Phonetics and Linguistics, UCL PLINX202 ENGLISH ACCENTS

Week 3. Cockney (ii)

1. Diphthong shifts	ei, ai, oi \rightarrow Λ i, ai, oi	face, price, choice
	əυ, aυ → Λυ, æυ ~ æə	goat, mouth
	i:, u: → ại, ạu	two, three
2. L vocalization	$l (= [1]) \rightarrow o /_{C}, $ Vowel neutralizations	milk, shelf, middle feel-fill, fool-full(-fall) doll-dole, well-whirl child's-Charles, veil-vowel-Val
3. T glottalling	$t \rightarrow ?/[+son]_[V -str]$	get out, water, little
4. THOUGHT Split	$0: \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{c} 00 \sim 0: / C \\ 00 \sim 0: / \# \end{array} \right.$	lawn, morning, board law, score, bored
5. Allophony of GOAT vowel	$\Delta \sigma \rightarrow \sigma \sigma / -1 \{C,\#\}$	goalie (cf. slowly)
6. Weakening	unstressed $\Lambda U \rightarrow \Im$	window, pillow/pillar
7. Weak forms	jə, mi	you, my
8. Postglottal schwa elision	$\theta \rightarrow \emptyset / ?_{-}(\#)C$	quarter past

Homework assignment (BA only; counts for 25% of marks for this ½-c.u.):

Look at the cartoon (overleaf). Show how the author, Posy, attempts to reflect features of Cockney pronunciation by exploiting the conventions of English orthography. How successful is the attempt? *Hand in by 15 November*.

Hints:

- how does the spelling used for the dialogue differ from standard spelling?
- what special spelling devices are available to enable an author to indicate unusual pronunciation?
- what is actually implied by for example putting the spelling *wot* (rather than *what*) in the mouth of a character?
- what phonetic characteristics of London pronunciation does Posy want to convey? (describe each one carefully) does she succeed?
- is she consistent? ought she to be?
- given that the boys in the cartoon come from an educated middle-class background, why are they represented as speaking this way?