Contents

Contents

Preface	VII
Pronunciation Key	VIII
UNIT I	
Sound & Rhythm Preview	I
Introductory Remarks	I
Preview of Basic Sound & Rhythm Concepts	2
UNIT 2	
Starting Concepts	5
Types of Vocabulary	5
The Syllable	7
Counting Syllables	7
Number of Syllables: Functional v Lexical Vocabulary	8
Word Origin and Number of Syllables	8
UNIT 3	
Functional Words	9
Features	9
Dual Pronunciation	10
Stressed v Reduced Articulation	10
Functional Word Classes	11
Pronouncing Functional Words: General Observations	14
UNIT 4	
Sound & Rhythm Patterns	15
Major Sound & Rhythm Patterns	15
Other Sound & Rhythm Patterns	18
Longer Polysyllabic Words	18
UNIT 5	
Sound & Rhythm in Fluent Speech	23
Word Stress	24
Final T and Final D Adjustments	24

VI Contents

Mute H	24
Vowel Reduction	25
Vowel Expansion and Diphthong Stretching	25
UNIT 6	
Further Concepts of Sound & Rhythm	29
The Phenomenon of Vowel Reduction or the SCHWA Sound	29
The SCHWA Sound and Symbol	29
Mute H v Lexical H	30
Final T	31
Final D and Final S	35
Palatalization	37
CV Configuration	39
Leftward Shift and Fade-out	40
UNIT 7	
Putting It All Together	43
Stretching the Tonic Syllables	43
Answer Key	49
Concise Bibliography	59