

An introduction to the pronunciation of English

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London: Edward Arnold, 1989, 4th edition, revised by Susan Ramsaran. xi + 364pp.

This new edition of an old faithful is very much to be welcomed. Each chapter has been revised to take account of new trends, terms, and reading. Particular attention has been paid to the section on the word and connected speech (adding data on suffix formation, pp. 257–8), and to the sections on stylistic variation (a very useful discussion, pp. 308–11) and changes in RP (a succinct account of current trends, pp. 89–90). The symbol /aʊ/ has been replaced by /au/, as in the *English Pronouncing Dictionary*. The book is in all other respects the same: you don't change a winner, and this book continues to lead the field as

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a comprehensive text on the pronunciation of British English. It is an essential resource work for anyone working with speech problems, and if you invested once in a first or second edition, you should think seriously about replacing it with the fourth edition now.