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Beginner lessons for Connected Speech

Master Connected Speech for Natural English Pronunciation!

DEFINITION

> Connected speech refers to how we blend sounds and words in spoken English. It helps make speech smoother and more natural.

KEY CONCEPTS

Linking

Linking occurs when the final sound of one word connects to the beginning sound of the next.

Elision

Elision is the omission of a sound or syllable in a word, making speech faster.

Intrusion

Intrusion adds an extra sound between words for smoother transitions, often a vowel sound.

Stress and Intonation

Stress emphasizes certain words while intonation affects the pitch, influencing meaning and emotion.

Reduction

Reduction simplifies sounds in unstressed syllables, making them less distinct in connected speech.

EXAMPLES

→ What are you going to? -> Whaddaya gonna?

→ I want to go -> I wanna go

→ Give me a break -> Gimme a break

MEMORY TIPS

★ Think of connected speech as a 'smooth ride' for your words.

★ Remember 'linking' as 'linking hands' between words.

★ Use the phrase 'cutting corners' to remember elision.

COMMON MISTAKES

✗ Not linking words, making speech sound choppy.

✗ Over-pronouncing every syllable instead of reducing unstressed sounds.

✗ Ignoring stress patterns, leading to unclear communication.

QUICK RECAP

Connected speech is essential for natural-sounding English. Focus on linking, elision, and reduction to improve fluency. Practice with examples to enhance your pronunciation skills.