Final test - questions

Phonetics as a scientific study of speech.

1. Describe the three areas of phonetics. (slide 7)
2. What types of information are provided in the speech signal? Describe one of them in detail. (slides 8-10)
3. Explain the difference between verbal and non-verbal communication. (slide 12)
4. Why phonemes are considered arbitrary signs? (slide 13-14)
5. Explain the relation between phonetics and phonology. (slides 17-19)

The Vocal Tract and Initiation of Speech - Articulatory phonetics.

6. Provide the names of the parts of the tongue that take part in the articulation of speech sounds. (the materials were given in the class)
7. How do we classify airstream mechanisms? (slide 9)
8. What is the role of velum position? (slide 11)
9. Give the names of at least 5 different places of articulation and describe them. (slides 13-18)
10. Which features play role in the classification of consonants? (slide 6)
11. How do we classify vowels? (slide 23-24)
12. How vowels differ from consonants? (slide 26)
13. Describe variation in pitch. (slide 29)

Speech analysis

14. What does it mean that speech sounds are complex waves?
15. Describe distinctive features of speech sounds and how they are measured. (slide 5)
16. How can two sounds of the same duration differ? (slides 6-7)
17. Name the three types of sound source in speech and describe one of them in detail. (slides 12-14)
18. What is the difference between a waveform and a spectrogram? (slides 15-18)

In case of any doubts or difficulty in understanding the content of my handouts, I recommend to browse through the following handbooks (in this order):

Ladefoged, P. (various editions) A Course in Phonetics

Clark, J. and Yallop, C. (1995) An introduction to phonetics and phonology. 2nd edition. Oxford: Blackwell

Davenport, M., Hannahs, S.J. (1998). Introducing phonetics & phonology. London, Arnold.