

Spoken vs Written forms

Assimilation

Assimilation is the tendency of a sound to be made like the surrounding sounds due to the unconscious economy of effort in pronouncing the sound. In English, assimilation takes place in the following cases:

1. Voicing and unvoicing of consonants of a following sound:

	Goose news	Berry Paper	Gooseberry Newspaper Five pence I have to go I used to do it She was certain
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2. Voicing and unvoicing of the inflectional endings –s and –ed according to the preceding sound:

Dogs Cars	Cats banks	Changed Begged Robbed Remembered	Finished Jumped Locked Passed
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3. Change /sj/ to /s/	Bless you
4. change from /ty/ to /tch/:	Don't you

Sometimes there are 2 pronunciations:

Mature

5. Change from /dy/ to /dj/:

sometimes there are two pronunciations:

grandeur
immediate

- a change in both place and manner of articulation. the sequence /dy, ty, sy, zy/ are realized as /ts, j, s, z/ as in:

*don't' you [downchy],
do hurt yourself,*

education,
bless you,
close your eyes.

This kind of assimilation is very common in tag questions.

- when the suffix -ure is added to a word or stem ending in /s/, /z/, /t/, /d/, the result is /ts/, /j/, /s/, /z/:

press => pressure
 seize => seizure
 legislate => legislature
 proceed => procedure

When one of the consonants /s/, /z/, /t/, /d/ at the end of a word is followed by /y/ at the beginning of the next word, it may be assimilated to the /y/ to yield /ts/, /j/, /s/. This usually happens when the words are pronounced closely together without the boundary element between them. it is especially frequent when the second word is you:

miss you please you won't, you did you
kiss you tease you hit you, would you
lunch bunch bench

Elision:

Elision is the process of omitting a sound in certain circumstances due to the unconscious striving for economy of effort. Elision occurs in the following cases.	
<i>k is omitted in the sequence skt</i>	<i>i asked her</i>
<i>/v/ is elided in 'of' especially before /th/</i>	<i>some of the best</i>
the consonant preceding /th/ is elided in numeral	<i>fifth</i> <i>sixth</i> <i>months</i>
the sequence tt is reduced to t	<i>i want to go</i> <i>i've got to leave</i>
in combinations of n and two other consonants, the middle one is dropped out	<i>handsome</i> <i>grandmother</i> <i>kindness</i> <i>depends</i> <i>handkerchief</i> <i>pants</i> <i>students</i> <i>incidents</i> <i>accidents</i>
in American English t is omitted when it occurs before a t	<i>winter</i> <i>center</i> <i>enter</i> <i>internet</i> <i>interrupt</i>

	<i>international intervene interactive advantage</i>
ldz is reduced to lz	<i>fields builds</i>
the combinations nch and ndg are reduce to nsh and nz	<i>clinch bench branch revenge strange</i>
reducing ltch to lsh	<i>filch</i>
reducing ldg to lz	<i>indulge</i>
in compounds, a combination of two consonants is reduced to one	<i>cupboard background raspberry</i>
nasal plosion = deletion of the vowel between any consonant and a final n (syllabic n)	<i>sudden eaten nation reason happen open darken</i>
where en, an, on, occur after d or t, the n is syllabic unless the d or t is preceded by another consonant.	<i>london lipton dependent correspondence acton</i>
in American English those are substituted by a glottal stop.	<i>button</i>
lateral plosion = deletion of the vowel between d or t and a final l (syllabic l).	<i>middle total bottle riddle cattle</i>

Summary

<i>Lends Winds</i>	<i>Lens Wins</i>	<i>Winter inter</i>	<i>Winner Inner</i>
<i>Fields Builds</i>	<i>Feels bills</i>		

Grandmother Depends Months	Pants Students Incidents Accidents	winter center enter internet interrupt international intervene interactive	winner inner thinner
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Flaps

butter letter shutter water sitter total water little bitter	little cattle bottle battle cattle kettle settle	mountain student bottle maintenance	
hit her bit her			
kitten button			

Latter Batter Bit her	Ladder Badder bitter		
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