

# Phonological Processes

Some Examples

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Table 2.3 Anticipatory assimilation in English phrases

Orthographic version	Careful pronunciation	Assimilation	Type of assimilation
Bad man	bædmæn	bæbmæn	Place – alveolar to bilabial
Good times	ɡʊdtaimz	ɡʊttaimz	Voice – devoicing
Good night	ɡʊdnait	ɡʊnnait	Manner – plosive to nasal
Fine candles	fainkændəlz	fainkændəlz	Place – alveolar to velar
Give me	ɡivmi:	ɡimmi:	Place/manner – labiodental to bilabial and fricative to nasal

**Table 2.4** Progressive assimilation in English words

Preceding consonant	plural nouns	Third person singular present tense	Possessive
Voiced (including vowels but not sibilants)	Dogs /dɒgz/	Plays /pleɪz/	John's /dʒɒnz/
Voiceless (not sibilants)	cats /kæts/	Fights /faɪts/	Kate's /keɪts/
Sibilants (voiced and voiceless)	Horses /hɔːsɪz/	Kisses /kɪsɪz/	James's /dʒeɪmzɪz/

Table 2.5 Progressive assimilation in English phrases

Orthographic version	Careful pronunciation	Assimilation	Type of assimilation
Who's this?	hu:zðɪs	hu:zzɪs	Place: interdental to alveolar
In that car	ɪnðætka:	ɪnnækka:	Place/manner: interdental plosive to alveolar nasal
Save them	seɪvðəm	seɪvəm	Place: interdental to labiodental

**Table 2.6** Elision of consonants in English words

Orthographic version	Careful pronunciation	Elided version
<i>handsome</i>	/hændsəm/	/hænsəm/
<i>windmill</i>	/wɪndmɪl/	/wɪnmɪl/
<i>mostly</i>	/moʊstli:/	/moʊsli:/
<i>kindness</i>	/kaɪndnəs/	/kɑɪnəs/
<i>attempts</i>	/əteɪmptz/	/ətɛmptz/

**Table 2.7** Elision of vowels in English words

Orthographic version	Careful pronunciation	Elided version
<i>She's</i>	ʃi:z	ʃi:z
<i>Don't</i>	dʌnɒt	dʌnt
<i>Geography</i>	dʒi:ɒgrəfi:	dʒɒgrəfi:
<i>Police</i>	pəli:s	pɪ:s
<i>Bottle</i>	bɒtəl	bɒtɪ
<i>Hidden</i>	hɪdən	hɪdn

Table 2.8 Insertion reflected in the English spelling

Orthographic version	Careful pronunciation	Version with insertion
<i>My aunt</i>	maɪaʊnt	maɪjɑ:nt
<i>Your uncle</i>	jɔ:ʊŋkl	jɔ:rʌŋkl
<i>Their in-laws</i>	ðeɪnlɔ:z	ðeərɪnlɔ:z
<i>Four antiques</i>	fɔ:æntɪks	fɔ:ræntɪ:ks
<i>How awful</i>	haʊ:ɜ:fl	haʊwɔ:ɜ:fl

Table 2.9 Insertions not reflected in the English spelling

Orthographic version	Careful pronunciation	version with insertion
<i>I understand</i>	aɪʌndəstænd	aɪʌndəstænd
<i>go under</i>	ɡoʊʌndə	ɡoʊʌndə
<i>to others</i>	tʊʌðəz	tʊ:wʌðəz
<i>be optimistic</i>	bi:ɒptɪmɪstɪk	bi:ɒptɪmɪstɪk



sæm ɪ ðə bɪb məʃiːnz

sæm ðə smɔːl laɪp bɪb məʃiːnz iː laɪt ðəm bet ə ðŋ wɒtʃɪn tɪrviːj əː wɔːks  
ɪn nə paːk əː frenz əʊm fə tiː ɪz feɪvrɪp weɪ tə spend ə deɪ wəz wɒtʃɪn  
træktəz ɪ dɪgəz θʌmpəz ɪ dʌmpəz buɪdʊzəz rʊdruuləz paɪdraɪvəz  
pʌmps

sæm ən ðə biq məʃi:nz

sæm ðə smɔ:l laɪkd biq məʃi:nz hi: laɪkd ðəm betə ðən wɒtʃɪŋ ti: vi: ɔ:  
wɔ:ks ɪn ðə pɑ:k ɔ: frendz həʊm fə ti: hɪz feɪvriɪt wei tə spend ə dei  
wəz wɒtʃɪŋ trækətəz ən diɡəz θʌmpəz ən dʌmpəz buldəʊzəz rəʊdrʊələz  
paɪdraɪvəz pʌmps

Sam and the Big Machines

*Sam the small liked big machines. He liked them better than watching TV or walks in the park or friends home for tea. His favourite way to spend a day was watching tractors and diggers, thumpers and dumpers, bulldozers, roadrollers, piledrivers, pumps (Henderson, 1995, pp. 1-4).*