

LINKING



When words are in a sentence,
there is a smooth transition from one word to the next.

This is called LINKING.

There are 5 basic types of LINKING.

1. CONSONANT + VOWEL

One word ends in any consonant and the next word starts with a vowel

THIS SOUNDS LIKE THIS

[kʌm in]
come in → [kʌmɪn]

[stɒp ɪt]
stop it → [stɒpɪt]

2. CONSONANT + THE SAME CONSONANT

One word ends in a consonant and the next word starts with the same
consonant. Only one consonant is pronounced.

THIS SOUNDS LIKE THIS

[blæk kæt]
black cat → [blækæt]

[aɪs skerts]
ice skates → [aɪskerts]

3. STOP CONSONANT + CONSONANT

One word ends with a stop consonant (/p,b,t,d,k,g,m,n,ŋ/)
and the next word starts with a consonant.

The stop consonant has NO AUDIBLE RELEASE
and opens onto the pronunciation of the first consonant in the second word.

[bɪgkeɪk] [wɒtnəʊ]
big cake what now



4. /i, eɪ, aɪ, ɔɪ/ + **VOWEL**

One word ends in /i/, /eɪ/, /aɪ/, or /ɔɪ/
and the next word starts with a vowel sound.
The words are linked with a /j/ (/j/ = the Y sound).

THIS SOUNDS LIKE THIS

[**bi** ɒn taɪm]
be on time → [**bi**j ɒn taɪm]

[**wi** eɪt daɪnə]
we ate dinner → [**wi**j eɪt daɪnə]

5. /oʊ, u, aʊ/ + **VOWEL**

One word ends in /oʊ/, /u/, or /aʊ/
and the next word starts with a vowel sound.
The words are linked with a /w/ (/w/ = the W sound).

THIS SOUNDS LIKE THIS

[**du** ɪt]
do it → [**du**w ɪt]

[**blu** aɪz]
blue eyes → [**blu**w aɪz]