

## RP SOUNDS AND SYMBOLS COURSE

=====

### 1. COURSE SUMMARY

This is a four-session course leading to a Tarbet-Telfer Benchmark in RP Sounds and Symbols. It consists of three one-hour teaching sessions, and a fourth session where you will sit the Benchmark test (about 30 minutes, plus a 5-minute individual oral exam). The teaching follows my RP Phonetics Course, which uses a Workbook that is laid out for four one-hour sessions. However, we have only three one-hour sessions, so we will cover more than one Workbook session in each of our RP Sounds and Symbols classroom sessions.

You will need to do private work between the classroom sessions. If you don't understand something in your private work, you **must** ask about it in class.

This present page and all related links can be found on my website at **www.derek.uk** (click 'Tarbet-Telfer Language and Accent Benchmarks' on the first page). That webpage will be updated during the course - check it frequently.

### 2. REFERENCE VOWELS

You will need to learn a set of nine vowel-sounds, called Reference Vowels, as part of this course. I'll deal with them briefly in class, but you'll also need internet access to study them privately. If you have a computer that runs Windows, download the Reference Vowels (Windows) package from my website; if your computer doesn't run Windows, or if you don't have a computer (i.e. you have only a tablet or smartpone), then use the Reference Vowels (Other Device) package on the website.

Access the appropriate Reference Vowels package as soon as you can after the first class session, so that you have time to sort out any problems. Email me at **derek@derek.co.uk** if you encounter any difficulties.

### 3. TERMINOLOGY

The Benchmark will test your knowledge of the 26 technical terms shown below. You will need to research these yourself - I'll deal with them only briefly in class. Start by googling any of these terms, and then follow where that leads you:-

- vowel, consonant
- voicing, place, manner
- voiceless, voiced
- bilabial, labio-dental, alveolar, retroflex, velar
- plosive, affricate, fricative, approximant, nasal
- close, close-mid, open-mid, open
- front, central, back
- rounded, unrounded