

Contents

Preface

vii

Part One **OUR LANGUAGE TODAY**

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----|
| 1. Viewing Our Language Today | 3 |
| 2. Analyzing the Spoken Language | 19 |
| 3. Our Language Here and There | 37 |

Part Two **THE SOUNDS OF AMERICAN ENGLISH**

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 4. The Consonants of American English | 59 |
| The Stop-Plosives | 67 |
| 5. The Fricative Sounds | 82 |
| 6. The Frictionless Consonants | 99 |
| 7. The Vowels of American English | 131 |
| The Front Vowels | 146 |
| 8. The Back Vowels | 162 |
| 9. The Central Vowels | 174 |
| 10. The Vowel Clusters: The Diphthongs and Triphthongs of
American English | 186 |

Part Three **SOUNDS AND CONTEXT**

- | | |
|-------------------|-----|
| 11. Sound Changes | 207 |
| 12. Words | 225 |

CONTENTS

13. Stress and Pronunciation	242
14. Pitch and Melody in American English	261
<i>Appendix A: The Background of Our Language</i>	280
<i>Appendix B: Charts, Maps, Samples of Phonetic Transcription, and Phonemic Systems of American English</i>	297
<i>Index</i>	317