

PO 2018 Kernfach/Majors

**Sprachpraxis OS: Oral Skills**

**Language Skills OS: Oral Skills**

**Exam/Abschlussprüfung**

### Registration

Students register on the **Studierendenportal** as with any exam. This can be done up to approximately one week before the exam but we recommend as soon as the registration process becomes available (usually 4-5 weeks before the exam).

Once registered, they visit the **Studierendenbüro Anglistik** (Geb. 23.31 Raum 04.73) during the opening hours (check online) to arrange a **presentation timeslot**. There are usually 3 to 5 different dates to choose from. There will be **two examiners** for the oral presentations. Consult the website of the **Studierendenbüro Anglistik** regularly for ALL exam info.

## Exam Guidelines

### Task

Give a **7 minute** presentation to a panel of two lecturers on an **academic topic** of your choice, either:

- a) a topic you covered in a seminar of English literature, culture or linguistics, or your minor.
- b) the broad theme of 'Global English'

### **Outline**

Students **MUST** submit a one page **outline** and have it checked a minimum 2 weeks prior to the exam. It can be revised until the exam date. They can send it to their current presentations class instructor or any other presentations instructor, i.e. Elaine.Chung@uni-duesseldorf.de, westwood@uni-duesseldorf.de  
alexandra.habot@uni-duesseldorf.de

### Pass/Fail Criteria:

All students **MUST** meet the following criteria.

- Students **MUST** speak for more than 5 minutes; less is an automatic fail. Speakers will be penalized if a presentation is shorter than 6.5 or longer than 8 minutes, and cut off if it is over 8.5 minutes.
- Students **must** bring **two hard copies of the outline** to the exam.
- The topic **must not** be a topic used in a previous presentation class.

### **Plagiarism**

Students **MUST** write their presentations **in their own words**. Presentations may be recorded to be checked for **plagiarism**. If the examiners suspect the wording of speech has been directly taken from another source, the student will receive a fail and may be further penalized.

**Oral Skills Talk Evaluation**

Speaker:

Topic:

Length:

Marking Criteria	of 25	POINTS
<p><b>DELIVERY</b> during both presentation (prepared) and questions (extemporaneous)</p> <p><b>Sounds &amp; Clarity</b> (pronunciation, enunciation) Final Voiced Obstruents glottal stops appropriate any problematic individual sounds e.g. th/r/v/a</p> <p><b>Prosody</b> word &amp; sentence stress chunking &amp; pausing intonation linking pacing</p> <p><b>Fluency &amp; filler avoidance</b></p> <p><b>Non-verbal communication</b> (eye contact, position, gestures)</p>	<p><b>DELIVERY (10):</b></p>	
<p><b>LANGUAGE:</b> during both presentation (prepared) and questions (extemporaneous)</p> <p><b>Grammar</b> range / accuracy (if-clauses, conditionals, tense, aspect)</p> <p><b>Vocabulary</b> range / accuracy</p> <p><b>Register</b> appropriate (i.e. spoken but academic)</p>	<p><b>LANGUAGE (7):</b></p>	
<p><b>ORGANIZATION AND RHETORIC</b> Structuring, including introduction, overview, transitions, conclusion Rhetorical work to establish and maintain relationship with audience</p>	<p><b>ORGANIZATION AND RHETORIC (4):</b></p>	
<p><b>CONTENT</b> Research question, response to question (thesis) and support Depth of analysis and indication of understanding of content presented Use of &amp; reference to scholarship during talk on outline</p>	<p><b>CONTENT (4):</b></p>	
<p>Outline accompanying exam</p>		<p><b>TOTAL GRADE (25)</b></p>

student name  
student number  
course of studies

14th February, 20..

## Oral Skills Presentation Outline

### Topic

The role of social information in speech perception.

### Thesis

Social characteristics such as gender, age or social class systematically affect the way how speech is perceived. The perception of a merger-in-progress of vowels in New Zealand English is influenced by social factors. According to Hay, Paul and Drager speech perception involves not so much what we hear, but what we believe we hear.

### Outline

1. Introduction
2. Defining merger-in-progress of NEAR/SQUARE in New Zealand English
3. Consequences of the merger-in-progress in the perception of New Zealanders – a study by Hay, Paul and Drager (2006)
  - 3.1. Procedure
  - 3.2. Results
  - 3.3. Explaining the results
4. Conclusion

### References

- Bauer, Laurie & Paul Warren. 2008. New Zealand English: phonology. In Katie Burridge & Bernd Kortmann (eds), *Varieties of English 3: The Pacific and Australasia*. Berlin and New York: Mouton de Gruyter, 36-63.
- Hay, Jennifer & Katie Drager. 2007 Sociophonetics. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 36: 89- 103.
- Hay, Jennifer, Paul Warren & Katie Drager. 2006. Factors influencing speech perception in the context of a merger-in-progress. *Journal of Phonetics* 34(4). 458-484.
- Tedx Talks. 2014, November 21. What your speaking style, like, says about you | Vera Regan | TEDxDublin [Video file]. Retrieved from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jAGgKE82034>

SAMPLE

Student name:

Student ID:

Course, Semester: 5<sup>th</sup>

Semester Instructor: /

Date: 14.02.20..

## Oral Skills Presentation Outline

**Topic:** The Rise of the Novel

**Research Question:** What is a novel and how did it arise in England during the 18<sup>th</sup> century?

**Thesis:** The novel narrates social events and is often rooted in a complex and social world. Furthermore, it distinguishes itself from the romance by showing life as it really is. It emerged in England due to many factors, such as: Buying power, circulating libraries, female readership, economic development and others.

### Outline:

1. Introduction
2. Definition of the novel
3. Reasons why the novel rose
  - 3.1. Buying power
  - 3.2. Circulating libraries
  - 3.3. Female readership
  - 3.4. Middle class
  - 3.5. Booksellers
  - 3.6. Economic necessity
4. Examples of novels
5. Conclusion

### Literature:

Abrams, Meyer H., and Geoffrey Galt Harpham. *A Glossary of Literary Terms*. Boston: Thomson Wadsworth, 2006. Print.

Greenblatt, Stephen, and Meyer H. Abrams, (eds.). *The Northern Anthology of English Literature*. 8<sup>th</sup> ed. 1 vols. New York: Norton 2006. Print.

Wagner, Hans-Peter. *A History of British, Irish and American Literature*. Trier: Wissenschaftlicher Verlag. 2003. Print.

Watt, Ian. *The Rise of the Novel: Studies in Defoe, Richardson and Fielding*. London: Chatto & Windus, 1957. Print.