ə)n (h)i 'faund it," əb'zəːvd ðə mænz 'wido(u).

"ən(d) 'ðen—if (h)i 'wɔz nt 'ded, ai d 'sei it—(h)i 'juːzd 'juː laik 'eni 'təːk."

"(i)t wəz (h)iz 'fon(d)nis, 'beki; ət 'li:st, ai 'houp (i)t wəz (h)iz 'fon(d)nis."

"mhə, m(əm), ai v 'sed it ə'ge(i)n (ə)n(d)
ə'ge(i)n. ju⁵ wəz⁶ 'tu: 'gud fə(r) im⁷," kraid 'beki.

mai bi'li:f ət ðə 'taim wəz⁸ ðət 'misiz 'kræmp (h)əd 'ləŋ bi'n əv ðə 'meidz ə'pinjən.⁹ hau evə ʃi' 'miəli 'a:nsəd, '''ðæt s 'ouvə 'nau, 'beki.''

"it 'iz 'ouvə, ən(d) ə 'gud θiŋ 'tuː; fə(r)¹º
ɔːl'ðou 'noubədi¹¹ ʃəd¹² spiːk 'il ə(v) ðə 'ded—ai
'mʌs(t) sei¹³ it—ə 'wəːsə¹⁴ mæn 'nevə 'livd."

^{1 &#}x27;sou meni, se 'meni. 2 'weznt; an'edjukeitid fe 'w(£)e nt. 3 'bix se. 4 poe, poe, por. 5 je, 'jur. 6 wez; an'edjukeitid fe w(£)e. 7 fr im, fe him, for him, for im. 8 'woz. 9 o'pinjen. 10 for(r), fr. 11 'noubedi. 12 Jud. 13 mest(t) 'sei. 14 'wezse; 'valge fe 'wezs.

"Humph! mum," said Becky, hardly knowing the truth she uttered; "if so many folks was n't¹ what they call themselves, 'men of the world,' the world, mum, would not be so bad as it is."

"I don't think the poor man left it worse than he found it," observed the widow.

"And then—if he was n't dead, I would say it—he used you like any Turk."

"It was his fondness, Becky; at least I hope it was his fondness."

"Humph! mum, I've said it again and again. You was too good for him," cried Becky.

My belief at the time was that Mrs. Cramps had long been of the maid's opinion. However, she merely answered, "that's over now, Becky."

"It's over, and a good thing, too; for although nobody should speak ill of the dead—I must say it—a worser² man never lived."

¹ Vulgar for were n't. ² Vulgar for worse.

"'beki, 'dount dis'tres mi'; 'kʌm 'hiə." wið
'ðis miːk ri'pruːf, 'misiz 'kræmp ə'prout∫t (h)weə(r)
'ai wəz 'lai(i)ŋ, 'fɔlo(u)d bai (h)ə 'meid. "(i)t'l
bir ə 'θauz(ə)nd 'pitiz," sed ðə 'wido(u), 'teikiŋ mir
'dʒentli in (h)ə 'hænd.

"'kwait ə 'sin, m(əm), tə 'du: it," sed 'beki.

"ən(d) 'jet ai 'mast gou intə 'wi:dz," sed ðə 'wido(u).

"'ɔːl ðə 'betə, m(əm); ju, 'duː luk so(u) 'nais¹ in 'blæk," kraid ðə 'meid.

"it s 'kliə(r)," ai 'θɔit, "ai v bi n ðə 'sʌbdʒikt əv 'priːvjəs kɔnvə'sei∫(ə)n, ən(d) 'mistris ən(d) 'meid ə 'nau dis'kʌsiŋ mai 'feit. '(h)wət (w)əd² bi'kʌm əv miː?"

"

'θauz(ə)nd 'pitiz tə 'dai it,' sed 'misiz 'kræmp, stil 'geiziŋ ət mi'.

ai 'trembld ət ðə 'wəːd θru; 'evri 'filəmənt.
'dai 'mi:! '(h)wɔt! 'wɔz ai³ tə fɔː'gou, ən(d) 'sɔu
'suːn, ðə 'snou(w)i 'pji əriti⁴ əv mai 'aut'ːaid? in

^{1 &#}x27;sou (')nais, sə'nais. 2 'wud. 3 'woz'ai, wəz'ai. 4 'pj 16 r)ti.

"Becky, don't distress me; come here." With this meek reproof, Mrs. Cramp approached where I was lying, followed by her maid. "It will be a thousand pities," said the widow, taking me gently in her hand.

"Quite a sin, mum, to do it," said Becky.

"And yet I must go into weeds," said the widow.

"All the better, mum; you do look so nice in black," cried the maid.

"It 's clear," I thought, "I've been the subject of previous conversation, and mistress and maid are now discussing my fate. What would become of me?"

"A thousand pities to dye it," said Mrs. Cramp, still gazing at me.

I trembled at the word through every filament. Dye me! What! was I to forgo, and so soon, the snowy purity of my outside? In