

# GENERAL AMERICAN DIALECT TEST

Now that you have studied this dialect, naturally you want to find out how good you are. You should be able to perform the monologues and practice sentences accurately and convincingly. But can you successfully apply what you have learned to an unfamiliar text? Could you teach this dialect to someone else? Or dialect-coach a production? To help you answer those questions, here's a little test to help you find out.

Print this page, and for the passage below write in the numbers of the signature sounds and additional features you have learned. Also (optional), phonetically transcribe the passage, completing what Paul has started for you. You should be able to find or create examples of every signature sound and additional feature. Then compare your work with Paul's completed transcription at:

<http://www.paulmeier.com/TESTS/GeneralAmericanTestAnswers.pdf>

Next, record it and compare your recording with Paul's at:

<http://www.paulmeier.com/TESTS/GeneralAmericanTestAnswers.mp3>

Camping in the blazing summer sun at Big Bend

15 2 13 129 15 g 3 g 2 8

'k<sup>h</sup>æmpɪŋ ɪn ðə 'bleɪzɪŋ 'sʌmə 'sʌn ət 'bɪg 'ben

National Park is extraordinary: slowly

hiking each path, quickly grasping all

details of the many and varied plants and  
animals, while simultaneously tuning into  
the awesome and hostile terrain, made rustic  
and very beautiful by fire, wind, and rain.

