Perception of Spoken English (POSE) Test

Chinese: High Beginner

Vowels (n = 264)

Phonemic Contrast	Example	% Correct	Functional Load	# of Items
/i/ - /ɪ/	beet / bit	68%	95%	4
/ɪ/ - /ɛ/	bit / bet	88%	54%	4
/ɛ/ - /e/	bet / bait	80%	53%	4
/ɛ/ - /æ/	bet / bat	69%	51%	4
/æ/ - /ɑ/	cat / cot	93%	76%	4
/ɑ/ - /ɑr/	cot / cart	69%	31.5%	4
/ɑ/ - /ə/	cot / cut	68%	65%	4
/ɑ/ - /ow/	cot / coat	79%	---	4
/ə/ - /ɚ/	cut / curt	90%	40%	2
/ə/ - /ʊ/	putt / put	87%	9%	2
/ʊ/ - /uw/	pull / pool	64%	7%	2

Functional Load Source: Catford, 1987, pp. 89-90. The "cot / coat" contrast was included because of its existence in Pronunciation Matters (Henrichsen, Green, Nishitani & Bagley, 1999) even though no functional load information was available.

© 2026 Justin Shewell. All rights reserved. (posetest.com)