

Chapter 4

1. What's a basic difference between consonants and vowels? Are there any sounds that don't fit neatly and unambiguously into one or the other group?

2. Here is a more scientific way to represent the rules for stressed vowels given in the textbook:

a. á > [ǎ] / C__C
 > [á] ...

b. ó > [ó] / C__C
 > [ó] ...

c. ú > [ú] / C__C
 > [ú] ...

d. é > [é] / __C
 > [Ě] ...

e. í > [ĭ] / C°__
 > [i] ...

3. The rules for the first three vowels are the same but the last two are different. What other difference is there between these two groups of vowels?

4. What causes the differences we see in the pronunciation of vowels described in these rules?

5. Why do é and í have differently from á, ó, ú?

6. Hamilton says that *[bʲiɛ̯] and *[bʲiɛ̯] are impossible in Russian. Why?

7. Write out the phonetic transcriptions of these words:

пять клас клят брать счёт пол жён чёлн чей чём
чуть чур суй пыль жить чин сыч сыр сыпь