

Phonetics Exercise 1 Thai Vowels

Thai has nine vowel phonemes. First listen to the following nine Thai words in Praat and try to determine the best phoneme categorization, transcribing the vowel sound with the appropriate IPA symbol. Then measure the first and second formants of each vowel (taking your measure at the center of the vowel or where there is a steady state). Using the attached graph from Fig. 8.6 in Ladefoged, plot the nine vowels with F1 on the Y axis and F2 on the X axis, with the lowest values in the NE corner. Then rank the nine vowels from highest to lowest in terms of their values for each formant. Does this help to identify the vowels?

	V	F1	F2
1.	krVt	dagger	
2.	sVd	last	
3.	(p)hV?	goat	
4.	klVŋ	drum	
5.	fVn	dream	
6.	ŋVn	silver	
7.	?Vn	ligament	
8.	khVn	thick soup	
9.	khVn	go up	

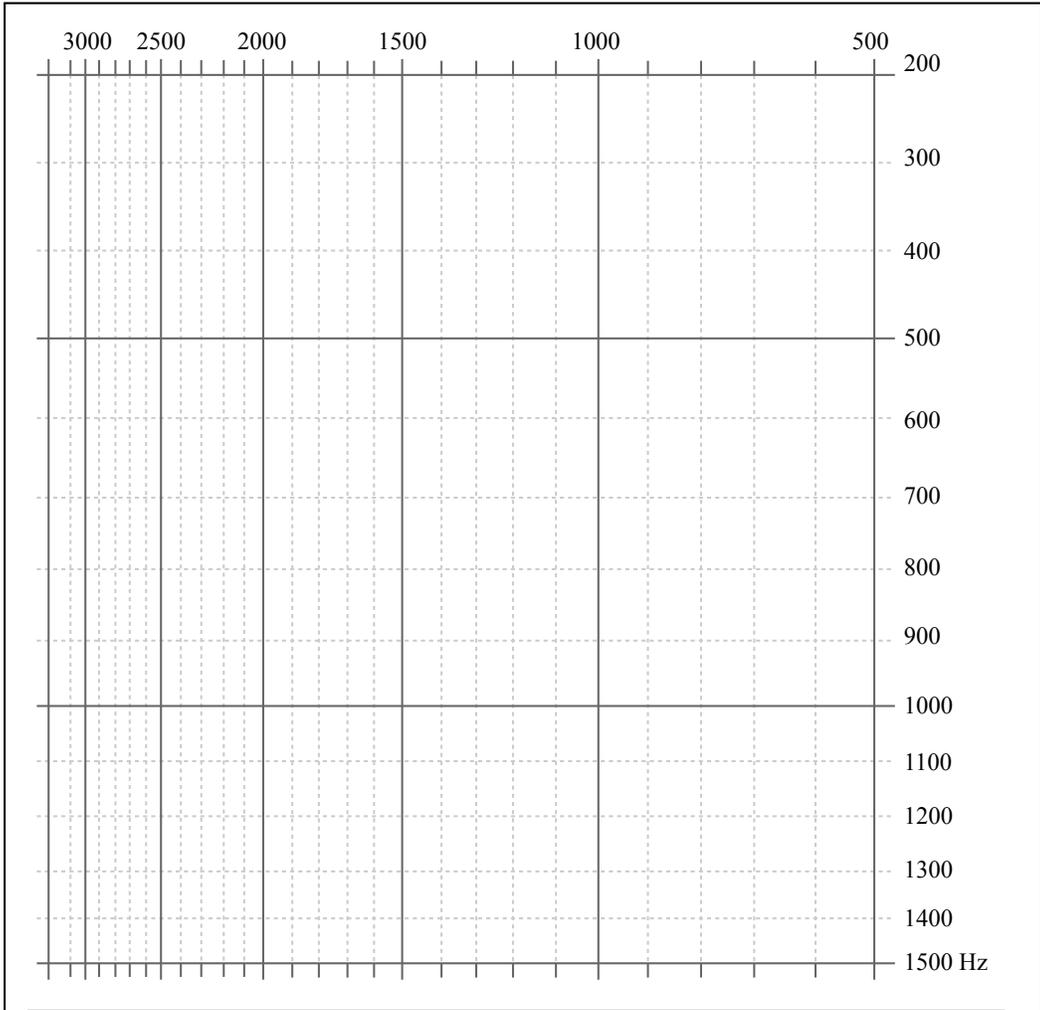


Figure 8.6 A blank formant chart for showing the relation between vowels. Using the information in Figures 8.3 and 8.4, plot the frequency of the first formant on the ordinate (the vertical axis) and the second formant on the abscissa (the horizontal axis).

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