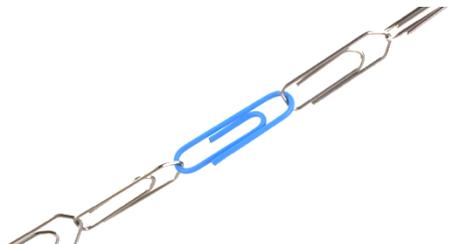


Elision – disappearing sounds	Catenation – linking	Intrusion – inserting sounds	Assimilation – Changing consonant sounds	The schwa –barely pronounced vowels																			
The strong syllable, or the syllable with emphasis, is the one after the apostrophe.	Consonant sounds link to vowel sounds	Adding	Consonant combinations that change the sound of the word	A very short vowel sound 																			
<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="52 287 147 402">A. He walked down the street</td> <td data-bbox="153 287 258 402">walked down</td> <td data-bbox="264 287 369 402">'walk' down'</td> <td data-bbox="375 287 480 402">/'wɒk' daʊn/</td> </tr> </table>	A. He walked down the street	walked down	'walk' down'	/'wɒk' daʊn/	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="487 287 592 402">A. It's a big opportunity</td> <td data-bbox="598 287 703 402">big opportunity</td> <td data-bbox="709 287 856 402">'bigoppoɹ'tunəti</td> <td data-bbox="863 287 989 402">/'bɪgəpəɹ'tʊnəti /</td> </tr> </table>	A. It's a big opportunity	big opportunity	'bigoppoɹ'tunəti	/'bɪgəpəɹ'tʊnəti /	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="995 287 1079 402">A. You go ahead and I'll follow.</td> <td data-bbox="1085 287 1169 402">go ahead</td> <td data-bbox="1176 287 1281 402">'gowa' head'</td> <td data-bbox="1287 287 1381 402">/'goʊwə' hed /</td> </tr> </table>	A. You go ahead and I'll follow.	go ahead	'gowa' head'	/'goʊwə' hed /	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="1388 287 1472 402">A. You live near here, don't you?</td> <td data-bbox="1478 287 1541 402">don't you'</td> <td data-bbox="1547 287 1673 402">'donchyou'</td> <td data-bbox="1680 287 1774 402">/'doʊntʃu/</td> </tr> </table>	A. You live near here, don't you?	don't you'	'donchyou'	/'doʊntʃu/	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="1780 287 1906 402">A. He's visiting from France.</td> <td data-bbox="1913 287 1976 402">from</td> <td data-bbox="1982 287 2047 402">frəm</td> </tr> </table>	A. He's visiting from France.	from	frəm
A. He walked down the street	walked down	'walk' down'	/'wɒk' daʊn/																				
A. It's a big opportunity	big opportunity	'bigoppoɹ'tunəti	/'bɪgəpəɹ'tʊnəti /																				
A. You go ahead and I'll follow.	go ahead	'gowa' head'	/'goʊwə' hed /																				
A. You live near here, don't you?	don't you'	'donchyou'	/'doʊntʃu/																				
A. He's visiting from France.	from	frəm																					
<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="52 407 147 483">B. We should eat less sugar</td> <td data-bbox="153 407 258 483">less sugar</td> <td data-bbox="264 407 369 483">'le'sugar'</td> <td data-bbox="375 407 480 483">/lɛ'sʊgəɹ/</td> </tr> </table>	B. We should eat less sugar	less sugar	'le'sugar'	/lɛ'sʊgəɹ/	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="487 407 592 483">B. I woke up at 7.00</td> <td data-bbox="598 407 703 483">woke up</td> <td data-bbox="709 407 856 483">'wok' up'</td> <td data-bbox="863 407 989 483">/'woʊ' kʌp/</td> </tr> </table>	B. I woke up at 7.00	woke up	'wok' up'	/'woʊ' kʌp/	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="995 407 1079 483">B. I ate a sandwich.</td> <td data-bbox="1085 407 1169 483">I ate</td> <td data-bbox="1176 407 1281 483">'i'yate'</td> <td data-bbox="1287 407 1381 483">/'aɪ' jɛt/</td> </tr> </table>	B. I ate a sandwich.	I ate	'i'yate'	/'aɪ' jɛt/	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="1388 407 1472 483">B. Did you finish the plan?</td> <td data-bbox="1478 407 1541 483">did you</td> <td data-bbox="1547 407 1673 483">'dijou'</td> <td data-bbox="1680 407 1774 483">/'dɪdʒu/</td> </tr> </table>	B. Did you finish the plan?	did you	'dijou'	/'dɪdʒu/	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="1780 407 1906 483">B. You should have studied more.</td> <td data-bbox="1913 407 1976 483">əv</td> <td data-bbox="1982 407 2047 483">əv</td> </tr> </table>	B. You should have studied more.	əv	əv
B. We should eat less sugar	less sugar	'le'sugar'	/lɛ'sʊgəɹ/																				
B. I woke up at 7.00	woke up	'wok' up'	/'woʊ' kʌp/																				
B. I ate a sandwich.	I ate	'i'yate'	/'aɪ' jɛt/																				
B. Did you finish the plan?	did you	'dijou'	/'dɪdʒu/																				
B. You should have studied more.	əv	əv																					
<p>When the end of one word has a similar consonant sound to the next word, fluent speakers of English usually do not pronounce the first consonant. The two consonants might be the same, as in example A above. Other times, the two consonant sounds are similar, as in example B</p> <p>'first light' is often pronounced /fɜ:ɪ laɪt/.</p> 	<p>When one word ends with a consonant sound and the next word begins with a vowel sound, the two words merge together with the consonant sound flowing directly into the vowel sound. You can notice this with phrasal verbs, as in example B.</p>	<p>When one word ends with a vowel sound and the next word begins with a vowel sound, fluent speakers often insert a mild consonant sound to make the sentence flow more easily.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>drawing</i> → <i>drawing</i> <i>hamster</i> → <i>hampster</i> 	<p>Due to connected speech, many words that start with the letter 'y' (or simply with a /j/ sound) can cause confusion for English learners. This is because the initial sound of the word often combines with the final consonant sound of the previous word, creating an entirely new consonant sound.</p> <p>As in the examples above, the resulting new sound depends on the combination:</p> <p>t + y = ch d + y = 'hard' j 'hard' s + y = 'soft' j</p>	<p>The schwa plays a huge role in connected speech. It is a very short vowel sound, somewhere between an 'a' and an 'e'. In individual words, we find it in syllables that don't contain the stress. For example, in the word 'amazing' the emphasis is on the second syllable. So, in the first syllable the letter 'a' becomes very small:</p> <p>ə'mazing → /ə'meɪzɪŋ/</p>																			
<p>Beyoncé's 2008 song Single Ladies is dedicated to the benefits of not having a partner. She sings her advice to 'all the single ladies': singe' ladies → /sɪŋgə'leɪdɪz/</p>	<p>In the 2017 song Shape Of You, Ed Sheeran sings about being in love with his girlfriend's shapely figure as he tells her 'I'm in love with the shape of you': shapof → /'ʃeɪpəv/</p> 	<p>Take Me Out was a 2004 hit for Franz Ferdinand, in which the singer meets a stranger at a party and wants them to go on a date. He asks the other person to 'take me out': me'yout → /mi:'jaʊt/</p>	<p>In the 1980 song Could You Be Loved?, Bob Marley wonders if people can learn to love freely and allow themselves to be loved by others. He asks 'Could you be loved and be loved?': 'coujou → /'kʊdʒu:/</p> 	<p>Set Fire To The Rain was a huge song for Adele in 2011. She sings about the contradictions of a past relationship, saying that when she was with her ex, she 'set fire to the rain, watched it pour ...': təthə'rain → /təðə'reɪn/</p>																			