



ELISION



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DEFINITION

- Pronunciation: [i'liʒn]
1. The **omission** of a sound or syllable when speaking
 2. The **process of joining together** or **merging** things, especially abstract ideas: unease at the elision of so many vital questions
 3. The **typical of rapid, casual speech**; the process of change in phoneme realizations produced by changing the speed and casualness of speech is caused gradation.
- 
- A person is riding a bicycle in a field. The person is wearing a light-colored shirt and dark pants. The bicycle has a basket on the front. The background is a green field under a light sky.

DEFINITION

- For example:

WORDS	NO ELISION	ELISION
Comfortable	/ 'kʌmf <u>ə</u> təbl /	/ 'kʌmftəbl /
Fifth	/ fi <u>f</u> θ /	/ fiθ /
Him	/ <u>h</u> im /	/ im /
Chocolate	/ 'tʃɒk <u>ə</u> lət /	/ 'tʃɒklət /
Vegetable	/ 'vedʒ <u>ə</u> təbl /	/ 'vedʒtəbl /

LOSS OF WEAK VOWEL AFTER P, T, K

- In words:
 - + The vowel in the first syllable may disappear
 - + The aspiration of the initial plosive takes up the whole of the middle portion of the syllable.
- Note: Weak vowel after p, t, k is often “ə”

LOSS OF WEAK VOWEL AFTER P, T, K

Example:

- Potato / pə'teitəʊ / => / p'teitəʊ /
- Tomato / tə'mɑ:təʊ / => / t'mɑ:təʊ /
- Canary / kə'neəri / => / k'neəri /



AVOIDANCE OF COMPLEX CONSONANT CLUSTERS

- It has been claimed that no normal English speaker would ever pronounce all the consonants, between the last two words of the following.
- In clusters of three plosives or two plosives plus a fricative, the middle plosive may disappear, so that the following pronunciation result.

AVOIDANCE OF COMPLEX CONSONANT CLUSTERS

Example:

- Looked back / 'lʊkt' bæk / => / 'lʊk' bæk /
- Acts / ækts / => / æks /
- George the Sixth's throne: /dʒɔ:dʒ ðə sɪkθs θrəʊn/ => /dʒɔ:dʒ ðə sɪksθrəʊn/

LOSS OF FINAL V IN “OF” BEFORE CONSONANTS

Example:

- lots of them:

/ 'lɒts əv ðəm / => / 'lɒts ə ðəm /

- Waste of money:

/ 'weɪst əv 'mʌni/ => / 'weɪst ə 'mʌni/



LOSS OF FINAL V IN “OF” BEFORE CONSONANTS

- These examples are typical of very casual speech, and would be regarded as substandard by conservative listeners.
- A more common case is where the vowel of “of” is lost, leaving either “v” in a **voiced context** (e.g. “all of mine” => /ɔ:l v main/) or “f” in a **voiceless context** (e.g. “ best of three” => / best f θri:/)

OTHER CASES

1. Weak vowel + n, l or r becoming syllabic consonants.

E.g. Tonight /tə'nait/ => /t'nait/

police /pə'li:s/ => /p'lis/

2. Contractions of grammatical words

- E.g. Had, did, would => /'d/
will, shall => /'ll/
Is => /'s/



OTHER CASES

Example:

3. When many consonants go together, elision happens

word/combination	no elision	elision
Asked	[ɑ:skt]	[ɑ:st]
Lecture	[ˈlɛktʃə]	[ˈlɛkʃə]
hard disk	[,hɑ:d'dɪsk]	[,hɑ:'dɪsk]
kept quiet	[,kɛpt'kwaiət]	[,kɛp'kwaiət]
kept calling	[,kɛpt'ko:lɪŋ]	[,kɛp'ko:lɪŋ]

Let's relax !



Let's relax !

Q1: In elision, How is
“correct” transcribed?

- A. /kə'rekt/
- B. /kə'ret/
- **C. /k'rekt/**



Let's relax !

Q2: Choose the type of elision of “interest”

- **A.** Loss of the weak vowel after /p/, /t/, /k/.
- **B.** Weak vowel +/n/, /l/ or /r/ becomes syllabic consonants.
- **C.** Loss of final ‘v’ in ‘of’ before consonants
- **D.** Avoidance of complex consonant clusters

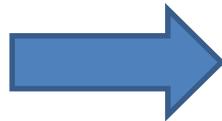
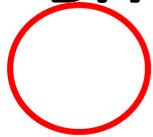
➔ / 'intrəst/



Let's relax !

Q3: Choose the type of elision of “scripts”

- A. Loss of the weak vowel after /p/, /t/, /k/.
- B. Weak vowel +/n/, /l/ or /r/ becomes syllabic consonants.
- C. Loss of final ‘v’ in ‘of’ before consonants
- D. Avoidance of complex consonant clusters



/ skrips/



Let's relax !

Q4: In elision, How is “desktop” transcribed?

- A. 'dɛs, tɒp
- B. 'dɛsk, tɒp
- C. 'dɛskt, tɒp



Let's relax !

Q5: In elision, how is

“want to” transcribed?

- A. ['wɒnt, tʊ]
- B. ['wɒnt, ʊ]
- **C. ['wɒn, tʊ]**

