1. Why should devoicing take place at the end of a word? What is the logic to this?

2. In addition to the answer given for 1 above, what purpose does final devoicing serve?

3. What makes m, n, r, l different from the other consonants in terms of voicing rules? (Note that the remaining consonant of this type is j, which never dvoices.) Hamilton (p. 61) says that these consonants can devoice at the end of words when contiguous to other voiceless consonants. Here's a word-initial example: птый [rtu]. What do you make of this?

4. Which consonants can cause preceding consonants to become voiced?

5. I was taught to think of v as a "window" in terms of voicing assimilations? What does this mean and what does this tell us about the status of v?

6. The word свадьба is etymologically related to свать and сватать. Why is the spelling of свадьба strange? Compare it to просьба, which is etymologically related to просить.

7. Here are more words to practice transcription on:

общий

обсачка

отгон

подхватить

межколхозный

предвкусить

отвратить

сдви́г

отверде́ть

подснёжник

подшното́пать

вкра́тце

предвзя́тый