

ASPECTS OF CONNECTED SPEECH

1/ Assimilation:

=> What happens to a sound when it is influenced by one of its neighboring sounds is called assimilation.

Two adjacent consonants within a word or at word boundaries often influence each other in such a way that the articulation of one sound becomes similar to or even identical with the articulation of the other one.

e.g: this shop /ðɪs/ /ʃɒp/ => / ðɪʃɒp /

1.1.Degrees of assimilation:

a/ Complete: when the articulation of the assimilated consonant fully coincides with that of the assimilating one.

e.g: this shop / ðɪʃɒp /, horseshoes /'hɔːsʃuːz/ =>/'hɔːʃʃuːz/

b/ Partial: when the assimilated consonant retains its phonemic features and becomes only partly similar in some feature of articulation to the assimilating sound.

e.g: five pence /,faɪf 'pens/, twice /twaɪs/, please /pliːz/, try /traɪ/

c/ Intermediate (between complete and partial): when the assimilated consonant changes into a different sound but does not coincide with the assimilating sound.

e.g: gooseberry /'gʊzbəri/ => /'gʊːsberi/

congress /'kɒŋɡres/ =>/'kɒŋɡres/

1.2 Direction of assimilation:

a/ progressive: when the sound comes first affects the sound that comes after it. e.g: the plural forms of nouns: *plants, plans, watches*.

b/ regressive: when the sound that comes first is affected by the sound that comes after it.

e.g: different forms: *IL (illegal), IM (immortal), IR (irregular) meaning NOT*

c/ double/reciprocal: two adjacent consonants influence each other.

e.g: /t/ + /j/ => /tʃ/ don't you /dəʊntʃʊ/, can't you /kɑ:ntʃʊ/,

/d/ + /j/ => /dʒ/ did you /dɪdʒʊ/, could you /kʊdʒʊ/

2/ Accomodation/ Adaptation:

The modification in the articulation of a vowel under the influence of an adjacent consonant, or, vice versa the modification in the articulation of a consonant under the influence of an adjacent vowel. (e.g: page 100/2014)

3/ Elision: under certain circumstances sounds disappear, or in certain circumstances a phoneme may be realized as zero, or have zero realization.

e.g: (page 51/2002 or 98/2012 or 101/2014)

4/ Linking:

In natural communication, we sometimes link words together. The most familiar case is the use of linking /r/

e.g: (pge 53/2002 or 98&99/2012 or 102/2014)

5/ Weak form:

In English speech, there are certain words which have two forms of pronunciation: strong (full) form and weak (reduced) form.

e.g: **can** / kæn / or / kən / (page 52&53/2002; 100->105/2012; 103->108/2014)

see also Illustration Files attached